



Kalevi Kiviniemi (b. 1958, Finland) is an internationally distinguished concert organist. He specializes in French music and has given several recitals at *Notre Dame Cathedral* and *Basilique Sainte-Clotilde* in Paris. He has also recorded on the historical Cavallé-Coll organ in Orléans and Rouen.

Kiviniemi's international career began with recitals in Japan and London in the early 1990s, and he was soon touring in Europe, the USA, Russia, Asia, Australia and the Philippines. In addition to solo recitals and chamber music concerts, he has appeared with major orchestras such as the *Moscow Chamber Orchestra* and the *Moscow Symphony Orchestra*. He has served as a jury member in international organ competitions (Nuremberg 1996, Capri 1998, Speyer 2001, Korschenbroich 2005), and has given masterclasses for instance at *Ruhr University* in Bochum. Kiviniemi was artistic director of the *Lahti Organ Week* in Finland for ten years, from 1991 to 2001.

The musical public also knows Kalevi Kiviniemi through his recordings, his discography numbers more than 120 titles, including recordings made on historical organs in the USA, Japan, the Philippines, Australia, Italy, France, Switzerland and Germany. Many of his recordings have won awards, two have sold gold and one has sold platinum. Improvisation was given the *Star Recording Prize* by *The Organ* magazine in 1999, and *Visions*, containing Finnish organ music, received the *Janne Prize* for the best Finnish solo disc at the Sibelius Festival in Lahti in 2003 and the *trophy of the Organum Society* in 2004 for services to Finnish organ music. In 2009 Kiviniemi has received the *State Prize for Music* in Finland, the most coveted music award in the country for lifelong achievements in music. Kalevi Kiviniemi has made several television performances, eg. at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris in the year 2000.

International critiques count Kalevi Kiviniemi among the most influential organ musicians of our time.