



Uriel VALADEAU

contact@urielvaladeau.org

The turning point in Uriel Valadeau's musical education was his meeting Francis Chapelet, who awakened in him a passion for the baroque organ and the art of improvisation. Uriel worked with Francis, assisting him at concerts and with his research.

In June 2006, at the request of Alain Paquier, President of *Chemins du Baroque*, Francis and Uriel gave the inaugural recital to mark the restoration of the two organs in Cusco Cathedral (Peru), dating from 1656. At the same time, they recorded a CD which received critical acclaim: 5 "diapasons" from the magazine *Diapason* and 4 stars from *Monde de la Musique*.

In one of the reviews, Uriel was described as a "stylistically accomplished organist, with a lively and vigorous approach". It is this ideal that he sets himself, seeking to be free from dogma and conformism.

Francis and Uriel also gave the inaugural recital subsequent to the restoration of the oldest organs in the Americas, in Andahuayillas (Peru). This took place as part of a celebration created by *Chemins du Baroque* which involved some 90 musicians and an international press presence. The event was captured in a magnificent recording by the K617 label, where the organ recital is placed in the context of traditional Peruvian music.

In the course of his studies, Uriel enjoys the benefits of the exceptional collection of eight historic organs in Montpon-Ménésterol (Dordogne) and his repertoire includes works from the romantic and symphonic repertoire as well as the baroque.

He has been awarded a "Diplome d'Études Musicales" (formerly a gold medal) by the Bordeaux Conservatoire and was unanimously awarded First Prize by the jury in the organ class.

He has been invited to give concerts in Spain (Palencia, Ciudad Real, Albacete), England (Liverpool) and Cuba. In France, he has performed in Guitres; at the historic Dom Bedos organ in the Church of Sainte Croix, Bordeaux; the cathedrals of Albi, Rodez and Sarlat; and at the festivals of Montpon, Arcachon, Rouillé, Nontron and Bergerac, both as soloist and accompanist in a wide range of repertoires.

His faith, his religious culture and his skill in improvisation make Uriel a sought-after liturgical organist.

Uriel plays an active part in the "Friends of the Cavallé-Coll organ of St Jacques, Bergerac". He teaches Spanish at the Lycée-College Ste Marthe-St-Front in Bergerac where he also fulfils a pastoral role.