

Felix Hell

NEWSLETTER 12/08

Greetings to all our many friends around the world!

As 2008 comes to a close we want to take this opportunity to answer the many questions and inquiries about Felix Hell – events of the year as well as his plans for the coming year.

We're very pleased to report that 2008 has been a successful year with 43 major concert engagements. Some of the highlights and most memorable concerts include:

- [Deutsche Streicherphilharmonie](#) (German String-Philharmony) – conductor [Michael Sanderling](#) – with performances in the [Kurhaus of Wiesbaden](#) and the [Philharmonic Hall](#) of the city of Essen.
- Tabernacle Organ (V/206) in Salt Lake City, Utah.
- [Kimmel Center](#) for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia – [Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ \(Dobson IV/124\)](#).
- The recital and masterclass in Las Vegas this past October at Don Rondo Hall of UNLV. [Organ: Beckerath/Germany, III/53 \(2004\)](#)
- Concert and masterclass at the Kosin University in Busan, Korea.
- Concert within the International [Organ Festival in Toledo](#), Spain.

The concert schedule for 2009 is already near maximum with 44 confirmed engagements and another 6 bookings pending – that will close out what promises to be a very rewarding and full year! For 2010 we already have 14 booked engagements. That fills us with deep gratitude and sincere appreciation not only for the many return engagements but also for word-of-mouth references that bring us to new venues. This positive acceptance on the part of people everywhere has a tremendous impact on Felix – it provides the motivation and inspiration to continue bringing wonderful music to the large community of fans around the globe. Without you, none of this would be possible. Your overwhelming acceptance and generous support have allowed Felix to fulfil his dream and most important task of being an ambassador for the pipe organ and its wonderful body of literature.

Please check Felix Hell's [schedule](#) on the [website](#) often as sometimes there are changes, additions, and other news. Here are some additional highlights anticipated for 2009:

- The worldwide music community will celebrate Felix Mendelssohn's 200th birthday this coming year. In celebration, Felix will perform the entire organ work of Mendelssohn twice: in February in New York City, and in June in his hometown of Frankenthal. For dates and locations please visit Felix's [website](#).
- From July 28 – August 24 Felix Hell will be under contract of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Bavaria, Germany, as leading church musician and cantor, responsible for the entire church music of three congregations, including special church-music tasks (concerts, matinées, organ vespers) in the Schliersee/Upper Bavaria tourist area.
- Immediately after returning from Bavaria, rehearsals begin with the Pfalztheater-Orchestra of the city of Kaiserslautern, preparing a series of four concerts in four different churches. One of them will take place at the famous romanesque St. Mary's Imperial Cathedral of Speyer on September 2, 2009. Programs include two

major works for organ solo, the Concerto for organ, strings and timpani by Francois Poulenc, and the Symphony No. 1 for organ and orchestra by Alexandre Guilmant.

- Felix will give another recital at [Speyer Cathedral](#) performing on the new [Choir-Organ \(III/47\)](#) built by [Seifert Organbuilders](#). It will take place on May 10 and will be a Benefit-Concert in favor of the [European Foundation Imperial Cathedral of Speyer](#).
- What would be a concert year without a visit in Southeast Asia? To date Felix Hell has one engagement in Singapore, where he will perform on the [Klais \(III/89\)](#) of the [Esplanade Concert Hall](#) on December 11, 2009. Another concert, still pending (but looking very probable) following the Singapore appearance, will be on the [Klais \(III/59\)](#) of [Petronas Philharmonic Hall](#) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Check the website for confirmation.
- We happily report that the increasing demand of major orchestras, engaging Felix Hell, continues.
In January 2010 Felix will perform with the [Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra](#) at [Jacoby Symphony Hall](#) in Jacksonville, Florida, performing the Symphony Concertante of the Belgian composer Joseph Jongen and Saint-Saens' 3rd Symphony („Organ“). As there is an unexpected demand for tickets already now, this concert will be repeated twice. [Organ: Casavant/Quimby, IV/97](#). Dates: January 14/15/16, 2010.
- For those that missed it or wish to view/listen again, Felix's [concert](#) of July, 2007 at Trinity Church Wall Street is still available on demand.
- Felix Hell continues his very successful engagement as [Adjunct Assistant Professor](#) at the [Sunderman Conservatory of Music](#) in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Including his private students, Felix's "organ class,, now totals seven students.

Please make plans to visit us in concerts near you and to travel, whenever possible, to be with us.

With all best wishes for Happy New Year 2009.

Yours,

Hans-Friedrich Hell