

MADDOX, William



Organist William Maddox will long remember his stint on the organ.

Intell
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For William Maddox Bel - Bio - M

Organ recital a career high

By JACK EVANS
Staff Reporter

For Belleville musician William Maddox, having the opportunity to play one of Canada's newest and largest organs, was like a little bit of heaven.

And thanks to compact disc technology, that bit of heaven can be shared over and over, both by Maddox and anyone else interested in organ music.

The organ is a huge instrument, four manuals, 110 ranks, and "four full 32-foot stops," enthuses Maddox, in the Jack Singer Concert Hall at the Calgary Centre for the Performing Arts.

Installation by the famous Canadian Casavant Brothers was completed only in recent months. The compact disc made of Maddox's recital was "the first" to be made by the Canadian firm JLH Laser Sound, and it was also the first recital to be commercially recorded on the unique organ, he adds.

The 70-minute disc offers a wide range of sampler music to test the organ's abilities in different sounds and ranges. Most of them are well-known popular tunes, several transcribed from original arrangements to an organ setting, such as Rimsky-Korsakov's Flight of the Bumble Bee ("a very fast

rendition," says Maddox); the popular Sousa march, The Stars and Stripes Forever, and the American composer Samuel Barber's Adagio. But there are also original organ compositions, such as Tuba Tune and several works by J.S. Bach.

As organist and church musician for Bridge Street United Church in Belleville for the past several years, Maddox has gained a widespread reputation. He views his recital at Calgary as a highlight of his career.

The discs are available locally from Bridge Street Church.

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