

**ATMA Classique**



**Artist:** Champion, Frédéric  
**Title:** French Organ Music  
**Label:** ATMA Classique  
**Catalogue No:** ACD2 2604

**Track list:**

Charles-Marie WIDOR (1844-1937)  
Symphonie n° 6 op. 42 n°2  
1. Allegro

Maurice DURUFLÉ (1902-1986)  
2-5 Suite opus 5 (Prélude Sicilienne  
Toccata)

Thierry ESCAICH (1965)  
5. Trois Poèmes (Eaux natales)

Jean-Louis FLORENTZ (1947-2004)  
6. Laudes op. 5 (Harpe de Marie)

Jean-Baptiste ROBIN (1976)  
7. Regard vers l'Air \*

Jehan ALAIN (1911-1940)  
8. Deuxième Fantaisie, JA117

Marcel DUPRÉ (1886-1971)  
9. Évocation op. 37 (Allegro deciso)

Camille SAINT-SAËNS (1835-1921)  
10. Poème Symphonique op.40  
(Danse macabre)  
Organ transcription: Frédéric  
Champion

\*World Premiere Recording

**15**  
YEARS

**New release ~ October 2009**

**FRÉDÉRIC CHAMPION, organ**

First Prize Winner of the 2008 Canadian International  
Organ Competition (CIOC)

***French Organ Music***

by Widor, Duruflé, Escaich, Florentz, Robin, Alain, Dupré, Saint-Saëns.

ATMA proudly presents a new recording featuring French organist **Frédéric Champion**, the First Prize winner and Richard Bradshaw Audience Prize winner at the inaugural Canadian International Organ Competition (CIOC) in Montréal. Born in Lyon in 1976, Champion has won many awards for his brilliant performances of organ music from the 16<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

A self-taught musician, Champion became fascinated with the organ from an early age and pursued formal studies in Paris and Toulouse. He has performed as a soloist and with orchestras and choirs all over the world. Recent performance venues include Chartres Cathedral (France), the Frauenkirche in Dresden (Germany), St. Thomas Church in Leipzig (Germany), Kawasaki Symphony Hall, Suntory Hall and Musashino bunka kaikan in Tokyo (Japan), and Symphony Hall in Osaka. Champion is also active as a pianist and harpsichordist, and is known for his ability to improvise at the keyboard.

An initiative of John Grew, McGill University Organist and artistic director of the CIOC, this CD celebrates French masters who composed for the instrument, including Widor, Saint-Saëns, and Duruflé, among others. Each piece conveys a distinct personality and unique approach.

This recording was made at the church of St. John the Baptist in Montreal, which houses a 1915 Casavant organ, Opus 615 — the ideal instrument to capture all the subtleties and finesse these compositions require. Casavant Frères is the oldest continuing name in North American organ building, with 150 years of tradition behind it.

Frédéric Champion performs several concerts across North America in the coming weeks:

- October 25: Église des Saints-Anges, Lachine (Québec)
- November 8: St. Madeleine Cathedral, Salt Lake City
- November 10: Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto
- November 13: University of Kansas, Kansas City

*French Organ Music* will be available from October 27, 2009

Further details: [www.atmaclassique.com](http://www.atmaclassique.com)

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