



Grosse Pointe Memorial Church

A light by the lakeshore



Johannes Klais Orgelbau

Bonn, Germany

1989

48 stops, 66 ranks, 3636 pipes

On Sunday, December 3, 1989, the Johannes Klais organ was dedicated to the glory of God and used in both morning services. The new instrument replaced a mechanically failing 1959 Möller organ and was the culmination of six years of planning and fund-raising under the guidance of William DeTurk, Director of Music Ministries at the time.

“With the utmost respect for the past, our new organ is modern in concept, drawing from the best traditions of the French and German Schools of organ building with an insistence on warm, beautiful, singing sounds. The simple reliable mechanical action for the best response is coupled with the latest solid state electronic combination action,” wrote Bill DeTurk for the dedication booklet.

The three manual divisions are centered in the [rear] balcony with the pedal division against the back wall divided on both sides. The Positiv division projecting from the gallery railing is enclosed for maximum expression. When the front expression louvers are closed and doors on the back of the case are opened, the Positiv makes an excellent continuo organ. This German-style division contains a large-scale metal Cromorne in the French style.

The Great division is positioned in the center of the balcony with the eight foot long Principal pipes in the exquisite façade of the German white oak, French classic-style organ case. Containing two French-style stops – the Trompette and Harmonic Flute – this division is essentially German in character.

The expressive Swell division is located behind the Great and is completely French in tonal design. Its character was influenced by the majestic nineteenth-century instruments of French organ builder, Aristide Cavaillé-Coll.

The Pedal division is positioned on either side of the Swell Organ. The largest and lowest sounding pipes of the 32’ Untersatz are located behind the Pedal section on the left with the 32’ reed standing immediately behind the Swell.

Crowning the organ tonally is a horizontally-placed solo trumpet stop named in honor of William D. Dahling, who led fund-raising efforts for the instrument’s purchase. Crowning the organ case visually is the gold star of the Zimbelstern (bell star.)

The detached console in French terraced layout is located between the Great and Positiv divisions. It is made of white oak and walnut.



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Positive (enclosed): Manual I

8'	Gedackt
8'	Salicional
4'	Rohrflöte
4'	Principal
2'	Octave
1 1/3'	Larigot
2 2/3'	Sesquialter II
1'	Scharff V
16'	Holzducian
8'	Cromorne
8'	Dahling Trompette Tremulant

Great: Manual II

16'	Bourdon
8'	Principal
8'	Rohrflöte
8'	Flûte Harmonique
4'	Octave
4'	Blockflöte
2 2/3'	Quinte
2'	Superoctave
4'	Cornet IV
1 1/3'	Mixtur V-VI
8'	Trompette
8'	Dahling Trumpet

Swell (enclosed): Manual III

8'	Bourdon
8'	Gambe
8'	Voix céleste
4'	Prestant
4'	Flûte octaviante
2 2/3'	Nazard
2'	Quarte de Nazard
1 3/5'	Tierce
1'	Sifflet
2'	Plein jeu V
16'	Basson
8'	Trompette harmonique
8'	Hautbois
8'	Voix humaine
4'	Clairon

Pedal

32'	Untersatz
16'	Principal
16'	Subbass
8'	Octave
8'	Spielflöte
4'	Tenoroctave
2 2/3'	Rauschpfeife IV
32'	Contraposaune
16'	Posaune
16'	Fagott
8'	Trompette
8'	Dahling Trumpet

Couplers

I-II	Manual
III-II	Manual
III-I	Manual
III-II 4'	Manual
III-II 16'	Manual
I-P	Pedal
II-P	Pedal
III-P	Pedal
III-P 4'	Pedal

Zimbelstern: 8 bells; wind-driven
mechanical key action
electric action: 32' Untersatz,
32' Contraposaune, 8' Dahling Trumpet
electric stop action

French-style terraced console:

61 keys: naturals of ebony,
sharps of rosewood
32 pedals: AGO standard
Solid State Logic combination action:
8 memory levels: 64 generals,
32 pistons & cancel per division
Ventils: reeds on/off;
mixtures on/off
Crescendo pedal: 4 memory levels;
adjustable at console
Sforzando: 8 memory levels;
adjustable at console