

Fredrik Sixten is a Swedish composer, cathedral organist and conductor. Sixten was born in 1962, Skövde, Sweden and earned his Bachelor of Arts (1986) at the Royal College of Music, Stockholm. Having studied composition with Professor Sven-David Sandström, Sixten is now recognized as one of Sweden's best-known composers of church music. Fredrik's music has received acclaim throughout the world in recent years; his work is published by major houses in Sweden. Gehrmans (Stockholm) is his main publisher since 2007.

Today Fredrik holds the position as the cathedral organist of Härnösand's Cathedral. Previously he was the conductor of Gothenburg's boys choir between 1997 and 2001. His music is represented on several CD recordings and, as a conductor, one of his CD's went gold.

Sixten has composed three oratorios:

A Swedish St Mark Passion for two choirs, chamber orchestra and soloists (2004).

This is the first passion setting composed in the Swedish language. It has garnered considerable acclaim, receiving 40 performances since the premiere. In 2009 it was premiered in Glasgow and separate movements have been performed in New York and in Lithuania. The work is built upon the last two chapters of the Gospel of St Mark, together with lyrics by the famous Swedish author Bengt Pohjanen. He also collaborated with Pohjanen in his **Requiem** for mixed choir, soprano & bass solo, 2 horns, timpani & strings (2007). In May 2009 it was premiered in Aberdeen, Scotland and during 2010 it will be performed in Germany as well as in USA.

A Swedish Christmas Oratorio for mixed choir, woman's chorus, chamber orchestra & organ (2009) is the latest of his oratorios. It is built upon the same concept as his St Mark Passion with a soprano soloist in the leading role as the Evangelist.

There are, in addition, non biblical lyrics by the Swedish author Ylva Eggehorn. All of these three oratorios were broadcast by the Swedish Radio (SRP2 Live).

Among his other compositions are works for organ:

Prelude et Fugue (1986), **Triptyche** (2004) and **Organ Sonata** (2006).

The **Tango**, in particular, has gained popularity internationally.

It is based on Hymn 303 from the Swedish Hymnbook, a folktune originating from Dalarna, the center of Sweden.

Fredrik's organ music has been performed by recognized organists such as:

Hans Fagius, Margaret Phillips, Massimo Nosetti and Stephen Tharp.

James D. Hicks, has commissioned his latest work:

Variations for organ. The theme is based on a Swedish folk tune.

It will be premiered at Princeton University Chapel, March 6, 2010

Fredrik has written a wide range of music for choir including **Ave Verum Corpus**, **Crucifixus**, **O Magnum Mysterium**, **O Sacrum Con Vivium** for mixed choir a cappella, **Stabat Mater** for woman's chorus & cello solo and **Three Sacred Dances** for woman's chorus, piano & string quartet, **Magnificat** for mixed choir, brass and organ, **Song of Songs** for baritone solo, mixed choir & organ. In December 2009 his **Osanna in excelsis** for double mixed choir was premiered in a live broadcast by Swedish Television the same year.

On April 11, 2010 his composition, "**Let There Be**", for choir and percussion, will have its premiere at Davies Symphony Hall, San Francisco. It was commissioned by the San Francisco Symphony. The lyrics were written by the Swedish author Maria Küchen. The three times grammy-awarded San Francisco Symphony Chorus and conductor Ragnar Bohlin will perform the premiere.

Among his chamber music compositions are **Epilogue** (2002) for cello & piano, "written in the memory of his father", **Sonata for violin and piano** (1985), **Sonata for cello and piano**, (1984), **Chaconne** for string quartet (2007), **Three Cantilene** for solo flute (1981) and **Sonata for guitar** (1984)

Awards:

1991 Gehrmans/Sensus Composer Award

2007 Gusav Auléns Prize Fund

2008 Scholarship from Axel Munthe's Foundation for 3 weeks at Villa Saint Michele, Capri

2009 Stockholm Music Association: "Composer of the Year" 2010