Annaberg-Buchholz, St.-Annenkirche

St.-Annenkirche, Große Kirchgasse 21, Annaberg, 09456 Annaberg-Buchholz, Germany



Builder	Walcker
Year	1884
Period/Style	Romantic
Stops	65
Keyboards	3+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Equal at 432 Hz
Sampleset	<u>OrganArt Media</u>

Description

The E.F. Walcker organ (op. 424) at St. Annenkirche in Annaberg-Buchholz, Saxony, Germany, completed in 1884, stands as one of the few largely original Walcker organs from the High Romantic era. This three-manual instrument initially featured 56 registers, including three free-reed stops, and was built with mechanical cone chests, akin to its larger counterpart in the Riga Cathedral, constructed in the same year. Just a decade later, in keeping with changing musical tastes, the organ underwent significant modifications: it was converted to pneumatic action, expanded visually with false prospectives, and physically by adding nine register cells to the cone chests.

Over the decades, the organ's pneumatic system began to fail, leading to its decommissioning in 1975 during church restoration works due to financial constraints and discussions about its future, including potential demolition. However, the foresighted assessment by Eule Organ Builders ultimately led to the decision to restore the organ as close as possible to its original state. This restoration, carried out after German reunification by Hermann Eule Orgelbau from Bautzen, involved 29,000 hours of work and reinstated many of the original tonal characteristics while integrating modern mechanical enhancements for improved playability. The restored organ, complete with additional registers matching Walcker's specifications, was rededicated in 1995, reaffirming its status as one of the most significant and sonically beautiful instruments of the German High Romantic period. The church itself features a reverberation time of up to seven seconds, enhancing the organ's rich sounds.

Stoplist/Disposition

Manual I	Manual II	Manual III	Pedal
Principal 16'	Quintatön 16'	Bourdon 16'	Principalbaß 32'
Flauto major 16'	Principal 8'	Geigenprincipal 8'	Principalbaß 16'
Quinte 5 1/3'	Gedeckt 8'	Lieblich Gedackt 8'	Violonbaß 16'
Principal 8'	Spitzflöte 8'	Concertflöte 8'	Subbass 16'
Gemshorn 8'	Salicional 8'	Harmonika 8'	Bourdon douce 16'
Bourdon 8'	Aeoline 8'	Principal 4'	Octavbaß 8'
Hohlflöte 8'	Voix celeste 8'	Traversflöte 4'	Flötenbaß 8'
Doppelflöte 8'	Octav 4'	Fugara 4'	Octave 4'
Quintatön 8'	Flauto dolce 4'	Waldflöte 2'	Violoncello 8'
Viola di Gamba 8'	Viola 4'	Mixtur 4-fach	Mixtur 5 1/3' 6-fach
Dolce 8'	Quinte 2 2/3'	Harmonia aetheria 2 2/3' 3-fach	Posaune 32'
Octav 4'	Piccolo 2'	Clarinette 8' (free reed)	Posaune 16'
Gemshorn 4'	Superoctave 1'	Vox humana 8'	Trompete 8'
Rohrflöte 4'	Mixtur 4-5fach		Clairon 4'
Quinte 2 2/3'	Cymbal 2 2/3' 3-fach		
Oktav 2'	Oboe 8' (free reed)		
Mixtur 4' 6-fach			
Cornett 4-5 fach			
Mixtur 2' 6-fach			
Fagott 16' (free reed)			
Trompete 8'			
Clairon 4'			

Additionals: Usual couplers and combinations, Swell pedal (III), Swell pedal (II Oboe), Crescendowalze

Sources

https://www.organartmedia.com/de/1884-1995-e-f-walcker-orgel