

Krzeszów, Bazylika pw. Wniebowzięcia Najświętszej Maryi Panny

Plac Jana Pawła II 2, 58-405 Krzeszów, Poland



Builder	M. Engler der Jüngere
Year	ca. 1737
Period/Style	Baroque
Stops	50
Keyboards	3+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Well-Tempered at 448.0 Hz
Sampleset	<u>Sonus Paradisi</u>

Description

The instrument was built in 1732-1737 by Michael Engler. A representative instrument of the Silesian organbuilding has 3 manuals and a pedal, altogether 50 stops. The Positiv occupies the lowest manual and is positioned in two small cases in the balustrade. One case is dedicated for the C part of the windchest the other for the D part. Hauptwerk (2nd manual) and Oberwerk (3rd manual) and the Pedal are located in the main case which spans wide through the full width of the church nave. The Oberwerk occupies the center of the case, Hauptwerk is divided into the C and D side to the left and to the right of the Oberwerk, and the Pedal is located in the two side towers and at the back of the organ case. All the three divisions are perhaps surprisingly situated on the same horizontal level, although this design is rather common in the Silesian (and Central-Germany) organ building of the period. The "Werk-Prinzip" was not abandoned, but restructured. Perhaps, the general idea of this design was to achieve more homogeneous sound.

The instrument bears the typical characteristics of the Silesian organs. Rich in fonds, well supplied with aliquot stops, crowned by the mixtures with a tierce ranks. There are two undulating stops on the manuals (Vox humana and Unda maris). The reeds are few in number in manuals, but they give a robust fundament to the Pedal, starting with Posaune 32'. The sonority of the full chorus of the instrument is determined by the 16' fundament of the Hauptwerk (there are three 16' stops on HW) on one side and by the 8 (or 12 if coupled) ranks of mixtures on the other side of the sound spectrum. The voicing is round and mild. The manual reeds are specific in color. The Trumpet is soft, almost Oboe-like, while the Positiv reed has the timbre similar to a somewhat thicker Regal. The extensive use of strings (Gamba, Salicional, Traveur) is also a mark of the Eastern organbuilding tradition.

One technical peculiarity is preserved in Krzeszow: the keyboard of the Positiv is movable, allowing a transposition down a whole tone, thus allowing the Positiv to be used in Kammerton with other "chamber" instruments of the period. In addition to the Positiv transposition, there are also 4 Pedal stops which may sound in Kammerton.

In 1873-1874 the instrument was partially rebuilt by Schlag, the modifications affected mostly the console (introduction of the Barker machine etc.) but fortunately only few stops were removed or altered in voicing. The Positiv lost its aliquotes, Hauptwerk was given two more reed stops on a new windchest, several stops in Pedal were adjusted.

In 2005, the restauration committee decided to go back to the original Michael Engler state of the instrument. The restauration work has been done by the organbuilders Jehmlich from Dresden in 2006-2008. As the result, the instrument has now the identical composition as when finished by Michael Engler in the 18th century.

The value of the instrument is underlined by the fact that it is probably the best preserved Michael Engler's instrument, practically the only one surviving up to the present substantially unaltered. The other extant big instrument of the organbuilder, the St. Moritz organ in Olomouc (built 1745), was subject to extensive modifications in the course of 20th century.

Stoplist/Disposition

I. Rückpositiv	II. Hauptwerk	III. Oberwerk	Pedal
Principal 8'	Burdon Flaut 16'	Principal 8'	Major Bass 32'
Flaut amabile 8'	Quintadena 16'	Rohrflaut 8'	Principal 16'
Flaut allemande 8'	Viola di Gambe 16'	Traveur 8'	Violon Bass 16'
Quintadena 8'	Principal 8'	Vox humana (from g°) 8'	Sub Bass 16'
Octava 4'	Flaut major 8'	Octava 4'	Salicet Bass 16'
Quinta 3'	Gemshorn 8'	Flaut minor 4'	Quintaden Bass 16'
Superoctava 2'	Salicet 8'	Quinta 3'	Octav Bass 8'
Sedecima 1'	Unda maris 8'	Superoctava 2'	Flaut Bass 8'
Mixtura III 1'	Octava 4'	Quinta 1 1/2'	Gemshorn Quinta 6'
Hautbois 8'	Nachthorn 4'	Sedecima 1'	Super Octava 4'
	Gemshorn Quinta 3'	Mixtura IV 1 1/2'	Mixtura VI 3'
	Superoctava 2'	Trompet 8'	Posaunen Bass 32'
	Mixtura VI 2'		Posaunen Bass 16'
	Cimbel II		Trompet Bass 8'

Additional: Manualkoppel III/II, Manualkoppel II/I, Pedalkoppel, Possibility of transposing the RP to concert pitch b', 10 Sperrventile

Sources

<https://organindex.de/index.php?>

[title=Krzysz%C3%B3w_\(Gr%C3%BCssau\),_Klosterkirche_Mari%C3%A4_Himmelfahrt](https://organindex.de/index.php?title=Krzysz%C3%B3w_(Gr%C3%BCssau),_Klosterkirche_Mari%C3%A4_Himmelfahrt)

<https://www.sonusparadisi.cz/en/organs/germany/krzeszow-poland.html>