

CRISTIANO (KRIS) RIZZOTTO, DMA, SPC

WWW.KRISRIZZOTTO.COM/CONTACT

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

- Organist & Choirmaster at Good Shepherd Church, Golden Valley, MN, since July 2016.
- Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) in Organ Performance from the American Organ Institute at the University of Oklahoma.
- Working with church music and liturgy since 2006, including organ and piano accompaniment, directing adult and school choirs, handbell ensembles, and orchestra.
- Actively composing music for services, including nearly all responsorial psalms for the three-year liturgical cycle, Anglican chant, choral anthems, hymn reharmonizations and descants, and instrumental music.
- Performing 87 solo organ concerts in twenty American states, Argentina, Brazil, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, and Poland in 2012 – 2020.
- Strong interest in sacred music, liturgy, and history.
- Motivated to work with choirs and ensembles to prepare music in correspondence with the liturgical celebrations' spirit, ennobling the liturgy through the fulfillment of the music ministry.
- Collaborative individual with strong communication and teamwork skills, able to work effectively with clergy, staff, and parishioners.
- Committed to applying knowledge and skills to provide a ministry consistent with the teachings of the Church, balancing traditional and contemporary repertoires.
- Expertise in professional quality audio recording, video production, photography, and social media outreach. Full proficiency in computer programs including Microsoft Office, Finale, Photoshop, Final Cut Pro X, and Wordpress.
- Languages: English, Portuguese, Spanish, French, and Norwegian.

EDUCATION

2019 Doctor of Musical Arts in Organ Performance from the American Organ Institute at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, OK. *Program included: organ performance, choral conducting, and hands-on experience on the basic fundamentals of organ construction, restoration, tuning, and maintenance in the AOI shop.* Dissertation: "Per Aspera ad Astra: Latvian National Identity Reflected in Selected Organ Works by Aivars Kalējs."

2013 Master of Music in Organ Performance and Sacred Music from East Carolina University in Greenville, NC. *Program included: organ performance, choral conducting, service playing, and history and philosophy of sacred music and worship.* Thesis: "Do as I say, not as I do: Struggles and contradictions of the post-Vatican II Catholic music in the United States."

2010 Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro in Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil. *Program included: piano performance, piano accompaniment and chamber music, music history and literature, music theory and composition, counterpoint.*

LANGUAGES

English • Native or bilingual proficiency

Portuguese • Native or bilingual proficiency

Spanish • Native or bilingual proficiency

French • Working proficiency

Norwegian (Bokmål) • Working proficiency

Latin • German • Swedish • Italian • Latvian/Latgalian • Church Slavonic • Diction proficiency for singers

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Golden Valley, MN

- Position: Organist & Choirmaster.
- July 2016 – Present.
- Providing organ, piano, and harpsichord music for all sung masses and services.
- Weekly rehearsals with an adult choir consisting of volunteers and paid section leaders, a Schola Cantorum for Masses in the Extraordinary Form, a children's choir, a handbell ensemble, and groups of students preparing for weekday Masses.
- Chanting the Propers of the Mass and instructing cantor and choirs to do so.
- Supervising, scheduling, and directing all paid choral singers and cantors.
- Planning of all hymns, choral repertoire, and organ repertoire in accordance with the Roman Missal, the Lectionary, and the Church calendar.
- Meeting regularly with the pastor to discuss the execution of liturgies.
- Planning of all school liturgies in consultation with the school music teacher.
- Actively composing music for services, including nearly all responsorial psalms for the three-year liturgical cycle, Anglican chant, choral anthems, hymn reharmonizations and descants, and instrumental music.
- Overseeing upkeep, maintenance, and tuning of all instruments in the possession of the parish, including the Marrin pipe organ, Boston grand piano in the sanctuary, two upright pianos, and three octaves of Malmark bells.
- Preparing payroll for section leaders and instrumentalists.
- Overseeing and coordinating music for all weddings and funerals.
- Overseeing the music budget, allocating funds to choral singers, instrument maintenance, and library as appropriate to the optimal success of the program.
- Organizing the library of choral music.
- Maintaining and updating the portions of the website relevant to the music department.
- Preparing weekly order of service for publication in the church bulletin, complete with any translations necessary.

- Prepare additional bulletins for all extraordinary liturgies including, but not limited to: Christmas, Triduum, Holy Days of Obligation, and First Communion Masses.
- Publication of seasonal music lists for the parish website and information center.
- Created and directed the Good Shepherd International Concert Series, which hosted award-winning recitalists from fourteen countries between 2017 and 2019.

International Concert Organist

- March 2012 – Present.
- Performing 87 solo organ concerts in twenty American states, Argentina, Brazil, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, and Poland in 2012 – 2020 (www.krisrizzotto.com).
- Invited to play for two Masses at the Papal Basilica of Saint Peter in the Vatican and a concert in Rome in 2015.
- Nearly 300 recorded performances on YouTube with 1⅓ million views and 3,500 subscribers (Dr. Cristiano Rizzotto: www.youtube.com/CristianoRizzotto). A second YouTube channel dedicated to own hymn reharmonizations and compositions (Dr. Kris Rizzotto). 22,000 subscribers on professional blog.

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church in Duncan, OK

- Position: Director of Music and Organist.
- August 2013 – June 2016.
- Weekly rehearsals with two choirs for the weekend Masses and special events such as Christmas and Easter concerts.
- Created the church's handbell ensemble.
- Experienced with Latin and with bilingual Masses in English and Spanish.
- Writing arrangements such as instrument parts, psalm verses, and hymn descants.
- Collaboration with instrumentalists.

American Organ Institute at the University of Oklahoma

- Position: AOI Shop Assistant.
- August 2013 – June 2016.
- Knowledge of maintenance and tuning of pipe organs.
- Professional quality video production & photography for documenting and publicity.
- YouTube & media producer for the department (www.youtube.com/AOlatOU).
- Basic knowledge of restoration of pipe organ parts.
- Assembling and disassembling organs, using hand tools and machines.
- Transporting organ parts from shop to installation site.
- Fitting and assembling component parts of organ in allocated space at installation site.
- Organs restored while at the AOI:
 - Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Lawton, OK.
 - Möller Municipal Symphonic Organ Opus 5819 in Norman, OK.
 - Kilgen Organ for the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City, OK.

First United Methodist Church in Washington, NC

- Position: Organist.
- September 2011 – August 2013.
- Choir accompaniment and collaboration with instrument ensemble on organ and piano.
- Service broadcast live each Sunday on 98.9 FM, WNBR.

East Carolina University

- Position: Graduate Assistant.
- August 2011 – May 2013.
- Piano & organ accompanist of the St. Cecilia Singers women's choir.
- Accompanist for the Vocal Department, in singing lessons and private coaching sessions.
- Recording Tech for the Fletcher Music Center, which included recording and editing concerts on CD and DVD, and live broadcasting them online.
- Member of the international award-winning ECU Chamber Singers.

Benedictine Abbey of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

- Position: Titular organist.
- July 2010 – July 2011.
- Daily use of the Liber Usualis, the 18 Gregorian Chant Masses, and the 6 Credos.
- Played at the Solemn Masses with exclusive use of Gregorian chant.
- This abbey, built in 1590, is one of the most important monuments of colonial architecture and art in the country. The pipe organ from the 1770s (one of the oldest in the continent) and the traditional Latin liturgy attract visitors from all the country and abroad.

Church of Our Lady of Glory Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

- Position: Organist.
- December 2008 – July 2010.

Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Jardim Botânico, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

- Position: Organist.
- January 2006 – December 2008.

Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ), Brazil

- Position: Piano accompanist.
- March 2007 – December 2010.
- Accompanied UFRJ's Symphonic Chorale and chamber singers "Brasil Ensemble."

PUBLICATIONS

- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “Lullaby on the Latvian folk song Aijā, žūžū, lāču bērni” for solo organ, 2019.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “Oculi Mei” for SATB choir a cappella or accompanied, 2019.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “Angel of God” for choir unison or solo voice and organ, 2019.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “Per Aspera ad Astra: Latvian National Identity Reflected in Selected Organ Works by Aivars Kalējs.” Norman, OK: The University of Oklahoma, May 2019.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “Rerum, Deus, Tenax Vigor” for SATB choir and organ, 2018.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “Chorale Prelude on Hyfrydol” for solo organ or piano, 2014.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “Chorale Prelude on Lobe den Herren” for solo organ or piano, 2014.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “Toccata” for solo organ in *The Organist’s Companion*. Colfax, NC: Wayne Leupold Editions, March 2014.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “Lamento” for flute or oboe and piano, 2010.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “A Uma Taça Feita de Crânio Humano” for voice and piano, 2010.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “Ao Contemplar Uma Imagem da Virgem” for solo piano, 2010.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “Um Desanuviado Alvorecer Oceânico” for solo piano, 2010.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “Oração a Nossa Senhora” for solo organ, 2010.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “Murmuris” for solo organ, 2009.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “Noturno e Sereno” for solo piano, 2009.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “The Gardener of a Single Flower” for solo piano, 2009.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** “O Menestrel Iludido” for solo piano, 2009.
- **RIZZOTTO, C.** Various hymn arrangements, www.krisrizzotto.com/compositions.

HONORS & AWARDS

- **2019** Recipient of the dedication of *TanzToccata on „Gregorianische Sequentiae Victimae Paschali Laudes“* by Grimoaldo Macchia (Italy).
- **2018** Recipient of the dedication of *Fandango* by Robert Farrell (Composer in Residence at St. Paul Cathedral in Pittsburgh, PA).
- **2017** Named a member of The Diapason’s “20 Under 30” Class of 2017, which recognizes young leaders in the fields of organ, harpsichord, carillon, and church music.
- **2015** Recipient of the dedication of *Kāzu Maršs* by composer Aivars Kalējs (Latvia).
- **2014** Recipient of the dedication of *Toccata-Rondo* by Carson Cooman (Composer in Residence at Harvard University).
- **2013** Recipient of the dedication of *Noël sur les Anches et en duo* by Antoine Giovannini (France).
- **2012** Awarded the Richard VanSciver Church Music Scholarship on the competition promoted by the Metropolitan Music Ministries in Charlotte, NC.
- **2012** E. Franck Ruble Scholarship (United Methodist Church) to support Graduate studies in Sacred Music.
- **2009** Awarded full sponsorship from the Brazilian Ministry of Education to study organ and piano for six months at East Carolina University, USA.
- **2005** Won second place in the national piano competition XVIII Concurso de Piano Artlivre in São Paulo, Brazil.

CERTIFICATIONS

- 2012** Service Playing Certificate (SPC) from the American Guild of Organists
- 2005** Certificate of Proficiency in English (ECPE) from the University of Michigan

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- 2017** American Choral Directors Association (ACDA)
- 2014** Choristers Guild
- 2013** Organ Historical Society (OHS)
- 2011** American Guild of Organists (AGO)
- 2010** Ordem dos Músicos do Brasil (OMB)

AGO CHAPTER MEMBERSHIPS

- 2016** Twin Cities, MN
- 2014** Anchorage, AK
- 2014** Denver, CO
- 2013** Southern Plains, OK
- 2013** Central Arkansas, AR
- 2011** East Carolina, NC