

Wittendörp, Kirche Dreilützw

Lindenweg 16, 19243 Wittendörp, Germany



Builder	Anonymous
Year	ca. 1708
Period/Style	Baroque
Stops	6
Keyboards	1
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Werckmeister III at 450 Hz

Description

The highly ornate instrument with 6 registers was built in 1708 by an organ builder of unknown origin. Originally constructed as a small organ (possibly a choir organ) for the Lüneburg Lambertikirche, the instrument was moved to Camin in 1801. In 1833, Friedrich Friese (I) added an attached pedal and repaired the bellows for 150 Reichstaler. When the old Camin church was abandoned (the larger 1855 new building received a bigger organ), Dreilützw acquired the instrument in 1853. During this relocation, the bellows system, key action, and manual keyboards may have been altered.

In 1917, the original prospect pipes were removed, and additional individual pipes were lost in 1945/46. The removal dates of the "Tromet 8" and Mixture 3 ranks are unknown.

In 1953, the organ was restored and partially reconstructed by the Schuke organ-building company. The "Tromet 8" was not reconstructed, and the altered bellows system and modified key action were retained.

The organ might originate from the workshop of the former Schnitger journeyman Mathias Dropa (circa 1650–1732). The carvings could therefore be attributed to the sculptor Tobias Götterling, known to have collaborated with Dropa. The speculation about the builder is mainly based on the fact that the organ was in the Lambertikirche in Lüneburg until 1801, and Dropa had his workshop in Lüneburg at the time the instrument was built. In the year of the instrument's construction, Matthias Dropa completed his organ in St. Michaelis Church in Lüneburg and rebuilt the organ in St. Johannis from 1712-1714.

The construction date of the Dreilützwow organ is visible in two places on the instrument: on the case, carved at the base of the angel crowning the central tower, and on the largest pipe of the Principal 4' register, which bears the inscription:

C

Principal 4 fus

Anno 1708

The five-sectioned prospect is richly decorated with ornaments. The pointed central tower features two equally ranked central pipes as a unique feature.

The organ's prospect is structured as follows: 7-9-8-9-7. The two outer sections are polygonal towers with seven sounding pipes each. The pointed central tower, with an inset tip, has eight pipes, two of which are dummy pipes. The two slightly lower central fields each contain nine dummy pipes.

The pipework is partially original, comprising:

- GEDACT 8': C-Dis in oak, from E in metal, soldered caps, pipes from 1708, cores partially renewed in 1953, new beards.
- PRINCIPAL 4': C-Fis internal 1708, G-d1 prospect 1953, dis1-c3 internal 1708, new cores in 1953, partially reduced cuts by soldering metal strips, partially new foot tips.
- GEDACT 4': metal 1708, soldered caps, new cores throughout, 14 pipes renewed in 1953.
- PRINCIPAL 2': metal 1708 up to fis°, from g° 1953 (32 pipes), new cores throughout.
- MIXTUR 3-rank: 2/3' new in 1953.
- TROMET 8': not present.

Originally, the organ had 412 pipes, including 20 dummy pipes in the prospect. 49 pipes are completely missing (TROMET 8'). In 1953, 233 pipes were newly made. The number of original pipes totals 130, representing 31% of the original 1708 inventory. However, most of these pipes have been modified by the 1953 core replacement and the associated changes to the cuts. Some of the solder seams on the capped pipes are still original.

The 1953 pipe material differs in some details from the original pipes. The lips of the silent prospect pipes are mitred. The pipes are marked with stamped letters above the round seam on the back. Whether the alloy and wall thicknesses are based on the original pipe material requires further investigation.

Stoplist/Disposition

Manual

Gedact 8'

Principal 4'

Gedact 4'

Principal 2'

Mixtur 3fach

Tromet 8'

Additional:

Sources

<https://www.orgelspiele.de/reader-orgeln/orgel-in-dreil%C3%BCtzow-vielleicht-von-matthias-dropa.html>

<https://jehmlich-orgelbau.de/orgelprojekte/dreiluetzow-ev-kirche/>