

Chest Organ - made in the Workshop of H. Lorenz GmbH Wilhelmshaven Germany

information on the organ: design and construction by Karl Friedrich Wieneke and Heiko Lorenz

Working together musicians of the Early Music Scene and musical instrument makers (who try and supply adequate instruments) necessarily must look back in history and see the instruments of our ancestors. Fortunate circumstances allowed us in 1982 to examine a late 16th century chest organ while doing some repairwork and we could learn more about the instrument while maintaining and tuning it in the following years.

An instrument perfect for Early Music and ensembles! - Four copies were there and then made and are now in England (2), Denmark and Switzerland. Starting from there we designed and kept improving our little chest organ step by step (since 1991 back home in Germany).

Our instruments have been used for many concerts, CD-recordings, opera productions on radio and TV by famous orchestras and ensembles. The positive feedback encouraged us to make further improvements and make it perfect for modern everyday use especially in Early Music.

Scalings, type of construction and voicing of the 208 wooden pipes are based on an early English chest organ.

casework made from solid wood of the Elsbeer-tree (*Sorbus torminalis*)

key platings made from plum tree, sharps made from ebony

keyboard slides in for transport

sensitive single lever sticker action

Compass:

C - d³

Specification (stop list):

Gedackt 8' (stopped, bass softwood, treble hardwood)

Flöte 4' (C - B stopped softwood, c^o to d³ open hardwood)

Open 2' (C - F stopped hardwood, F# - d³ open hardwood)

Quinte 2²/₃ (twelfth - C - B 1¹/₃, hardwood C/BB stopped)

Standard pitch 440 Hz, can be transposed to

392 Hz (no C, C#)

415 Hz (no C#)

466 Hz

can be easily tuned using historic temperaments even to 1/4 - komma meantone

all pipes speak into the casework for better blending of the sound

all four ranks with divided sliders b^o/c' - can be adjusted to 3 positions when transposing!

electric blower integrated into the case (concession to modern times)

stable wind supply with regulated reservoir

weight: 125 kg (275 lbs) can be carried with four strong handles

measurements: (app.) W/H/D 135/71/61 cm (53/28/24")