

## **Martin Kresling**

**Founded/Born**

-

??? - 1911

**Closed/Death**

**Still active?**

no

### **Description**

The most famous Latvian organ builder over the end of the century was Martins Kreslins (Martin Kresling, d. 1911) from Jekabpils, who built about 130-140 organs and harmoniums. Some of his instruments still exist today; for example, in Bauska (1891, III/P/36), in Araisī (1904, II/P/15), in the church of Usma (1879, II/6) (the church was transferred to the holdings of the Ethnographical Museum in 1936).

### **Sources**

<https://www.gdo.de/veroeffentlichungen/acta-organologica/acta28-e>

## Bārbele, Bārbeles evaņģēliski luteriskā baznīca

Rīgas iela 1, LV-3905 Bārbele, Latvia



|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Builder</b>      | M. Kresling        |
| <b>Year</b>         | 1883               |
| <b>Period/Style</b> | Romantic           |
| <b>Stops</b>        | 9                  |
| <b>Keyboards</b>    | 2+P                |
| <b>Keyaction</b>    | tracker/mechanical |
| <b>Tuning</b>       | Equal at 420 Hz    |

### Description

On the doors of the organ casing, the following inscriptions can be found:

"Anno 1883"

"Repaired and tuned in 1924 by organ builder [name erased]"

"Renovated in 1961? 1986"

"August 1, 1971, the organ was vandalized"

"General cleaning and tuning from November 10-17, 1937, J.Čukuls, K.Ernsts, Riga"

"Renovated and tuned on May 14, 1905, C.Skersten, Managing Director"

"Tuned on September 15, 1907, by Martin, organ builder from Riga"

In the 1970s, the organ was vandalized and partially restored by the organist Papeļuks, who did not pay attention to the compatibility of pipes with registers. As a result, one of the major issues was the significantly cut and modified pipes. In the 1990s, Juris Jerums began working as an organist in Bārbele and brought the organ to a playable condition, cleaned it, and installed an air supply motor. The missing pipes for the Principal 8' register were crafted by Jānis Kalniņš. This organ, built to high standards and being one of the early instruments by M.Krēsliņš, was fully restored in 2012/2013.

## Stoplist/Disposition

| I. Manual    | II. Manual    | Pedal       |
|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| Principal 8' | Gedeckt 8'    | Subbass 16' |
| Hohlflöte 8' | Salicional 8' |             |
| Gamba 8'     | Flöte 4'      |             |
| Octave 4'    |               |             |
| Octave 2'    |               |             |

**Additional:** Manualcoppel, Pedalcoppel, Kalkanten Zug

## Sources

[https://www.orgcat.lv/barbele\\_main.htm](https://www.orgcat.lv/barbele_main.htm)

## Ģipka, Ģipkas luterāņu baznīca

Kungu ceļš, Rūpnieki, 3264 Ģipka, Latvia



|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Builder</b>      | M. Kresling        |
| <b>Year</b>         | 1884               |
| <b>Period/Style</b> | Romantic           |
| <b>Stops</b>        | 7                  |
| <b>Keyboards</b>    | 1+P                |
| <b>Keyaction</b>    | tracker/mechanical |
| <b>Tuning</b>       | Equal at 436 Hz    |

### Description

It is possible that the organ was not originally built for Rojas Church but was relocated from another place.

Above the keyboards on the console, there is an oval porcelain plate with the inscription: "Orgelbauerei von MARTIN KRESLING in Jacobstadt ? 21". It is known that Martin Krēsliņš's organ, numbered 18, was consecrated on October 16, 1883, in the Bārbele Lutheran Church. Therefore, the Rojas organ could be dated to 1883 or 1884.

The largest pipe of the Flöte 4' register bears the inscription "H. Dinsberge Dondagen 1886", confirming Ansis Dinsbergs's work on the instrument.

Inside the organ case, there is an inscription: "Gestimmt und Renoviert 26 Sept 1903 25 Rbl E. Martin Riga".

## Stoplist/Disposition

| Manual       | Pedal       |
|--------------|-------------|
| Principal 8' | Subbass 16' |
| Flöte 8'     |             |
| Gamba 8'     |             |
| Gedeckt 8'   |             |
| Octav 4'     |             |
| Flöte 4'     |             |

**Additional:** Pedalcoppel, Diskantcoppel

## Sources

[https://orgcat.lv/roja\\_main.htm](https://orgcat.lv/roja_main.htm)

# Valdemārpils, Valdemārpils luterāņu baznīca

2, Lielā iela, Dižliepas, 3260 Valdemārpils, Latvia



|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Builder</b>      | M. Kresling        |
| <b>Year</b>         | 1890               |
| <b>Period/Style</b> | Romantic           |
| <b>Stops</b>        | 6                  |
| <b>Keyboards</b>    | 1+P                |
| <b>Keyaction</b>    | tracker/mechanical |

## Description

A single-manual instrument built in the characteristic style of M. Krēsliņš. Due to elevated humidity, the instrument has ceased to function and is currently (as of June 2006) unplayable. The organ requires comprehensive restoration. The original graining has been preserved on the façade and the casing.

## Stoplist/Disposition

| Manual        | Pedal       |
|---------------|-------------|
| Principal 8'  | Bourdon 16' |
| Octave 4'     |             |
| Gamba 8'      |             |
| Flöte 8'      |             |
| Salicional 8' |             |

**Additional:** Pedalcoppel, Octavcoppel, Signal

## Sources

[https://orgcat.lv/valdemarpils\\_main.htm](https://orgcat.lv/valdemarpils_main.htm)

## Bauska, Svētā Gara evaņģēliski luteriskā baznīca

Plūdoņa iela13A, LV-3901 Bauska, Latvia



|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Builder</b>      | M. Kresling        |
| <b>Year</b>         | ca. 1891           |
| <b>Period/Style</b> | Romantic           |
| <b>Stops</b>        | 35                 |
| <b>Keyboards</b>    | 3+P                |
| <b>Keyaction</b>    | tracker/mechanical |
| <b>Tuning</b>       | Equal at 438 Hz    |

### Description

The organ built by M. Krēsliņš was consecrated on May 19, 1891, and according to the plaque on the console, it is the master's 60th opus. The previous instrument was built in 1766, and its organ prospectus has been preserved.

This is the largest (and only three-manual) organ built by Jēkabpils organ builder Mārtiņš Krēsliņš. The significant presence of W. Sauer pipes, especially in the string voices, indicates Krēsliņš's desire to achieve the best possible sound. After its restoration in 2014 by the Ugāle organ workshop, the instrument now offers the capability to perform a wide range of organ music repertoire.

## Stoplist/Disposition

| Hauptwerk           | Oberwerk            | Schwellwerk (encl.)  | Pedal          |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Bourdon 16'         | Gamba 16'           | Lieblich-Gedeckt 16' | Violon 16'     |
| Principal 8'        | Geigen-Principal 8' | Concert-flöte 8'     | Subbass 16'    |
| Gamba 8'            | Salicional 8'       | Gemshorn 8'          | Quinte 10 2/3' |
| Flute harmonique 8' | Zartflöte 8'        | Aeoline 8'           | Octavbass 8'   |
| Gedeckt 8'          | Rohrflöte 8'        | Vox celeste 8'       | Cello 8'       |
| Dolce 8'            | Octav 4'            | Traversflöte 4'      | Posaune 16'    |
| Octav 4'            | Fugara 4'           | Physharmonica 8'     |                |
| Rohrflöte 4'        | Doublette 2u3'      |                      |                |
| Quinte 5 1/3'       | Clarinetten 8'      |                      |                |
| Octav 2'            |                     |                      |                |
| Cornett 3f.         |                     |                      |                |
| Mixtur 2'4f.        |                     |                      |                |
| Trompete 8'         |                     |                      |                |

**Additional:** Manual-Coppel II/I, Manual-Coppel III/II, Pedal-Coppel (I/P), Schweller (III), Calcant

## Sources

[https://www.orgcat.lv/bauska\\_lut\\_main.htm](https://www.orgcat.lv/bauska_lut_main.htm)



## Ērberģe, Ērberģes luterāņu baznīca

Skolas iela, LV-5133 Ērberģe, Latvia



|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Builder</b>      | M. Kresling        |
| <b>Year</b>         | ca. 1891           |
| <b>Period/Style</b> | Romantic           |
| <b>Stops</b>        | 11                 |
| <b>Keyboards</b>    | 2+P                |
| <b>Keyaction</b>    | tracker/mechanical |
| <b>Tuning</b>       | Equal at 435 Hz    |

### Description

It is a well-constructed two-manual instrument featuring W. Sauer pipes in the Dolce 8' register. During the Soviet era, the organ suffered significant pipe theft, which has been partially restored. However, the missing pipes still hinder the full appreciation of the instrument's true quality.

The pencil inscriptions on the pipes indicate that the instrument was built in 1891. A porcelain plaque on the console confirms that the organ in Ērberģe is the 62nd opus of the Jēkabpils master Martin Kresling. Remnants of a leaflet from the inaugural concert remain inside the casing doors.

The instrument suffered from the theft of metal pipes at one point. Some pipes have been restored by A. Melbārdis.

## Stoplist/Disposition

| I. Manual           | II. Manual    | Pedal       |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Bourdon 16'         | Gedeckt 8'    | Subbass 16' |
| Principal 8'        | Dolce 8'      |             |
| Gamba 8'            | Salicional 8' |             |
| Flute harmonique 8' | Flöte 4'      |             |
| Principal 4'        |               |             |
| Octav 2'            |               |             |

**Additional:** Manual-Coppel, Pedal-Coppel, Kalkanten Ruf, Windventil

## Sources

[https://orgcat.lv/erberge\\_main.htm](https://orgcat.lv/erberge_main.htm)

## Mērsrags, Mērsraga Evaņģēliski luteriskā baznīca

9, Bākas iela, Liepkalni, 3284 Mērsrags, Latvia



|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Builder</b>      | M. Kresling        |
| <b>Year</b>         | 1892               |
| <b>Period/Style</b> | Romantic           |
| <b>Stops</b>        | 5                  |
| <b>Keyboards</b>    | 1+P                |
| <b>Keyaction</b>    | tracker/mechanical |

### Description

Based on the construction and history of the organ, it appears to have been created in several stages. The wind chests, bellows, and some wooden pipes were built in the style of August Martin during the 1840s-1850s. On the back of the pedal coupler, there is a pencil inscription that reads "ANO 1892." Inside the case, near the console, there is a label indicating transport by rail from Krustpils to Tukums station. These facts suggest that the instrument was assembled as a unified whole in 1892, utilizing older components. The pedal keyboard and some other details resemble the style of the Jēkabpils organ builder Mārtiņš Krēsliņš.

In 1924, after World War I, the organ was restored and repaired by Jānis Grosbarts. It is believed that he installed metal pipes from the A. Laukhuff firm, as well as made wooden pipes for the Floete 8' and Bourdon 16' registers in the treble. It seems he also applied felt/leather stickers on the valves.

On the back of the music desk, there is an inscription: "Intermediate repair, intonation, tuning, cleaning of the mechanism 1958. VI P.Malinovski - Riga."

In 1996, Viesturs Ilsums installed a used organ motor and made a throttle and air duct. Later, the motor's bearings were replaced with ball bearings. From around 2000, the organ was not played. From October 2003 to May 2004, the organ was restored by "Melbārža mūzikas instrumentu darbnīca."

## Stoplist/Disposition

### Manual

### Pedal (always attached)

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Bourdon 16'

Principal 8'

Gamba 8'

Flöte 8'

Octav 4'

**Additional:** Octavcoppel, Kalkantenruf

## Sources

[https://orgcat.lv/mersrags\\_main.htm](https://orgcat.lv/mersrags_main.htm)

## Dārte, Dārtes Evāņģēliski luteriskā baznīca

Vandzenes skola-Nogale-Lubezere, LV-3281 Dārte, Latvia



|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Builder</b>      | M. Kresling        |
| <b>Year</b>         | 1899               |
| <b>Period/Style</b> | Romantic           |
| <b>Stops</b>        | 6                  |
| <b>Keyboards</b>    | 1+P                |
| <b>Keyaction</b>    | tracker/mechanical |
| <b>Tuning</b>       | Equal at 429 Hz    |

### Description

The organ was completed on June 29, 1899, as indicated by the inscription on the largest Subbass 16' pipe: "Wandsen 1899 29/6". It was built by Mārtiņš Krēsliņš (Martin Kresling), an organ and harmonium builder from Jēkabpils. This organ is the 106th instrument produced in his workshop, as noted by the firm's trademark visible on the console.

There is no information about any subsequent work done on the instrument.

The organ remains in practically original condition, with M. Krēsliņš using kegellades in its construction. Currently, the organ is very dirty, which is causing several issues with the action and the tuning.

## Stoplist/Disposition

| Manual        | Pedal       |
|---------------|-------------|
| Principal 8'  | Subbass 16' |
| Hohlflöte 8'  |             |
| Salicional 8' |             |
| Gedeckt 8'    |             |
| Octave 4'     |             |

**Additional:** Pedalcoppel, Kalkaltenruf, Tutti

## Sources

[https://orgcat.lv/darte\\_main.htm](https://orgcat.lv/darte_main.htm)

## Strenči, Strenču luterāņu baznīca

Baznīcas iela 5, LV-4730 Strenči, Latvia



|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Builder</b>      | M. Kresling        |
| <b>Year</b>         | 1900               |
| <b>Period/Style</b> | Romantic           |
| <b>Stops</b>        | 5                  |
| <b>Keyboards</b>    | 1+P                |
| <b>Keyaction</b>    | tracker/mechanical |
| <b>Tuning</b>       | Equal at 437.5 Hz  |

### Description

The inscription "Reval 1900" on the largest Bourdon 16' pipe indicates that the organ was built in 1900 for Tallinn. Currently, there is no detailed information on how and when the organ was relocated to Strenči Church.

The instrument remains in nearly original condition, including its pipes, preserving its historical integrity and offering a glimpse into the craftsmanship of the early 20th century.

### Stoplist/Disposition

| Manual        | Pedal (always attached) |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| Principal 8'  | Bourdon 16'             |
| Salicional 8' |                         |
| Gedeckt 8'    |                         |
| Octav 4'      |                         |

**Additional:** Kalkanten Glocke

### Sources

[https://orgcat.lv/strenci\\_main.htm](https://orgcat.lv/strenci_main.htm)



# Āraiši, Āraišu evaņģēliski luteriskā baznīca

Drabeši — Līvi, LV-4101 Āraiši, Latvia



|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Builder</b>      | M. Kresling        |
| <b>Year</b>         | 1904               |
| <b>Period/Style</b> | Romantic           |
| <b>Stops</b>        | 15                 |
| <b>Keyboards</b>    | 2+P                |
| <b>Keyaction</b>    | tracker/mechanical |
| <b>Tuning</b>       | Equal at 440 Hz    |

## Description

The organ was built by Mārtiņš Krēsliņš in Jēkabpils in 1904, costing 2100 rubles. It is a two-manual instrument in the Romantic style with a mechanical cone chest. A. Krāns tuned the organ in 1914 and again in 1927, as indicated by inscriptions inside the swell box.

## Stoplist/Disposition

| I Manual            | II Manual (enclosed) | Pedal       |
|---------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Bourdon 16'         | Geigenprincipal 8'   | Violon 16'  |
| Principal 8'        | Dolce 8'             | Subbass 16' |
| Gamba 8'            | Hohlflöte 8'         | Cello 8'    |
| Flute harmonique 8' | Gedeckt 8'           |             |
| Octave 4'           | Flöte 4'             |             |
| Rohrflöte 4'        |                      |             |
| Mixtur 5fach        |                      |             |

**Additional:** Pedal Koppel, Manual Coppel, Kalkanten Glocke, Windablass, Schweller (swell pedal)

## Sources

[https://www.orgcat.lv/araisi\\_main.htm](https://www.orgcat.lv/araisi_main.htm)