Johannes Klais

Kölnstraße 148, 53111 Bonn, Germany
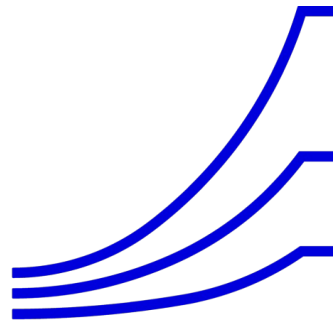
Founded/Born - Closed/Death	1882 - ???
Still active?	yes
Webpage	https://klais.de/

Description

Johannes Klais Orgelbau GmbH & Co. KG, based in Bonn, is a leading organ-building workshop in Germany with an export rate of about 40%. The company, founded in 1882 by Johannes Klais (1852–1925), is now in its fourth generation. Initially located on Breite Straße in downtown Bonn, it moved to a new residential and operational building on Kölnstraße in 1894, designed by Gerhard Franz Langenberg, which was occupied in the spring of 1896. Johannes Klais's son, Hans Klais (1890–1965), took over in 1921, followed by his grandson Hans Gerd Klais (* 1930) in 1965. Today, the company is led by his great-grandson, Philipp Klais (* 1967).

Klais's new organ constructions typically follow the concept of the universal organ, aiming to merge stylistic elements from different organ epochs and regions into a cohesive, contemporary design. This includes modern designs for the organ's facade, casing, and console, while also incorporating innovative developments.

In 1975, the company garnered international attention for the restoration of the bamboo organ built in 1824 from the parish church of St. Joseph in Las Piñas, Philippines. This unique, deteriorating instrument was flown in pieces to Bonn and meticulously restored. Klais has also restored many other historic organs.

Hermann Simon mentions the Klais organ company in his book as an example of a "Hidden Champion."

Sources

https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johannes_Klais_Orgelbau
https://klais.de/

Köln, Dom St. Peter und Maria (Main Organ)

Kölner Dom, 50667 Köln, Germany

Builder	J. Klais
Year	ca. 1948
Period/Style	Neo-Baroque
Stops	96
Keyboards	4+P
Keyaction	electro-pneumatic

Description

The organ was constructed by Johannes Klais Orgelbau in 1948 and underwent alterations and restorations in 1956 and 2002.

The swallow's nest organ can also be played from the console of the transept organ.

Stoplist/Disposition

I. Positiv/Rückpositiv	II. Hauptwerk	III. Schwellwerk/Westwerk	IV. Solowerk	Pedal
Gedacktpommer 16'	Großprincipal 32'	Großgedackt 16'	Konzertflöte 8'	Vox Balaena 64'
Metallflöte 8'	Principal 16'	Principal 8'	Stentorgamb 8'	Principalbass 32'
Rohrflöte 8'	Bordun 16'	Holzflöte 8'	Quintade 8'	Untersatz 32'
Salicet 8'	Principal 8'	Gamba 8'	Koppelflöte 4'	Principalbass 16'
Principal 4'	Octave 8'	Vox coelestis 1-2f 8'	Septime 11/7'	Contrabass 16'
Spitzflöte 4'	Offenflöte 8'	Octave 4'	None 8/9'	Subbass 16'
Nasard 22/3'	Gemshorn 8'	Querflöte 4'	Nonenkornett 4f 13/5'	Violonbass 16'
Waldflöte 2'	Gedackt 8'	Nasard 22/3'	Aliquot 1-2f 1'	Zartbass 16'
Terz 13/5'	Rohrquinte 51/3'	Schwegel 2'	Terzcymbel 3-4f 1/3'	Octavbass 8'
Sifflöte 11/3'	Octave 4'	Terz 13/5'	Tuba magna 16'	Flötenbass 8'
Mixtur 4-5f 11/3'	Rohrflöte 4'	Nachthorn 1'	Tuba major 8'	Gedacktbass 8'
Dulcian 16'	Terz 31/5'	Mixtur 4f 22/3'	Tuba mirabilis 8'	Choralbass 4'
Trompete 8'	Septime 22/7'	Fagott 16'	Klarinette 8'	Bassflöte 4'
Portunalflöte 8'	Superoctave 2'	Trompete 8'	Röhrenglocken	Principal 2'
Lieblich Gedackt 8'	Weitflöte 2'	Oboe 8'	Cymbelstern	Hintersatz 6f 22/3'
Blockflöte 4'	Großmixtur 4f 4'	Vox humana 8'		Mixtur 4f 11/3'
Superoctave 2'	Rauschpfeife 3f 22/3'	Trompete 4'		Contraposaune 32'
Sesquialtera 2f 22/3'	Mixtur 6-7f 2'	Tuba episcopalis 8'		Posaune 16'
Scharff 4-6f 1/2'	Trompete 16'	Tuba capitularis 8'		Fagott 16'
Krummhorn 8'	Trompete 8'			Basstrompete 8'
	Kopftrompete 4'			Clarine 4'

Additionals: I/II, III/II, IV/II, III/I, IV/I, IV/III, I/P, II/P, III/P, IV/P, Tuba/I, Tuba/II, Tuba/III, Tuba/IV, Tuba/P, Sub II/II, Sub III/III, Sub IV/IV, Sub Tuba/Tuba, Super II/II, Super III/III, Super IV/IV, Super Tuba/Tuba, Super I/P, Super II/P, Super III/P, Super IV/P, Spielhilfen: Setzeranlage, Crescendowalze, Äqual aus II, Äqual aus III, Äqual aus IV, Äqual aus Tuba, Windschweller für Klarinette im IV., Tremulant I. Positiv, Tremulant I. Rückpositiv, Tremulant III. Schwellwerk, Tremulant IV. Solowerk

Sources

https://organindex.de/index.php?title=K%C3%B6ln,_Dom_St._Peter_und_Maria_(Hauptorgel)

Wiesbaden, Lutherkirche

Lutherkirche, Sartoriusstraße 16, 65187 Wiesbaden, Germany

Builder	J. Klais
Year	ca. 1979
Period/Style	Modern
Stops	44
Keyboards	3+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical

Description

The organ was constructed in 1979 by Johannes Klais Orgelbau, a company based in Bonn.

Stoplist/Disposition

I Rückpositiv	II Hauptwerk	III Schwellwerk	Pedal
Holzgedeckt 8'	Bordun 16'	Rohrflöte 8'	Principalbaß 16'
Quintade 8'	Principal 8'	Gambe 8'	Subbaß 16'
Principal 4'	Spitzflöte 8'	Vox coelestis 8'	Quinte 10 2/3'
Rohrflöte 4'	Bifaria 8'	Fugara 4'	Oktave 8'
Octave 2'	Octave 4'	Blockflöte 4'	Spielflöte 8'
Waldflöte 2'	Holztraverse 4'	Nasard 2 2/3'	Tenoroktave 4'
Larigot 1 1/3'	Superoctave 2'	Octavin 2'	Rohrpfeife 2'
Sesquialtera 2f 22/3'	Mixtur 5f 1 1/3'	Terz 1 3/5'	Hintersatz 4f 2 2/3'
Scharf 4f 2 2/3'	Cornet 5f 8'	Sifflet 1'	Posaune 16'
Holzregal 16'	Trompete 16'	Plein jeu 4f 2'	Holztrompete 8'
Cromorne 8'	Trompete 8'	Hautbois 8'	
		Clairon harmonique 4'	

Additionals: Zimbelstern, III/I, I/II, III/II, I/Ped, II/Ped, III/Ped, originally 6-fold setter combination and punch card provider with project display, replaced at an unknown point in time by Setter combinations in four sections (three of them can be blocked with switch keys), accessible through eight circuits A-H in 99 groups., Tremulant I, Tremulant III

Sources

https://organindex.de/index.php?title=Wiesbaden,_Lutherkirche_(Klais-Orgel)

Lübeck, St. Aegidien

St.-Aegidien-Kirche, Aegidienkirchhof 1-3, 23552 Lübeck, Germany

Builder	J. Klais
Year	ca. 1982
Period/Style	Modern
Stops	42
Keyboards	3+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical

Description

The organ was built by Johannes Klais Orgelbau, Bonn in 1982. The history of the organ has been detailed as follows: Between 1624-1626, the new organ was constructed by Hans Scherer the Younger, with the facade done by Michael Sommer and inlays and carvings by Baltzer Winne. In 1642, a chest organ was added by Friedrich Stellwagen. Hans Hantelmann repaired the organ in 1714 and installed high-quality facade pipes made of tin. In 1853/54, there was a significant transformation of the organ by Johann Friedrich Schulze, who modified the amplifier and the wind supply. The organ underwent additional modifications aligning to the trends of the 19th century. In 1916, there was a rebuild of the organ by Emanuel Kemper, Lübeck, featuring III/47, however, the historic facade pipes were kept silent. During its reconstruction in 1939/40 by Karl Kemper, the principles of the organ movement were followed. The 1982 rebuild by Johannes Klais Orgelbau had the facade pipes sounding again colocated within the historical facade. The organ underwent another overhaul in 2003, handled by the Mühleisen workshop, Leonberg, with re-intonation and the installation of a larger control system. The organ now utilizes a historic casing dating back to 1624 by Hans Scherer the Younger. The facade pipes from 1714 by Hans Hantelmann are now made to sound again.

Stoplist/Disposition

Rückpositiv (I)	Hauptwerk (II)	Récit	Pedalwerk
Principal 8'	Principal 16'	Bordun 8'	Principal 16'
Rohrflöte 8'	Bordun 16'	Salicional 8'	Subbaß 16'
Quintadena 8'	Octave 8'	Vox coelestis 8'	Octave 8'
Octave 4'	Spitzflöte 8'	Principal 4'	Gedackt 8'
Blockflöte 4'	Octave 4'	Rohrflöte 4'	Octave 4'
Octave 2'	Nachthorn 4'	Nazard 2 2/3'	Hintersatz V 2 2/3'
Quinte 1 1/3'	Quinte 2 2/3'	Waldflöte 2'	Posaune 16'
Sesquialtera II 2 2/3'	Octave 2'	Terz 1 3/5'	Trompete 8'
Scharff IV 1'	Cornet V 8'	Sifflet 1'	Clarine 4'
Cromorne 8'	Mixtur V 2'	Cymbel IV 2/3'	
	Trompete 8'	Douçaine 16'	
		Hautbois 8'	

Additionals: Zimbelstern, RP/HW, SW/HW, RP/Ped, HW/Ped, SW/Ped, until 2003: 6 electric setter combinations, in 2003 a larger setter system was installed, the number of combinations is however not mentioned in any of the sources provided here., Tremulant Rückpositiv (I), Tremulant Récit

Sources

https://organindex.de/index.php?title=L%C3%BCbeck,_St._Aegidien

Wipperfürth, St. Nikolaus

Kirchplatz 2, 51688 Wipperfürth, Germany

Builder	J. Klais
Year	1982
Period/Style	Classical
Keyaction	

Rotenburg (Wümme), Stadtkirche

Builder	J. Klais
Year	1983
Period/Style	Modern
Stops	36
Keyboards	2+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Equal at 440 Hz

Description

The history of the organ in the St.-Lamberti-Kirche in Rotenburg (Wümme) is marked by several significant developments. The church, originally built in 1192, has housed various organs over the centuries, beginning with a 1608 organ by Hans Scherer, whose ornate case, crafted by the Hamburg sculptor Münstermann, still exists today in the Bremer Focke-Museum. Subsequent organs were built by the Bremer organ builder Corthumb and later by the firm Furtwängler & Hammer from Hannover. In 1983, the organ-building company Klais from Bonn constructed a new organ, incorporating the historical 1865 Gothic-style organ case by Ernst Rinck, a Rotenburg craftsman.

The Klais organ, housed within this valuable Renaissance-style case, was designed with modern mechanical and technical elements while maintaining connections to the 16th and early 17th-century organ-building traditions. The organ features 36 registers across its Hauptwerk, Schwellwerk, and Pedal divisions, with a fully mechanical action coupled to an electronic set system capable of storing 640 different registrations. Despite numerous changes over the years, the organ in the St.-Lamberti-Kirche remains a significant example of both historical preservation and modern organ-building craftsmanship.

Stoplist/Disposition

Hauptwerk	Schwellwerk	Pedal
Bourdon 16'	Salicional 8'	Principal 16'
Principal 8'	Vox coelestis 8'	Subbaß 16'
Cornet 5f	Quintade 8'	Oktave 8'
Gamba 8'	Rohrflöte 8'	Gedackt 8'
Gedackt 8'	Principal 4'	Tenoroktave 4'
Octave 4'	Blockflöte 4'	Rauschpfeife 4f
Rohrflöte 4'	Octavin 2'	Posaune 16'
Octave 2'	Nasard 2 2/3'	Trompete 8'
Waldflöte 2'	Sifflet 1'	Klarine 4'
Mixtur 4f	Terz 1 3/5'	
Cymbel 3f	Scharff 4f	
Trompete 16'	Dulzian 16'	
Trompete 8'	Hautbois 8'	
Clairon 4'		

Additionals: II/I, I/P, II/P, Setzeranlage, Swell pedal

Sources

https://nomine.net/orgel/rotenburg-wuemme-ev-stadtkirche/

Köln, Dom St. Peter und Maria (Schwalbennestorgel / Swallow's Nest Organ)

Kölner Dom, 50667 Köln, Germany

Builder	J. Klais
Year	ca. 1998
Period/Style	Modern
Stops	53
Keyboards	3+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical

Description

The organ was constructed by Johannes Klais Orgelbau in 1998. The swallow's nest organ can also be played from the console of the transept organ.

Stoplist/Disposition

I. Rückpositiv	II. Hauptwerk	III. Schwellwerk	Pedal
Bourdon 16'	Praestant 16'	Salicet 16'	Violon 32'
Praestant 8'	Principal 8'	Principal 8'	Principal 16'
Rohrflöte 8'	Doppelflöte 8'	Bordun 8'	Subbaß 16'
Salicional 8'	Gemshorn 8'	Gambe 8'	Quinte 102/3'
Principal 4'	Octave 4'	Vox coelestis 8'	Octave 8'
Spitzflöte 4'	Rohrflöte 4'	Octave 4'	Bartpfeife 8'
Nasard 22/3'	Quinte 22/3'	Traversflöte 4'	Superoctave 4'
Waldflöte 2'	Superoctave 2'	Quintflöte 22/3'	Flöte 4'
Terz 13/5'	Mixtura major 4f 2'	Flageolet 2'	Posaune 16'
Quinte 11/3'	Mixtura minor 4f 2/3'	Terzflöte 13/5'	Trompete 8'
Scharff 5f 1'	Cornet 5f 8' (ab f0)	Mixtur 4f 2'	Clarine 4'
Dulcian 16'	Trompete 16'	Fagott 16'	
Cromhorn 8'	Trompete 8'	Trompete 8'	
Vox humana 8'	Trompete 4'	Oboe 8'	

Additionals: I/II, III/II, III/I, I/P, II/P, III/P, Sub III/II, Sub III/III, Super III/I, Super III/II, Super III/III, Playing aids: 2880 setter combinations; Playing register "Loss Jon", Tremulant I. Rückpositiv, Tremulant III. Schwellwerk
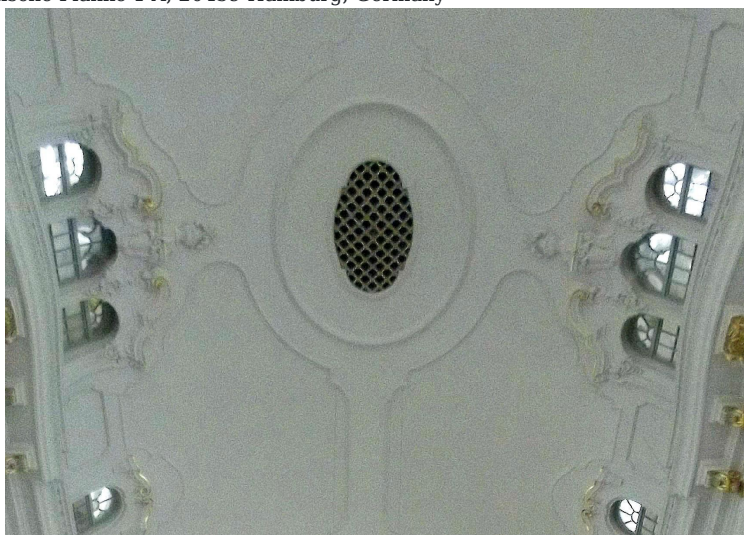
Sources

https://organindex.de/index.php?
title=K%C3%B6ln,_Dom_St._Peter_und_Maria_(Schwalbennestorgel)

Hamburg, St. Michaelis (Fernwerk/Echo Division)

Hauptkirche St. Michaelis, Englische Planke 1 A, 20459 Hamburg, Germany

Builder	J. Klais
Year	ca. 2009
Period/Style	Modern
Stops	17
Keyboards	2+P
Keyaction	electrical
Tuning	Equal

Description

The pipe organ was constructed by Klais Orgelbau, a company based in Bonn, with the Opus number 1867 in 2009. The tuning of the instrument was carried out by Reiner Janke, from Orgelbau Späth.

Stoplist/Disposition

I Hauptwerk	II Hochdrucklade	Pedal
Bordun 16'	Principal 8'	Violon 16'
Principal 8'	Gamba 8'	Bordun 16' (Transm. I)
Tibia II 8'	Tuba 16'	Violon 8' (Ext. Violon 16')
Salicional 8'	Tuba 8' (Ext. Tuba 16')	
Echo Gamba 8'		
Schwebung 8' (from c)		
Fugara 4'		
Gemshorn 4'		
Harmonia aetheria IV 2 2/3'		
Horn 8'		

Additionals: Fernwerk can be coupled to all manuals of the general console, Fernwerk super octave coupler, Rain (-machine)

Sources

https://organindex.de/index.php?title=Hamburg,_St._Michaelis_(Fernorgel)

14

Hamburg, Elbphilharmonie

Elbphilharmonie, Platz der Deutschen Einheit 1, 20457 Hamburg, Germany

Builder	J. Klais
Year	ca. 2017
Period/Style	Modern
Stops	69
Keyboards	4+P
Keyaction	electrical
Tuning	Equal

Description

The organ was constructed by Johannes Klais Orgelbau, based in Bonn, and was their 1871st project, completed in 2017.

Stoplist/Disposition

I Chorwerk	II Hauptwerk	III Schwellwerk	IV Solowerk/Fernwerk	Pedal
Konzertflöte 8'	Principal 16'	Bordun 16'	Claribel 8'	Flöte 32'
Viola 8'	Principal major 8'	Diapason 8'	Stentorgambe 8'	Untersatz 32'
Vox angelica 8'	Principal minor 8'	Harmonieflöte 8'	Bombard Tuba 16'	Principal 16'
Bordun 8'	Geigenprincipal 8'	Rohrflöte 8'	Tuba mirabilis 8'	Flöte 16'
Quintatön 8'	Flaut major 8'	Viola di Gamba 8'	Horn 8'	Violon 16'
Zauberflöte 4'	Bordun 8'	Vox coelestis 8'	Seraphonflöte 8'	Subbass 16'
Violine 4'	Octave 4'	Principal 4'	Seraphonflöte 4'	Octavbass 8'
Quintflöte 22/3'	Blockflöte 4'	Traversflöte 4'	Stentorklarinette 16'	Cello 8'
Piccolo 2'	Quinte 22/3'	Doublette 2'	Stentorklarinette 8'	Gedecktbass 8'
Terzflöte 13/5'	Octave 2'	Nonencornett 6f 22/3'		Octave 4'
Larigot 11/3'	Mixtur 4f 2'	Mixtur 4f 11/3'		Mixtur 4f 22/3'
Septime 11/7'	Cornett 5f 8'	Bombarde 16'		Contraposaune 32'
Harmonia aetheria 4f 22/3'	Trompete 16'	Trompete 8'		Trombone 16'
Orchesterclarinette 8'	Trompete 1 8'	Hautbois 8'		Posaune 16'
Corno di Bassetto 8'	Trompete 2 8'	Vox humana 8'		Trompete 8'

Additionals: Schiffshorn, I/II, III/II, IV/II, FW/II, III/I, IV/I, FW/I, IV/III, FW/III, FW/IV, I/P, II/P, III/P, IV/P, FW/P, Sub I/I, Sub III/III, Sub IV/IV, Sub FW/FW, Super I/I, Super III/III, Super IV/IV, Super FW/FW, Super III/P, Super P/P, Tremulant I Chorwerk, Tremulant II Hauptwerk, Tremulant III Schwellwerk, Setzeranlage

Sources

https://organindex.de/index.php?title=Hamburg,_Elbphilharmonie

Ventspils, Koncertzāle 'Latvija'

Lielais laukums 1, LV-3601 Ventspils, Latvia

Builder	J. Klais
Year	ca. 2019
Period/Style	Symphonic
Stops	93
Keyboards	4+P
Keyaction	electrical
Tuning	Equal at 440 Hz

Description

In the Big Hall of the concert hall "LATVIJA" acoustic concert organ made by the company "Johannes Klais Orgelbau GmbH & Co. KG" in Germany has approximately 3,500 pipes, which are placed three stories high. From the size of a ballpoint pen, which are made of metal, to the size of wooden pipes that are up to 5.5 meters long.

Stoplist/Disposition

I. Hauptwerk	II. Positiv	III. Schwellwerk	IV. Solo	Pedal
Principal 16'	Gambe 16'	Gedeckt 16'	Gambe 16'	Untersatz 32'
Principal 8'	Principal 8'	Geigenprincipal 8'	Flötenprincipal 8'	Principalbass 16'
Doppelflöte 8'	Gambe 8'	Bordunalflöte 8'	Principal 8'	Gambe 16'
Gamba 8'	Rohrflöte 8'	Salicional 8'	Gambe 8'	Zartprincipal 16'
Bordun 8'	Principal 4'	Aeoline 8'	Rohrflöte 8'	Subbass 16'
Principal 4'	Rohrflöte 4'	Vox coelestis 8'	Terz 6 2/5'	Quintbass 10 2/3'
Flöte 4'	Quinte 2 2/3'	Fugara 4'	Quinte 5 1/3'	Flötenprincipal 8'
Quinte 2 2/3'	Principal 2'	Flaut travers 4'	Septime 4 4/7'	Gambe 8'
Octave 2'	Flöte 2'	Piccolo 2'	Flötenprincipal 4'	Octavbass 8'
Cornett III-V 8'	Terz 1 3/5'	Progressio III-IV 2 2/3'	Principal 4'	Gedecktbass 8'
Mixtur IV 2'	Larigot 1 1/3'	Basson 16'	Gambe 4'	Terz 6 2/5'
Tuba 16'	Flöte 1'	Trompette 8'	Rohrflöte 4'	Quinte 5 1/3'
Trompete 8'	Klarinette 16'	Waldhorn 8'	Terz 3 1/5'	Septime 4 4/7'
Tuba 4'	Klarinette 8'	Hautbois 8'	Quinte 2 2/3'	Choralbass 4'
		Vox humana 8'	Septime 2 2/7'	Flötenprincipal 4'
			Principal 2'	Flöte 2'
			Flöte 2'	Theorbe IV 10 2/3'
			Terz 1 3/5'	Hintersatz IV 4'
			Quinte 1 1/3'	Posaune 16'
			Septime 1 1/7'	Tuba 16'
			Flöte 1'	Klarinette 16'
			Tuba 16'	Basstrompete 8'
			Tuba 8'	Tuba 8'
			Tuba 4'	Basstrompete 4'
			Klarinette 16'	
			Klarinette 8'	

Additionals: II/I, III/I, IV/I, III/II, IV/II, IV/III, I/P, II/P, III/P, IV/P, IIIsub/III, IIIsuper/III, I/II Tausch/Exchange (electric), Tremulant HW, Tremulant Pos, Tremulant SW
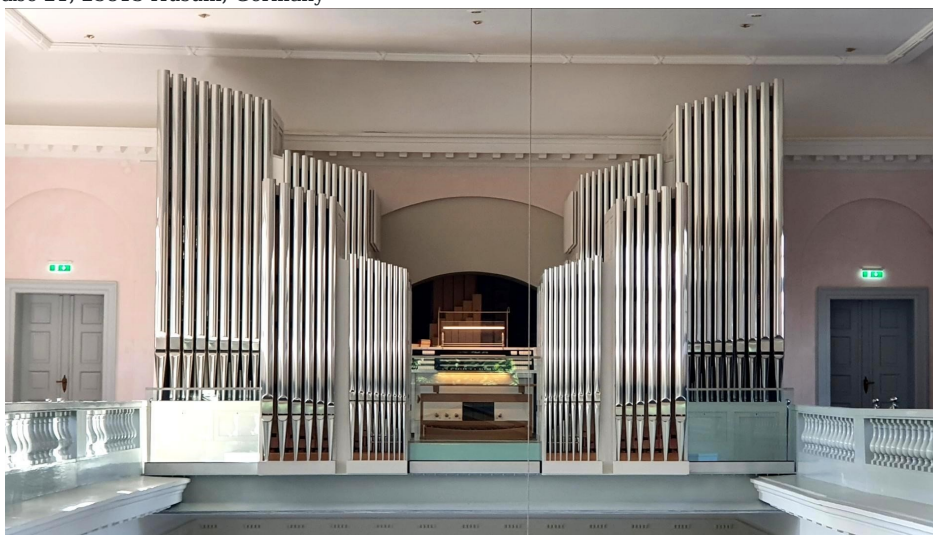
Sources

https://klais.de/m.php?tx=245
https://www.koncertzalelatvija.lv/en/about-us/about-us

Husum, St. Marien

Marienkirche, Großstraße 21, 25813 Husum, Germany

Builder	J. Klais
Year	ca. 2021
Period/Style	Modern
Stops	47
Keyboards	3+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical

Description

The organ was constructed by Klais Orgelbau in the year 2021.

Stoplist/Disposition

I Hauptwerk	II Schwellwerk	III Solo/Auxiliar/Fernwerk	Pedal
Bordun 16'	Liebl. Gedackt 16'	Klarinette 16'	Untersatz 32'
Principal 8'	Geigenprincipal 8'	Klarinette 8'	Violonbass 16'
Concertflöte 8'	Harmonieflöte 8'	Tuba sonora 8'	Subbass 16'
Bourdon 8'	Bordun 8'	Holzflöte 8'	Gedacktbass 16'
Viola di Gamba 8'	Salicional 8'	Dulciana 8'	Octavbass* 8'
Octave 4'	Æoline 8'	Dulciana Celeste 8'	Cello* 8'
Flauto dolce 4'	Vox coelestis 8'	Fugara 4'	Gedackt* 8'
Quinte 22/3'	Fugara 4'	Echohorn 8'	Octave* 4'
Octave 2'	Traversflöte 4'		Posaune 16'
Terz 13/5'	Nasard 22/3'		Klarinette 16'
Cornett 5f 8'	Piccolo 2'		Trompete* 8'
Mixtur 4f 2'	Terzflöte 13/5'		
Trompete 8'	Fourniture 4f 22/3'		
	Trompette harm. 8'		
	Hautbois 8'		

Additionals: II–I, sub II-I, super II–I (also possible electronically), III–I, Aux–I, sub II, super II, III–II, Aux–II, SO sub, SO super, SO Equal off, Aux sub, Aux super, Aux Equal off, I-P, II–P, super II–P, III–P, Aux-P; Sequencer system, Tremulant II Schwellwerk, Tremulant III Solo

Sources

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