

Dzērbene, Dzērbenes luterāņu baznīca

Dzērbene - Gaujmaļi, Krastaņas, LV-4118 Dzērbene, Latvia



Builder	A. Martin
Year	1843
Period/Style	Romantic
Stops	9
Keyboards	1+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Equal at 435.8 Hz

Description

The Dzērbene organ, one of the earliest works by Augusts Martins in Latvia, was consecrated on August 30, 1843. An 1848 listing of Martins' instruments places the Dzērbene organ as his third creation. This is confirmed by a contemporary source, "Tas Latviešu Draugs," which praises the organ:

"..a new organ, which, when the church was consecrated last year, was not yet ready, but on this joyful day delighted everyone. This organ is the work of the same master who made the large organ in Gulbene's new church (now in Kaltene), and it costs 835 silver rubles; although a modest amount for such a grand organ - it is large and has such a powerful sound, rare to find in Vidzeme churches. With this organ's pleasant but also powerful sound.."

Another inscription notes that the organ was tuned on June 13, 1928, by A. Krāns, a representative of K. Skerstena's firm. German inscriptions on wooden pipes indicate missing pipes, likely due to damage from World War I.

The organ narrowly avoided replacement twice, as recounted by former pastor Alberts Birnbaums. The Dzērbene congregation twice collected enough funds for a new organ but lost them to wars. The last attempt was during the 1940-41 Soviet occupation of Latvia. The congregation had even placed an order in Germany and partially paid. However, the remaining payment was blocked by the occupying authorities, who dismissed the need for organs.

This organ is one of the few remaining early instruments built by Augusts Martins. The missing and non-original pipes currently obscure its true quality. Originally built with a pitch standard of

a1=465 Hz, it stands as an outstanding historical instrument, among the oldest in Vidzeme, in need of careful restoration.

Stoplist/Disposition

Manual

Hohlflöte 8 Fuss
Flöte 8 Fuss
Gambe 8 Fuss
Principal 4 Fuss
Flaute dolce 4 Fuss
Octave 2 Fuss
Mixture 1 Fuss

Pedal

Subbass 16 Fuss
Octavenbass 8 Fuss

Additional: Pedalcoppel

Sources

https://orgcat.lv/dzerbene_main.htm