

Matthew Cates is a student at UNC School of the Arts, where he is studying organ with Dr. Timothy Olsen. Before coming to the UNC School of the Arts, he was a student of David Durkop and David Arcus. Matthew has a deep love for the Impressionist music of the French such as Ravel, Debussy, and Duruflé. He is also an avid composer, and his compositions have been performed in North America and across Europe. Matthew recently studied at L'Académie Internationale d'Orgue in Paris, France, where his teachers included Frédéric Blanc, Baptiste-Florian Marle-Ouvrard, François Espinasse, and François-Henri Houbart. He has won two superior prizes for piano performance in the 2013 and 2014 ACSI piano competitions. He also placed first in the 7<sup>th</sup> annual UNCSCA Organ Competition and Festival, and he also placed first and won the prize for the interpretation of Bach in the 2018 ECU Organ Competition.