

Gebr. Hillebrand

Bernhard-Rehkopf-Straße 1, 30916 Isernhagen, Germany

Founded/Born

1948 - ???

Closed/Death

Still active?

yes

Description

Gebrüder Hillebrand Orgelbau, located in Altwarmbüchen, Germany, is renowned for its meticulous restoration of historical organs in Northern Germany. Founded by Hermann Hillebrand (1904-1966), who trained in Hanover under Lothar Wetzels and later took his master craftsman examination with Emil Hammer Orgelbau, the company began operations in 1948. Hermann's sons, Harry (1930-1987) and Guntram (1934-1991), trained in organ building and eventually took over the company, managing it until their respective deaths. Since 1978, the company has operated under the name "Gebrüder Hillebrand GmbH Orgelbau KG."

Martin Hillebrand, Hermann's grandson, became the managing director in 1992, bringing extensive experience from working with various notable organ builders such as Metzler Orgelbau and Marcussen & Søn. Under his leadership, the company continues its legacy, and his son Nikolas has joined as the fourth-generation organ builder. The company, awarded the Lower Saxony Culture Prize in 1986, also participated in a research project aimed at reducing lead corrosion in organ pipes from the 17th and 18th centuries.

Sources

https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gebr%C3%BCder_Hillebrand_Orgelbau

Bremerhaven, Christuskirche

Schillerstraße 1, 27570 Bremerhaven, Germany



Builder	Gebr. Hillebrand
Year	1967
Period/Style	Neo-Baroque
Stops	40
Keyboards	3+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Werckmeister III at 440.6 Hz

Description

The Christuskirche in Bremerhaven houses an organ originally built by the Peternell company from Seligenthal, Thuringia in 1875. This organ was dismantled in 1966, and the church's gallery was lowered by one meter to better accommodate a new instrument. The new organ, crafted by Gebr. Hillebrand from Altwarmbüchen near Hanover, was inaugurated in 1967. This organ adheres to the North German organ-building tradition and features three manuals and a pedal with 40 registers. The facade is characterized by its richly structured design and the tall prospect pipes of the pedal towers, creating a distinctive visual presence in the church.

In 1997, Alfred Führer from Wilhelmshaven undertook a tonal revision of the organ and added several new stops. Additionally, for liturgical and musical performances, the church also has a chest organ built in 1998 by Klop of Garderen, Holland. This smaller organ has five stops and a transposition capability, providing versatility for various musical needs. The modifications and restorations have ensured that the organ continues to support the church's rich musical tradition effectively.

Stoplist/Disposition

Rückpositiv	Hauptwerk	Brustwerk	Pedal
Rohrflöte 8'	Quintade 16'	Gedackt 8'	Prinzipal 16'
Prinzipal 4'	Prinzipal 8'	Rohrflöte 4'	Subbass 16'
Metallgedackt 4'	Hohlflöte 8'	Prinzipal 2'	Oktave 8'
Waldflöte 2'	Oktave 4'	Sifflöte 1 1/3'	Gedackt 8'
Quinte 1 1/3'	Spitzflöte 4'	Scharf 3f	Oktave 4'
Oktave 1'	Nasat 2 2/3'	Vox humana 8'	Nachthorn 1'
Sesquialtera 2f	Terz 1 3/5'		Mixtur 4f
Scharf 3f	Oktave 2'		Zimbel 3f
Rankett 16'	Gemshorn 2'		Posaune 16'
Dulzian 8'	Mixtur 6f		Trompete 8'
	Trompete 8'		Trompete 4'
	Oboe 8'		Cornett 2'

Additional: I/II, III/II, I/P, II/P, Tremulant I, Tremulant II, Tremulant III

Sources

<https://nomine.net/orgel/bremerhaven-christuskirche/>

Plate, St. Marien



Builder	Gebr. Hillebrand
Year	ca. 1981
Period/Style	Baroque
Stops	18
Keyboards	2+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	1/4 Comma Meantone at 466 Hz

Description

The organ in St. Marien Church in Plate, built in 1980/81 by Gebr. Hillebrand - Orgelbau, is housed in a historically significant Renaissance case dating back to the 16th century. This organ, with its unique and valuable original prospect pipes, is an exceptional example of Northern German Renaissance craftsmanship. The organ was designed with a technical and tonal approach that reflects the organ-building traditions of the 16th and early 17th centuries.

The original organ was associated with Johann Hellwig, who worked on it in the early 1600s, but it has undergone several transformations over the centuries. The most recent significant restoration occurred in 2014, when Gebr. Hillebrand performed extensive work, including cleaning, repairing historical pipes, adding period-appropriate registers, and re-intonating the organ to match the tonal characteristics of the 16th century. This restoration, guided by experts, has preserved the organ's historical integrity while enhancing its functionality, making it a valuable and cherished instrument in the region.

Stoplist/Disposition

Rückpositiv	Hauptwerk	Pedal
GEDACT 8 fuß	PRAESTANT 8 fuß	SUBBASS 16 fuß
PRAESTANT 4 fuß	ROHRFLOIT 8 fuß	PRINCIPAL 8 fuß
FLOIT 4 fuß	OCTAV 4 fuß	FLOITBASS 8 fuß
FLOIT 2 fuß	NASAT 3 fuß	OCTAV 4 fuß
QUINT 1 1/2 fuß	SUPEROCTAV 2 fuß	NACHTHORN 2 fuß
	MIXTUR 4fach	TROMPET 8 fuß
	TROMPET 8 fuß	

Additional: COPPEL MAN. (I/II), COPPEL PED. (II/P), Tremulant

Sources

<https://nomine.net/orgel/plate-st-marien/>

Hörnum (Sylt), St. Thomas

Sankt Thomas, Oberer Dünenweg , 25997 Hörnum (Sylt), Germany



Builder	Gebr. Hillebrand
Year	1993
Period/Style	Modern
Stops	20
Keyboards	2+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical

Description

The organ was constructed in 1993 by Hillebrand Orgelbau.

Stoplist/Disposition

I Hauptwerk	II Schwellpositiv	Pedal
Prinzipal 8'	Gedackt 8'	Subbass 16'
Rohrflöte 8'	Prinzipal 4'	Prinzipal 8'
Oktave 4'	Flöte 4'	Oktave 4'
Spitzflöte 4'	Waldflöte 2'	Posaune 16'
Nasat 3'	Sesquialtera 2f	Trompete 8'
Oktave 2'	Scharff 3f	
Mixtur 3-4f	Dulzian 8'	
Trompete 8'		

Additional: II/I, I/P, II/P, Tremulant II Schwellpositiv

Sources

https://organindex.de/index.php?title=H%C3%B6rnum_auf_Sylt,_St._Thomas

Scharnebeck, St. Marien

St. Marien, Hauptstraße, 21379 Scharnebeck, Germany



Builder	Gebr. Hillebrand
Year	ca. 1995
Period/Style	Baroque
Stops	17
Keyboards	2+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Well-Tempered at 437 Hz

Description

The St. Marien Church in Scharnebeck houses a historically significant organ whose origins date back to 1754. The original instrument featured a single manual with 16 registers and was installed in a beautifully crafted case donated by Amtmann G. L. von der Schulenburg. Over the centuries, the organ underwent several modifications, including a complete rebuild in 1895 by Carl Johann Heinrich Röver, who expanded the case and installed a new pneumatic system without retaining any of the original pipes.

Further alterations were made in 1939 by Gustav Steinmann and in 1954 by Emil Hammer, each aiming to improve the organ's sound but significantly altering its character. Recognizing the value of its historical roots, a comprehensive restoration and rebuild were carried out by the Gebrüder Hillebrand between 1994 and 1995. This project restored the original 1754 case and constructed a new instrument inspired by North German organ-building traditions, featuring 17 registers across Hauptwerk, Brustwerk, and Pedal divisions with entirely mechanical action and a well-tempered tuning system.

Stoplist/Disposition

Hauptwerk	Brustwerk	Pedal
Prinzipal 8'	Gedackt 8'	Subbaß 16'
Hohlflöte 8'	Rohrflöte 4'	Flachflöte 8'
Oktave 4'	Waldflöte 2'	Oktave 4'
Nassat 3'	Quinte 1 1/3'	Posaune 16'
Oktave 2'	Vox Humana 8'	
Sesquialtera 2f		
Mixtur 4f		
Trompete 8'		

Additional: BW/HW, HW/Ped, Tremulant, Cymbelstern

Sources

<https://nomine.net/orgel/scharnebeck-st-marien/>

Bad Bodenteich, Sankt Petri

Rosenweg 4, 29389 Bad Bodenteich, Germany



Builder	Gebr. Hillebrand
Year	1996
Period/Style	Modern
Stops	29
Keyboards	2+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Neidhardt III at 440 Hz

Description

The St. Petri Church in Bodenteich houses an organ built by the Gebr. Hillebrand organ building workshop in 1996. This instrument features a mechanical slider chest and is designed with sound characteristics emphasizing both the late Baroque and Romantic styles. The organ includes 29 stops across three divisions: Hauptwerk, Schwellwerk, and Pedal. The Hauptwerk includes stops like Bordun 16', Prinzipal 8', and Trompete 8', while the Schwellwerk features stops such as Gedackt 8', Oboe 8', and Mixtur 3f. The Pedal division contains stops including Violon 16', Principal 8', and Posaune 16'.

The church previously had an organ built by Conrad Euler in 1836, followed by a pneumatic organ constructed by Furtwängler & Hammer in 1922. The current Hillebrand organ maintains a focus on late Baroque and Romantic sound aesthetics, providing a rich and versatile tonal palette suitable for a wide range of liturgical and concert repertoire.

Stoplist/Disposition

Hauptwerk	Schwellwerk	Pedal
Bordun 16'	Gedackt 8'	Violon 16'
Prinzipal 8'	Gambe 8'	Subbaß 16'
Rohrflöte 8'	Principal 4'	Principal 8'
Octave 4'	Flauto traverso 4'	Gedacktbaß 8'
Spitzflöte 4'	Nasat 3'	Gamba 8'
Oktave 2'	Octave 2'	Choralbaß 4'
Mixtur 4-5f 1 1/3'	Waldflöte 2'	Flöte 4'
Trompete 8'	Terz 1 3/5'	Rauschpfeife 4f
	Mixtur 3f 2'	Posaune 16'
	Oboe 8'	Trompete 8'
		Clairon 4'

Additional: II/I, I/P, II/P, Tremulant

Sources

<https://nomine.net/orgel/bodenteich-st-petri/>