

KMD Prof. Almut Rößler
Organistin

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Almut Rößler studied organ with Konrad Voppel (student of Straube), Michael Schneider (Student of Straube and Dupré) and Gaston Litaize (Dupré). Later she complemented her studies with Olivier Messiaen and performed his entire organ works, including the European first performance of the “Méditations sur le Mystère de la Saint Trinité” in Düsseldorf and the world premiere of the “Livre du Saint Sacrement” in Detroit, Michigan.

During her 30-year tenure (1967–1997) at the Johanneskirche Düsseldorf with its famous Beckerath organ, the music of Bach had a major emphasis in her work. An additional center was the music of Messiaen and other organ compositions of the 20th century, many of which were dedicated to her. To her, the decisive correspondence between the 2 composers, Bach and Messiaen, is “Soli Deo Gloria”, which in a unique way was the motto of both. She also conducted critically acclaimed performances of the oratorios of Bach, Frank Martin, Lili Boulanger, Stravinsky and Franck, in which she always attempted a contemporary approach taking today’s circumstances into account.

In 1979 she made an extensive production with a representative choice of Bach’s organ works (Motette 10190). And in the Bach year, 2000, she performed the “Eighteen Chorales” numerous times, after having studied these works for decades and recorded them in the Thomaskirche, Leipzig in 2003.

Almut Rößler has been a lecturer at the Landeskirchenmusikschule Düsseldorf since 1959 and Professor for Organ at the Robert-Schumann-Conservatory Düsseldorf since 1977. She has received many awards for her work, among others the “Organist of the Year 1986” from the University of Michigan and the “Bundesverdienstkreuz 1. Klasse” (1994) from the German government.