

Darius Battiwalla has recently been appointed Leeds City Organist, performing regularly in the highly successful recital series in Leeds Town Hall, and has given organ recitals at cathedrals and concert halls throughout the country, as well as recordings and broadcasts on radio 3. He has given the recitals for the Royal College of Organists' and Incorporated Association of Organists' annual congress, appeared as soloist and orchestral organist and pianist for the BBC Philharmonic and Halle orchestras. This year has seen the premiere of a new work for organ and brass band with the Black Dyke Band, a performance of Karl Jenkins' organ concerto at the Bridgewater Hall, solo recitals in Leeds, York and London, and a live broadcast on radio 3 of Janacek's Glagolitic Mass.

Darius is music director of the Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus, and works regularly with other choirs including the CBSO chorus and the Netherlands Radio Choir. He has had arrangements performed by the Halle, CBSO, RLPO and Northern Sinfonia He also improvises for silent films on both organ and piano, including a regular silent film series at the National Media Museum.

Darius was born in London and started playing the piano at an early age, then the cello. He began playing the organ at St Mary's Islington at the age of 13. He was educated at Leeds University and the Royal Northern College of Music where he won prizes for both organ and piano accompaniment, and where he now teaches organ, continuo and improvisation.