

Franz Xaver Engelfried

Founded/Born

-

1808 - 1881

Closed/Death

Still active?

no

Description

Franz Xaver Engelfried, born on September 16, 1808, was a prominent organ builder who followed in the footsteps of his father, Alois Engelfried (1767-1834), also an organ builder. Franz Xaver's career spanned various locations, initially in Horb am Neckar, Germany, and later in New York, where he continued his craft until his death on April 28, 1881. His work predominantly involved constructing organs for churches, contributing to the musical and cultural life of both his local community in Germany and his adopted home in the United States. Through his craftsmanship, Franz Xaver maintained the family tradition of organ building, ensuring the Engelfried name remained synonymous with quality organ construction across continents.

Sources

<https://www.bmlo.uni-muenchen.de/e0773>

Gönningen, Peter und Paul

Kirchstraße 3, 72770 Gönningen, Germany



Builder	F. X. Engelfried
Year	1844
Period/Style	Romantic
Stops	24
Keyboards	2+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Equal at 440 Hz
Sampleset	<u>OrganArt Media</u>

Description

The 1844 Franz Xaver Engelfried organ, located in the Evangelical Peter and Paul Church in Gönningen, Baden-Württemberg, Germany, resides within a neo-Gothic styled church expanded in 1842. This historical church, constructed from tuff stone, boasts exceptional acoustics that have made it a favored venue for recording international choir, organ, and chamber music CDs. The church and its organ are a testament to the rich musical heritage of the region surrounding Reutlingen and Tübingen in South Germany.

This organ, originally built by Franz Xaver Engelfried from Horb, features both classic and romantic registers including Salicional, Viola, and Clarinette, the latter being non-beating. Throughout the 19th century, it underwent several modifications and tonal changes in keeping with contemporary tastes of the time, which included complete replacement of the reed stops. In 1970, Richard Rensch's organ workshop from Lauffen undertook a pioneering restoration to revert the organ to its original early Romantic disposition, along with some expansions. This restoration was based on original documents and parts of the historical reed stops found, allowing for a faithful reconstruction.

Despite proposals to dismantle it around 1970, when interest in restoring such instruments was minimal, the organ was preserved and underwent further cleaning and general maintenance by Orgelbau Rensch in 2005. Today, it stands as one of the few surviving early Romantic organs in Germany, ideal for playing music from the late 18th and early 19th centuries, including works by Bach. The organ, featuring mechanical action and couplers, is fully playable and maintained in good condition. It regularly features in concerts during the "Reutlingen Organ Summer," resonating in a

space with a reverberation time of approximately 3.5 seconds.

Stoplist/Disposition

Hauptwerk	Hinterwerk	Pedal
Bourdon 16	Großgedeckt 8	Principalbaß 16
Principal 8	Viola 8	Violonbaß 16
Flauto 8	Salicional 8	Subbaß 16
Gamba 8	Gemshorn 4	Oktavbaß 8
Quintflöte 5 1/3	Flüt d'amour 4	Posaune 16
Oktav 4	Flageolet 2	
Flauto traverso 4	Mixtur 3f	
Quinte 2 2/3	Clarinete 8	
Oktav 2		
Mixtur 4f		
Trompete 8		

Additional: HIW-HW, HW-P, HIW-P

Sources

<https://www.organartmedia.com/de/f-x-engelfried>