

THE ORGAN AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH APPLETON, WISCONSIN

Overview

All Saints has a two-manual and pedal Möller pipe organ, Opus 8251 from 1951, consisting of 26 ranks. In 2002, the console was completely rebuilt and a new solid state relay was installed, allowing for 8 levels of memory. All new wiring was installed throughout the organ. All reservoirs, wipers, and tremolos were restored. The exposed Great division was replanted on a new electric action slider chest and a new 8' Trumpet was built and installed for the Great division. New drawknobs and pistons were added, but the Möller ivory keyboards were retained and the Möller toe studs were refurbished. There are three blank stops for future expansion. This work was undertaken by John-Paul Buzard Pipe Organ Builders of Champaign, Illinois. The organ has a sizable endowment fund given for its care in perpetuity.

The All Saints Organ 2017

Great

(unenclosed):

Open Diapason 8

Octave 4

Octave Quint 2 2/3

Super Octave 2

Mixture III-V

Trumpet 8 (Buzard)

Great to Great 4

Great to Great 16

Tremolo

(enclosed):

Spitz Flote 16

Bourdon 8

Spitz Flote 8

Unda Maris 8

Hohl Flute 4

Swell

Rohr Flote 8

Viole de Gambe 8

Viole Celeste 8

Principal 4

Koppel Flote 4

Flautino 2

Plein Jeu III

Contra Fagotto 16

Fagotto 8

Trompette 8

Clarion 4

Swell to Swell 4

Swell to Swell 16

Tremolo

Pedal

Subbass 16

Spitz Flote 16

Rohr Bourdon 16

Quint 10 2/3

Octave 8

Super Octave 4

Rohr Gedeckt 8

Spitz Flote 8

Rohr Flute 4

Spitz Cornet III

Double Trumpet 16

Trompette 8

Clarion 4

All the usual couplers

Unenclosed Great is on a slider chest

Organ has all solid state connections

(Buzard)

Great mixture

8 levels of memory

6 generals (thumb and toe)

7 swell pistons

6 great pistons

5 pedal pistons

Sforz.

Cresc. pedal

History and Organist's Commentary

LaVahn Maesch, former dean of the Lawrence Conservatory of Music, who was a Dupré student, designed the 1952 organ. The voicing is by Homer Lewis. I have always found it to be quite good for accompanying an Episcopal Service, and it does well at playing much of the organ literature.

In the rebuild of 2002 by the Buzard Organ Company, they did an interesting thing. When you draw the Swell 16 coupler, the ranks, which are unified to the pedal as extensions (Rohr Flute 8' and Trumpet 8'), automatically play those extended pedal pipes on the Swell Keyboard at 16'. They can also be sub-coupled to the Great, and will sound at 16'. It is quite handy! The combination of the Unda Maris and the 8' Spitz Flote is quite lovely. They also left two blank stop knobs for the addition of a Sesquialtera and a Clarinet.

Having four 16' ranks in the pedal is quite unusual in such a small organ. They really come in handy. When I first came to All Saints, the Great had the Spitz Flote unit, sounding at 8' and 4' levels. I found having two 4' flutes on one keyboard to be unnecessary. So we had the 4' Spitz rewired to a 16' Spitz using the pipes that were already there for the pedal. This gave the organ its first full-length 16' rank on the manuals. It has proved to be satisfying as well as having the 16' Subbass.

Having the Great Flutes enclosed is a big help. I have also found the 10 2/3 Quint to be a great addition when playing a Howells anthem. The Double Trumpet 16 is also quite grand. The Buzard Trumpet on the Great is a fine one. The Swell Plein Jeu III mixture is a wonderful mixture, especially for accompanying the choir. It has a gentle presence.