

Vermillion, SD, National Music Museum (Jacob Humell Pipe Organ)

National Music Museum, 414, East Clark Street, 57069 Vermillion, SD, United States of America



Builder	J. Humell
Year	ca. 1625
Period/Style	Baroque
Stops	6
Keyboards	1
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical

Description

The Jacob Humell chest organ, housed in the National Music Museum at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, dates back to approximately 1625, likely crafted in Kraków or southern Poland during the early 17th century. This historical organ is notable for its compact size and baroque craftsmanship, featuring a manual with several stops including Flöte Major 8', Flöte Minor 4', Oktave 2', Doppelte Mixtur 1/2', Prinzipal 1', and Doppelter Zimbal 1/6'. These stops are adjusted via string loops attached to sliders, a characteristic mechanism of the time.

The organ encompasses a four-octave range from C to c3, incorporating 45 keys with a short octave design. Its naturals are fashioned from boxwood while the accidentals are made from darkened wood, adding to the authenticity and aesthetic of the period instrument. It is equipped with two manually operated gravity-fed bellows situated atop the instrument. The organ's pitch stands approximately three-quarters of a tone above the standard A=440 Hz, incorporating a total of 390 pipes. This instrument not only represents a significant piece of musical history but also continues to be a subject of study for its architectural and musical intricacies reflective of its era.

Stoplist/Disposition

Manual

Flöte Major 8'

Flöte Minor 4'

Oktave 2'

Prinzipal 1'

Doppelte Mixtur 1/2'

Doppelter Zimbal 1/6'

Additional:

Sources

<https://beta.pipeorgandatabase.org/instruments/65361>