Casavant Opus 3105 Pipe Organ FAQ's

www.theiowaorganproject.com

3 manuals + pedals | 55 stops, 74 ranks
attached drawknob keydesk | compass 56/32
mechanical key action | electric stop action
completed 1971 | modifications 1999
relocated 2013-2018
original cost: $125,000 | replacement cost: $1.75M

Who built the organ?
Casavant Frères of Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec, Canada built the organ for the University of Iowa and installed it in Clapp Recital Hall in 1971 where it served students, faculty, and guest artists until 2008 when the UI arts campus was flooded.
It was removed in the late summer of 2013 by Dobson Organ Builders of Lake City, Iowa, and stayed in storage until 2017 when installation began in the new St. Andrew sanctuary.

Who designed the organ?
Lawrence Phelps of Casavant and Prof. Gerhard Krapf, founder of the UI organ department, collaborated on the project. Krapf was once a member and elder at St. Andrew.

Why is this organ so special?
The organ reflects the *Orgelbewegung*, or Organ Reform Movement, and was the first large mechanical action instrument at a major US university in 1971.

What happened to the old St. Andrew organ?
The two-manual Casavant organ was sold and moved early in the fall of 2014 to St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Aurelia, Iowa.

When will the organ be completely finished?
We anticipate the organ will be fully installed by the end of Summer 2018. The amount of tonal finishing is to be determined.

Will there be a dedication recital?
Yes! In fact, there will be a series of recitals during the 2018/2019 season presented by organists that have played an important role in the life of this organ and the music of St. Andrew. The first recital will take place during the last weekend in October 2018.

How much did St. Andrew pay for the organ?
The organ was donated by Peterson Contractors, Inc., chosen by FEMA to demolish the music complex. St. Andrew, along with community members, are financing the removal, reconfiguration, and reinstallation costs totaling approximately $500,000.

How can I support this project?
A special Organ Fund has been established by Session to cover the costs of the project. You may make a contribution at any time by using the Organ Fund envelopes or donating online at www.theiowaorganproject.com.

What is a rank?

A rank is a row of like-sounding pipes, one pipe for each note. Usually a rank equals a single stop, though some stops include several ranks (several pipes speak when a key is pressed).

What are stops?

The knobs near the keyboards that when pulled allow wind to reach a specific rank(s) of pipes that then can be played with the hands or feet. Thus, “pulling out all the stops” originated here.

What are the pipes made from?

The majority of this organ’s pipes are made from a combination of tin and lead. The different percentages of each metal determine the appearance of the pipe. One pedal stop is made from wood, maple, the same wood as the case.

Do the facade pipes play?

Yes, from the tallest pedal pipe (nearly 19’ long), to the shortest, all the pipes make sounds.

How many pipes are in the organ?

There are nearly 3,500 pipes.

How many more stops are yet to be added?

Currently, there are approximately 60% of the different colored stops installed. Twenty-one additional stops will be added during the final tonal finishing process, slated for the summer of 2018.

What is tonal finishing?

This is the process of listening to each rank of pipes individually and together with others, making any adjustments to volume and timbre (color) to best “sing” in the room it is placed. This organ was voiced for Clapp Recital Hall, and so we anticipate some changes to better suit its new home.

What is a tracker organ?

This refers to the way pipes are allowed to speak when keys or pedals are pressed. Each key is connected to the pipe’s valve by rods, often thin strips of wood, called trackers.

What is a manual?

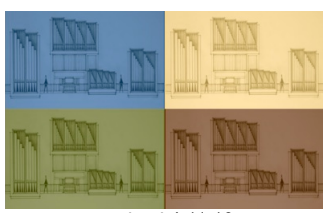
An organ manual is used interchangeably with keyboard. This instrument has four manuals. Three for the hands (56 keys each), and one for the feet (32 pedals). They are named Hauptwerk (upper-most division), Schwellwerk (division with shades directly above the organist), Positiv (short division hanging on the balcony rail), and Pedal (split between the two outer cases)

What are the buttons under the manuals and by the pedals?

These buttons, or pistons, control the combination stop action. The organist can program a countless number of stop combinations and retrieve them later by pressing a piston. Some pistons control all the keyboards, some are specific to a single keyboard.

What is the name of the star that turns?

It is a *Zimbelstern*, German for cymbal star. It is a set of bells within the organ that independently ring when their knob is drawn. The star, connected to the bells, is purely a visual feature.



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