

Peter Van de Velde (Organ/Belgium)

Peter Van de Velde started his organ studies by himself at the age of nine. At the age of twelve he became organist at the local church in the little Flemish village of Doel. He received his first musical tuition at the Antwerp Academy of Fine Arts where he concluded his organ studies with highest honours. He went on to pursue his studies at the Royal Antwerp Conservatory of Music where he won several first prizes in addition to other comparable awards. In 1996, as last pupil of Stanislas Deriemaeker, his studies at the Conservatory earned him a Masters degree. During the course of his studies, and also thereafter, he followed various master classes for the organ, improvisation and performance technique. In his capacity as Music Director and Titular-organist of Antwerp Cathedral, the largest gothic cathedral in the low countries, he plays on both the romantic Schyven-organ (1891) and the classical Metzler-organ (1993) and is responsible for all musical activities. He also holds the position of organist at the church of Saint Michael in Antwerp. He is also the artistic adviser of several organ committee's in and around Antwerp. His concert tours bring him all over Europe, North America, Middle and Far East. He is also much in demand for accompanying choirs and instrumental and vocal soloists and plays regularly with different orchestras in performing a.o. organ concerto's with conductors like Philippe Herreweghe, Martin Brabyns, Edo De Waart, Peter Biloen. He also has a fixed duo with violinist Nadja Nevolovitsch, 1st soloist of Brussels Philharmonic. He has a very wide repertoire ranging from early baroque to contemporary composers and he's renowned for his recordings and performances of music of the 19th and 20th century from his native country with composers like Edgar Tinel, Joseph Jongen, Paul de Maleingreau, Flor Peeters, Joseph Callaerts and Guy Weitz.