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Old English Organ Music For Manuals Book 1 (Bk. 1)





Synopsis

for organ14 pieces for manuals edited for the advanced-intermediate level organist.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I recently took a choir director position at a small, Episcopal church that requires me to play the organ. Being a new organist (but an old dog!) I'm still learning the "new trick" called pedalling. This series of books is filled with delightful miniatures, voluntaries, and fugues that range from very easy to mildly challenging. These manuals-only pieces are well edited, and of varying lengths and moods to segue almost perfectly from any recessional hymn into a postlude. I try and play a variety of different styles of preludes/postludes, and whenever I play something from this anthology not only do I hear positive feedback from the congregation, but more of them actually stay seated and quiet for the entirety of the postlude. High praise indeed!One of the best music investments I have ever made. Even when (if?) I become more proficient at pedalling I'm certain that I will continue to play these lovely pieces.

This book is wonderful for early music lovers, as well as organists who prefer traditional repetoire. The pieces are short to medium length, and they are from the Baroque era. There is a good variety of mood and tempo. Only one warning: do NOT think that these pieces are easy because they are manuals only! I've owned this book since about 1982-83, when I took over at the retirement of our long-time church organist. I have a physical disability with my left foot, and I can play pedals well enough to cover hymns without church members having a clue! But the heel-toe pedal method is impossible, so I've collected manuals-only and easy-pedal books, and concentrated on manuals and using great stops combinations. And by the way, THANK YOU for not putting "easy" on the cover of the book which can be seen through the glass music stand, by the congregation. I prefer to be considered the professional musician that I am.

Used music has never bothered me, and I appreciate this British version.

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