

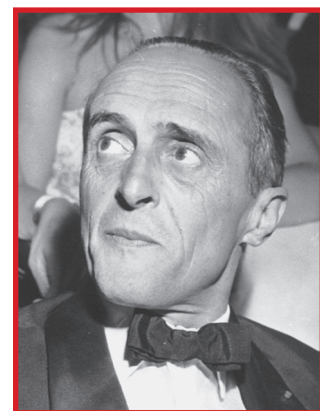
## MUSIC SERIES 2021-22 PRESENTS



### SILENT FILM WITH LIVE ACCOMPANIMENT AND SCORE COMPOSED BY JAEBON HWANG

*The Phantom of the Moulin Rouge* (1925) was the first feature-length film that René Clair directed. A somewhat messy mix of melodrama and fantasy, this early work of Clair offers scattered humor and eccentricity. The lively sequence in the Moulin Rouge captures the decadence and “joie de vivre” of the era brilliantly.

**René Clair** (1898-1981) was widely regarded as one of the world’s top filmmakers based on the strength of silent films like *Paris qui dort* (1923) and the universally acclaimed comedy *An Italian Straw Hat* (1927), as well as a quartet of early sound films that were worldwide hits: *Under the Roofs of Paris* (1930), *Le Million* and *À nous la liberté* (both 1931), and *Quatorze juillet* (1934). Clair was famously skeptical about the advent of sound in film, fearing that it would mean the loss of a certain aesthetic that had developed and of which he himself was a strong partisan. He went to England and then Hollywood, where his work was less successful. Returning to France after World War II, he made *Le silence est d’or* (1947), *La beauté du diable* (1950), *Les belles de nuit* (1952), and *Les grandes manoeuvres* (1955). He was the first filmmaker elected to the French Academy (1962), and died in Paris.



### AUDIENCE MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR MASKS WHILE INSIDE THE SANCTUARY

In lieu of an offering during the performance, donation plates are available at the back of the church, or you may support this concert and/or our music series by donating online at [www.fumcsd.org/musicseries](http://www.fumcsd.org/musicseries).

**MUSIC SERIES 2021-22** brochures are available in the pew pockets and back tables.

A reception will follow the performance on Linder patio.



**JAEBON HWANG** is Director of Music Ministries and Organist at First United Methodist Church of San Diego. Previously she has served as Organist at Westwood United Methodist Church in Los Angeles and Assistant Organist at First Congregational Church of Los Angeles. She won 3rd prize at the 13th National Organ-Playing Competition sponsored by The Ruth and Clarence Mader Memorial Scholarship Fund in 2013. Awarded the Fellow of American Guild of Organists (FAGO), the organization's highest level of certification in 2011, she completed her Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Southern California in 2019, studying organ with Dr. Ladd Thomas and composition with Dr. Morten Lauridsen.

Prior to her organ study, she earned degrees in Composition and Scoring for Film & Multimedia from Korea National University of Arts and New York University, respectively. At NYU, she studied with Ira Newborn, best known for his original score for "The Naked Gun" series and "Sixteen Candles" among many comedy films in the 80s and 90s. Dr. Hwang's submission to the 8th Annual Young Film Composers Competition, sponsored by Turner Classic Movies, won 3rd prize from a pool of over 850 international entries. She has been repeatedly chosen to participate in the ASCAP film scoring workshops, most notably the ASCAP Television & Film Scoring Workshop with Richard Bellis. She was commissioned to be one of the composers for the premiere of the silent film "*Les Deux Timides*" (*René Clair, 1929*) at the 2008 Tribeca Film Festival in New York City. Until she decided to change her career path, she had scored several short and feature length films that were recognized in numerous prestigious film festivals.

As an active member of the American Guild of Organists, she has served on the executive board of the Los Angeles and San Diego chapters in several roles, and in 2018 directed a Pipe Organ Encounter. She participated in the recording of an album of the "Hollywood Epic Brass" with in-demand studio musicians in 2014, and has worked with such prestigious organizations as Los Angeles Opera and San Diego Symphony. Featured at the West Region Conventions of the American Guild of Organists in 2017 and 2019 and at the AGO OrganFest 2021, Dr. Hwang maintains an active performance schedule as a recitalist and as a collaborative artist and composes new music as time permits. Some of her original sacred compositions are published by Lorenz Publishing Company.

### **THE MUSICAL ACCOMPANIMENT**

*The new musical accompaniment for this presentation, written in 2018 as a project for my doctoral degree and premiered in the same year in Los Angeles, was scored with a few things in mind. First, I wanted an accompaniment that would be harmonically and rhythmically consistent with the visual style of the film and with what might have been heard in the mid 1920's in Europe. I chose a conservative harmonic palette, mainly a blend of the impressionists, with a touch of Offenbach and Johann Strauss II, and tried to combine them with formal logic and symmetry. Second, I wanted to set themes for the main characters that would musically express their essential personalities. I wanted to add to the humor by capturing the physical actions or by highlighting them without adding too much synchronization. I also considered thematic unity and cohesiveness throughout the entire film—for example, the thematic material from the dance music of the Moulin Rouge is used again in the fight scene later in the film.—NOTES BY JAEBON HWANG*

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**Upcoming concert: December 5 2021 at 7:30 p.m.  
Seasonal Music by the First Church Vocal Quartet**

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