

Jonas Ekengren

Founded/Born

1736 - 1793

Closed/Death

Still active?

no

Description

Jonas Ekengren (1736–1793) was a Swedish craftsman known for his work as both a chair maker and an organ builder. Born in Stora Mellösa, Örebro County, he was the son of soldier Eric Ekengren and Annicka Andersdotter. Initially working as a mason in Stockholm, Ekengren later became a professional chair builder. In 1760, he received a privilege from the Board of Trade as a chair maker and became a member of the guild. By 1766, he had transitioned to organ building, constructing numerous organs, primarily for the Uppsala Diocese. Despite being self-taught and lacking formal qualifications, Ekengren became a significant figure in the Swedish organ-building scene of the 18th century.

Ekengren married four times and had several children. His first marriage was to Maria Elisabeth Norberg in 1756, with whom he had five children. After her death, he married Antonetta Ulrica Lindberg in 1768, and they had three children. His third marriage was to Margareta Catharina Kihlberg, and his fourth to Anna Magdalena Sparrman, with whom he had one daughter. Ekengren's notable contributions to organ building include working with the organ builder Mattias Swahlberg the Younger and constructing organs for various churches in Sweden. He passed away in Stockholm in 1793 and was buried in the Maria Magdalena parish.

Sources

https://sv.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jonas_Ekengren

Yttergran, Yttergrans kyrka

Yttergrans kyrkväg, 746 34 Yttergran, Sweden



Builder	J. Ekengren
Year	1776
Period/Style	Baroque
Stops	6
Keyboards	1
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical

Description

The organ in Yttergran Church, Sweden, built by Jonas Ekengren in 1776, is a remarkable 18th-century instrument located in Sweden's smallest church. Yttergran Church, situated in Bålsta near Stockholm, is a cozy church that can accommodate no more than 50 people. The church dates back to the late 12th or early 13th century and features ceiling paintings by the famous Swedish artist Albertus Pictor. The organ, created by Ekengren, is particularly notable for being one of the smallest organs in the country.

Jonas Ekengren, born in 1736, transitioned from being a mason and chair builder to an organ builder in Stockholm. His self-taught skills led to the construction of several small and medium-sized organs. The Yttergran organ is considered the most significant surviving example of his work, characterized by a façade with a flat field and two side towers, and a gentle, well-intonated sound. The organ has a single chromatic keyboard with 51 keys, no pedalboard, and tracker action. Despite its small size, the instrument boasts a rich history and was restored in 1968 by Mads Kjersgaard. It remains in good condition, though it requires some maintenance. The dry acoustics of the tiny church enhance the distinctiveness of this historical organ.

Stoplist/Disposition

Manual

Gedackt 8'

Principal 4'

Saltsinal 4'

Quinta 3'

Octava 2'

Mixtur II

Additional:

Sources

<https://riccardo-gnudi.blogspot.com/2023/09/yttergran.html>