

Spunčiems, Salas Svētā Jāņa luterāņu baznīca

Silavu iela, Sila iela, LV-2105 Spunčiems, Latvia



Builder	C. J. Herrmann
Year	1870
Period/Style	Romantic
Stops	9
Keyboards	1+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Equal at 427 Hz

Description

The first organ in the previous Salas Church, built in 1694, arrived in 1838 as a donation from the Biķeri congregation. This positive organ, built in 1766 with two registers, was the first to be installed. The existing Salas Church was constructed and consecrated in 1870. At the time of consecration, the church did not yet have an organ, but 106 rubles were collected during the ceremony for the organ's construction.

The organ, likely built shortly after by J.K. Hermanis, an organist and builder for the Latvian congregation in Jelgava and nephew of the notable Liepāja organ builder K. Herman, has remained largely unaltered to this day. During the Soviet era, some Rauschquinte pipes were taken to the Sloka Church organ to replace missing pipes in the Octave 4' register. These pipes have since been returned to their original position after replacements were made for Sloka. Although some pipes are still missing, the organ underwent repairs in 1996 by V. Ilsums, A. Melbārdis, and M. Dzenītis, which included replacing the motor, installing a new air supply valve, cleaning, and re-tuning the pipes.

The organ is a classic single-manual instrument with moderate execution quality. The high proportion of zinc pipes affects the intonation, which remains poor even with lead-soldered upper and lower lips. The intonation is particularly weak in the lower octave range of the 8' metal registers. The original mounting of the pedal's wooden pipes, nailed together, indicates low construction standards. Despite these issues, the organ features a beautiful prospect that matches the church's interior, with the use of wedge bellows being a rarity for organs of this period. There are pipe shortages in almost all registers, with the most significant being in the Rauschquinte 2 2/3' register.

Stoplist/Disposition

Manual

Bourdon 16 '
Prinzipal 8'
Viola di Gamba 8'
Flauto amabile 8'
Octave 4'
Hohlflöte 4'
Rauschquinte 2 2/3'

Pedal

Subbass 16'
Oktavbass 8'

Additional: I/P

Sources

https://orgcat.lv/sala_manual.htm