

Christian Bethmann

Founded/Born

1783 - 1833

Closed/Death

Still active?

no

Description

Christian Bethmann (1783–1833) was a German organ builder from Linden, now part of Hannover. He was a Hoforgelbauer, a title indicating his role as a court organ builder, and throughout his career, he constructed twelve new organs and conducted repairs on at least four others. One of his most well-preserved works is the organ in Posthausen, which features 18 registers across two manuals and pedal.

Bethmann likely followed in the footsteps of his father, Wilhelm Heinrich Bethmann, who was also a Hoforgelbaumeister in Hannover. Wilhelm not only built organs but also crafted stringed keyboard instruments like harpsichords and clavichords. Christian Bethmann continued this family tradition, contributing to the organ-building legacy of the region until his death in 1833.

Sources

https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christian_Bethmann

Posthausen, Lukaskirche



Builder	C. Bethmann
Year	1833
Period/Style	Romantic
Stops	18
Keyboards	2+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Neidhardt II at 437 Hz

Description

The organ in Lukaskirche, Posthausen, originally built by Christian Bethmann in 1833 for the Garnisonskirche in Hameln, was later acquired by the Kirchengemeinde in Posthausen in 1881 and installed by Ph. Furtwängler & Söhne. This organ is significant as the only remaining instrument by Bethmann, featuring 18 registers across two manuals and a pedal.

Throughout its history, the organ underwent various modifications, including a "Barockisierung" (Baroque-style alteration) planned by A. Hoppe in 1936 and executed by P. Ott by 1937. Substantial preservation efforts were carried out by M. Haspelmath in 1980, and in 1991, the organ was fully restored by the firm Führer (Wilhelmshaven), returning it to its 1881 state. The restoration preserved much of the original Bethmann design while incorporating elements from subsequent restorations.

Stoplist/Disposition

Hauptwerk	Brustwerk	Pedal
Bordun 16'	Gedackt 8'	Subbass 16'
Principal 8'	Flöte 4'	Octavbass 8'
Hohlflöte 8'	Flageolet 2'	Octav 4'
Gamba 8'	Sesquialtera 2f	Posaune 16'
Octav 4'		Trompete 8'
Gemshorn 4'		
Quinte 1-2f 3'		
Octav 2'		
Mixtur 2-4f		

Additional: II/I (shove coupler), I/P

Sources

<https://nomine.net/orgel/posthausen-lukaskirche/>