

Scherer

Founded/Born

1525 - 1631

Closed/Death

Still active?

no

Description

The Scherer family, based in Hamburg, was a prominent German organ-building family from the 16th and early 17th centuries. Known for their significant contributions to North German organ building, the Scherers were instrumental in bringing the craft to its zenith. The term "Scherer organ" refers to organs constructed by members of this family, which spanned three generations.

Jacob Scherer († 1574) began the family's legacy by taking over an organ workshop and passing it to his son-in-law Dirk Hoyer in 1569. Hans Scherer the Elder (c. 1535–1611), a student of Hendrik Niehoff, became the most renowned member of the family, introducing numerous innovations and training influential organ builders like Johann Lange and Antonius Wilde. He established his workshop in Bernau bei Berlin in 1571 before returning to Hamburg, where he passed on the business to his sons, Hans the Younger (c. 1570/1580–1631) and Fritz Scherer.

Hans Scherer the Younger continued the family's tradition, developing the concept of independent pedal towers and contributing significantly to the design known as the Hamburger Prospekt. He became a citizen of Hamburg in 1606 and carried out notable works, including repairs and new builds, with his brother Fritz. Fritz Scherer also made substantial contributions, including the construction and restoration of organs, sometimes in collaboration with his brother. Together, the Scherers left a lasting impact on the field of organ building, influencing future generations of craftsmen like Gottfried Fritzsche and Arp Schnitger.

Sources

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scherer_\(Orgelbauer\)](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scherer_(Orgelbauer))

Mölln, St. Nicolai

St. Nicolai, Am Markt 12, 23879 Mölln, Germany



Builder	Scherer
Year	ca. 1558
Period/Style	Renaissance
Stops	40
Keyboards	3+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical

Description

The organ can be traced back to several significant periods of work:

- Around 1436, there was likely an organ, probably a blockwork.
- Circa 1500, an unknown organ builder made individual pipe rows of blockwork controllable by setting loops on the wind chest.
- Between 1555-58, Jacob Scherer designed a new instrument, but apparently, he largely adopted the existing registers: the main body received 7 registers, the pedal received 6, and a Brustwerk was created, though it likely was not yet being played from its own keyboard.
- 1567 saw a repair by organ builder Hans Köster after lightning damaged the organ; he added a Rückpositiv containing 10 registers as per sources, bringing the size to II/24.
- Between 1637-41, Friedrich Stellwagen built a new Brustwerk with 5 registers and supplemented the other works as follows: RP + 1 voice, HW + 4 voices, Pedal + 3 voices. Now, the organ has three manuals for the first time.
- During 1754-66, Christoph Julius Bunting carried out a repair, building a new prospectus with baroque carvings, which has been preserved to this day. He also added additional registers, the organ now has III/38. There would be more works on the organ afterwards.
- In 1854/55, Marcussen's modifications transformed the Rückpositiv into a swellable main work and reduced the number of registers to 33.
- Restoration began in 1954 by Eberhard Tolle and carried out in various stages. The disposition was presented as per the status after the initial building phase, in which the Rückpositiv had not yet been restored and the Brustwerk and the pedal still had a different shape from the disposition that existed after the completion of this work by Eberhard Tolle in 1972/75. The disposition since 1972 is also shown.
- From 2018-22, the Flentrop Organ Workshop from Zaandam, Netherlands restored the organ strictly following monument conservation principles, with the disposition after Bunting's work set

as the starting point. The completion was planned in 2021, but was postponed again. The re-inauguration took place in May 2022.

The current casing was made as part of the repairs carried out by organ builder Christoph Julius Bunting from 1754 to 1766.

Stoplist/Disposition

I Rückpositiv	II Hauptwerk	III Brustwerk	Pedalwerk
Prinzipal 8'	Quintadena 16'	Gedact 8'	Prinzipal 16'
Gedact 8'	Prinzipal 8'	Quintaden 4'	Subbass 16'
Quintadena 8'	Spitzflöit 8'	Waldflöit 2'	Octava 8'
Octava 4'	Holpipen 8'	Sifflöit 1'	Gedackt 8'
Blokflöit 4'	Octava 4'	Sesquialtera II	Octava 4'
Octava 2'	Holflöit 4'	Trichterregal 8'	Quint 3'
Sifflöit 1 1/3'	Quinta 3'		Mixtur IV
Sesquialter II	Nasat 3'		Posaune 16'
Mixtur IV	Octava 2'		Trommet 8'
Cimbel II	Mixtur IV		Trommet 4'
Trechterregal 8'	Cymbel III		
	Trommet 16'		
	Vox humana 8'		

Additional: 2 Zimbelsterne, Bock-Tremulant, RP/HW, BW/HW, RP/Ped, HW/Ped, Shut-off valves for each work

Sources

https://organindex.de/index.php?title=M%C3%B6lln,_St._Nicolai

Himmelpforten, St. Marien Kirche

St. Marien Kirche, Bei der Kirche 2, 21709 Himmelpforten, Germany



Builder	Scherer
Year	ca. 1590
Period/Style	Renaissance
Stops	24
Keyboards	2+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Equal at 440.0 Hz

Description

The organ was built by Hans Scherer the Elder and Antonius Wilde between 1587 and 1590. It was originally built for St. Nicolai Church in Stade, where it was updated with new wind chests in 1668/69 by Berendt Huß, repaired by Arp Schnitger in 1677, and renovated by Otto Dietrich Richborn in 1709. In 1835, the organ was installed in Himmelpforten by Peter Tappe. The Rückpositiv (an additional organ case located behind the organist) which was present in the organ at Stade was taken to Kirchlinteln by Tappe. There, the case and front pipes still exist. According to Seggermann/Weidenbach, in Himmelpforten, there are a total of 15 registers that contain old pipes in whole or in part. According to nomine.net, 10 registers, which consist predominantly of old ones, still remain.

The organ has undergone several notable changes: In 1835, the main work and the chestwork of the organ, originally built for the Nicolaikirche in Stade, were assembled by Peter Tappe. The organ was then revamped by Paul Ott of Göttingen in 1955/56. After a church renovation, Alfred Führer of Wilhelmshaven carried out a refurbishment of the organ in 1987. Later, in 2014, Bartelt Immer carried out a restoration.

Stoplist/Disposition

Hauptwerk (I)	Brustwerk (II)	Pedalwerk
Quintadena 16'	Gedackt 8'	Subbaß 16'
Prinzipal 8'	Flöte 4'	Oktave 8'
Rohrflöte 8'	Blockflöte 2'	Oktave 4'
Oktave 4'	Scharff II	Nachthorn 1'
Blockflöte 4'	Regal 8'	Mixtur V
Nasat 2 2/3'		Posaune 16'
Oktave 2'		Trompete 8'
Mixtur IV-VI		Cornet 2'
Terzzimbel III		
Trompete 8'		
Vox humana 8'		

Additional: II/I

Sources

https://organindex.de/index.php?title=Himmelpforten,_St._Marien