

The Main Organ in Roskilde Cathedral: The Raphaëlis Organ

The famous baroque organ in Roskilde Cathedral contains a substantial amount of historical pipes, making it one of the worlds finest historical organs. Two, maybe three generations of pipes date back to the 16th and 17th centuries. All facade pipes are from 1654 and around 44 % of the total amount of pipes in the organ are old.

The history of the organ:

Gothic The oldest part of the pulpit date back to mid **15th century**

Renaissance **1554-55** the Dutchman Herman Raphaëlis Rottenstein-Pock builds a new organ. The front of the pulpit with the facade of the RP date back to this time.

Baroque **1611** the organ is rebuilt by Nicolaus Maas. The royal box of King Chr IV opposite the organ dates back to the same year.

“Anno **1654**” at the top of the facade indicates that the organ is rebuilt and enlarged by Gregor Mülich and Peter Karstensen Botz. The facade gets all its baroque decorations and the small BP is added.

Romantic **1833** Marcussen & Reuter undertakes a big rebuild of the organ.

1876 Daniel Köhne makes substantial changes to the organ.

20th century **1926** Frobenius enlarges the organ. Almost all pipes from before 1833 are preserved. But unfortunately many pipes from 1833 are lost.

1991 The reconstruction of the Baroque Organ. The old parts of the organ case and its floor are restored. All historic pipes are restored and they form the model for a reconstruction of the missing pipes.

Specifications:

Manualværk (MV) II	Rygpositiv (RP) I	Brystpositiv (BP) III	Pedal (P)
Principal 8'	Principal 4'	Gedact 8'	Principal 16'
Spitzflöjt 8'	Gedact 8'	Waltflöjt 2'	Octava 8'
Bordun 16'	Gedact 4'	Gedactflöjt 4'	Gedact 8'
Octava 4'	Octava 2'	Octava 2'	Octava 4'
Rohrflöjt 4'	Sesquialt II	Sedecima 1'	Mixtur IV 2'
Nassath 3'	Salicional 2'	Regal 8'	Posaun 16'
Super Octava 2'	Sedecima 1'	Geigen Regal 4'	Trompet 8'
Mixtur IV-V 1 1/3'	Mixtur III 2/3'		Schalmej 4'
Trompet 8'	Hoboy 8'		

pipes from before 1654

pipes from 1654

complete reconstruction

addition to the original disposition

Cymbelstern with Glockenspiel (1654)

Birdsong

Tremulant, Tremulant RP, Tremulant Pedal

Calcanten Bell

Pitch: a' 432 Hz at 16 degrees C

Temperament: unequal with four pure fifths

Windpressure: 67 MM

Couplers: BP+MV, MV+RP, MV+P, RP+P

Compass: MV and BP: CDEFGA-c''' (short octave), RP: CDE-c''' (broken octave),

Pedal: CDE-d'

Sperrventile for MV+BP, for RP and for P