

## The Haarlem Essays published by Butz!



## THE HAARLEM ESSAYS Celebrating Fifty International Organ Festivals

Edited by Paul Peeters

The Dutch city of **Haarlem** is one of the world's best known centres of organ music. Based around St Bavo's Church and its legendary **Müller organ**, the city regularly hosts the **Organ Festival**, the **Improvisation Competition** and the master classes at the **academy for organists**. All three are amongst the leading events of their type in the world of organ music.

The Haarlem Improvisation Competition (first held in 1951!) has provided significant input into the development and teaching of organ improvisation; numerous organists' careers began here, and countless compositions for organ were given their first performances on the city's famous instruments.

In celebration of the 50th Organ Festival and the 50th Improvisation Competition in 2014, an impressive **anniversary book** is being published (in English); the foundation 'Stichting Internationaal Orgelconcours' has asked Butz-Verlag to publish the volume, which offers far more than the average anniversary publication:



## CONTENTS

- Numerous articles by internationally renowned authors, including Christoph Wolff, Ton Koopman, Peter Planyavsky, Roman Summereder, Jean-Claude Zehnder, Joris Verdin, Hans Fidom and Ran Raas
- Essays telling the local history of Haarlem's churches and their organs, as well as the history of the festival, competition and academy
- Fundamental discussions of the subject of organ improvisation
- Numerous articles on broader issues, such as the role of the organ at particular points in J.S. Bach's life, on French organ music of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and on the development of organ composition from Reger to the present day
- Reproduction of all the themes for improvisations in the final rounds from 1951 until 2012
- Numerous organ specifications
- More than 150 pictures, diagrams, photos and drawings
- The names of all the participants and jury members in the competitions from 1951 until 2012
- Including a CD with seven award-winning improvisations

