

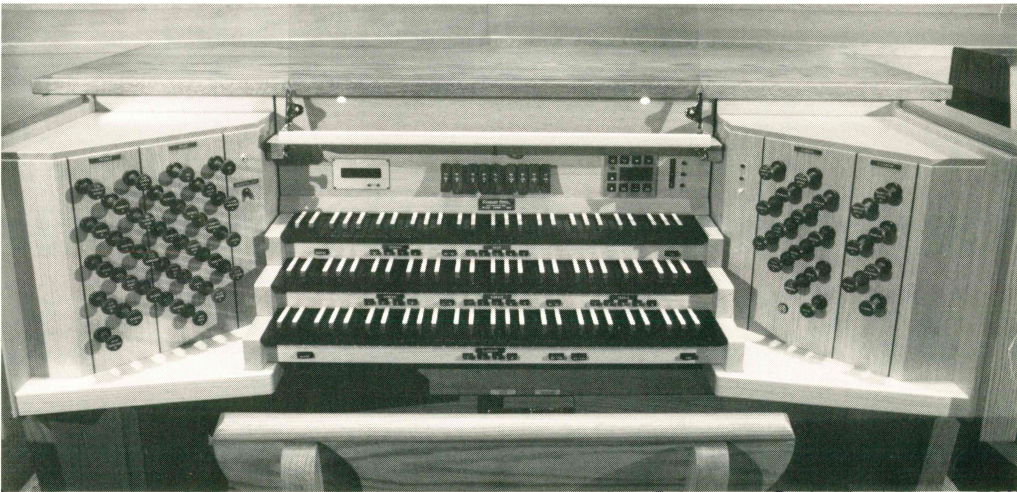
The Instrument

The new three manual Casavant organ of Southminster Presbyterian Church has taken root from the need to satisfy the accompaniment and service music requirements of worship. The space available for the organ’s placement puts it fortuitously on the long axis of the nave. Because of the relatively modest front-to-back space at hand the decision was made to employ electrically controlled slider chests for the two primary manual divisions (Grand Orgue and Récit). Slider chests are economical in their space requirements and have superb ensemble characteristics arising from the key channels indigenous to the design. Key channel construction puts all of the pipes of a division’s stops of a given note (middle C, for example) on a common channel winded from a common source; each chest has 61 key channels corresponding to the 61 note compass of the divisions involved.

In the remaining two divisions (Grand Choeur and Pédale) electro-pneumatic action has been used. This permits some interrelationships between these two divisions (the Bourdon), duplexing (the Flûte harmonique), and the extensions (some stops available at two pitches); this, too, accomplishes the desired musical ends within the space constraints.

Tonal architecture in organ design is not unlike architecture in general. Casavant’s aim has been to create something of engaging tonal space, scale and detail for the music ministry of Southminster. We wish for it to have consolation, praise and exuberance within its embrace.

Carroll Hanson
Casavant Frères Limitee



The Builder

In 1837 Joseph Casavant, father of the Casavant brothers, rebuilt a pipe organ for the College of Ste. Therese near Montreal. Three years later he received his first contract for an entirely new organ. Until his retirement in 1866, he produced seventeen organs in his St. Hyacinthe shop. When he died in 1874, Claver and Samuel had already shown great interest in organ building. After studying organ building in Europe, they established themselves as Casavant Frères in 1879 on the site where the present factory stands.

On the basis of the innovative technical achievements of Claver and Samuel Casavant, and under the artistic and administrative guidance of succeeding directors, the company has been building pipe organs for churches, concert halls and teaching institutions. The general trend towards classic tonal design and voicing which began in Europe early in the present century, and which later developed in North America after World War II, was adopted by the company in the late 1950’s and, since 1960, it has built more than 100 mechanical action instruments.

The Consultant

The Organ Committee retained Dr. John Obetz to provide expert advice and counsel on selection of the builder and development of the specifications for our instrument. Dr. Obetz received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Northwestern University and earned a doctorate in sacred music at Union Theological Seminary. Since 1967 he has been Auditorium Organist at the world headquarters of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Independence, Missouri. Many thousands of listeners hear his weekly half-hour recital, “The Auditorium Organ,” broadcast via satellite all across the country. He has concertized throughout the United States as well as in England and on the European Continent, including appearances at Westminster Abbey in London and the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Dr. Obetz has also distinguished himself as a teacher and serves on the faculty of the Conservatory of Music, University of Missouri at Kansas City.

The Southminster Organ Committee

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|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Keith Harmon | Marcia Schaper | Loren Sommer |
| Ray Martin | Jeanie Fry | Ruth Ann Unruh |
| Mary Jorgenson | Alice Durdee, In Spirit | Cheri Wolcott, Chairman |



The Purpose

The new pipe organ is the culmination of hopes and dreams over several years by the members of Southminster Presbyterian Church. In 1991 an ambitious capital building project was undertaken to expand and improve the church facility as well as to add the pipe organ. The new building and pipe organ were dedicated on Sunday, November 1, 1992. We owe a debt of gratitude to our Pastor, Hal Le Mert, for his untiring support and encouragement.

Important considerations by the Organ Committee were to enhance the music ministry, inspire worship, and support choir and congregational singing. It was also the goal of the committee to benefit the entire community with its mission of music, and to do so meant selecting an organ specially designed for our sanctuary and capable of providing recital performance.

Casavant has long held a reputation for building magnificent instruments. The cohesive sound and visual beauty reflect their craftsmanship and Southminster’s dedication to excellence. The 29 Stops, 36 Ranks and 2,041 Pipes produce a breathtaking experience. Casavant Opus 3713 (numbering consecutively from the year 1879) is Southminster’s gift to its future generations and to the community at large.

To God Be the Glory.

Casavant Opus 3713 Specifications

<u>GRAND ORGUE</u>		<u>Feet</u>	<u>Pipes</u>
1. Violon	(70% tin)	16	61
2. Montre	(1-6 polished copper, 70% tin)	8	61
3. Flûte harmonique	(Grand Choeur)	8	—
4. Flûte à cheminée	(Notes 1-12 wood)	8	61
5. Prestant	(70% tin)	4	61
6. Flûte		4	61
7. Nazard		2-2/3	61
8. Flûte à bec		2	61
9. Tierce		1-3/5	61
10. Fourniture	(2' - 70% tin)	111-V	269
11. Trompette Tremblant		8	61
12. Bombarde royale*	(Grand Choeur)	16	—
13. Trompette royale*	(Grand Choeur)	8	—

<u>RECIT</u>		<u>Feet</u>	<u>Pipes</u>
14. Salicional		8	61
15. Unda Maris		8	49
16. Flûte majeure		8	61
17. Octave		4	61
18. Flûte à fuseau	(Notes 1-12 stopped)	4	61
19. Doublette		2	61
20. Larigot		1-1/3	61
21. Plein Jeu	(1-1/3')	IV	244
22. Clarinette Basse	(Extension of No. 25)	16	12
23. Trompette harmonique		8	61
24. Hautbois		8	61
25. Clarinette		8	61
26. Clairon harmonique Tremblant		4	61
Récit 16'			
Récit Unison Off			
Récit 4'			

<u>GRAND CHOEUR</u>		<u>Feet</u>	<u>Pipes</u>
27. Bourdon	(Extension of No. 36, metal)	8	29
28. Flûte harmonique	(Notes 1-19 in common with No. 36)	8	42
29. Bourdon	(Extension of No. 27)	4	12
30. Bombarde royale*	(Notes 1-12 from No. 40; notes 13-61 from No. 31)	16	—
31. Trompette royale* Tremblant	(Hooded, with separate reservoir) (Affecting stops no. 27, 28 and 29 which are winded by a schwimmer box)	8	61

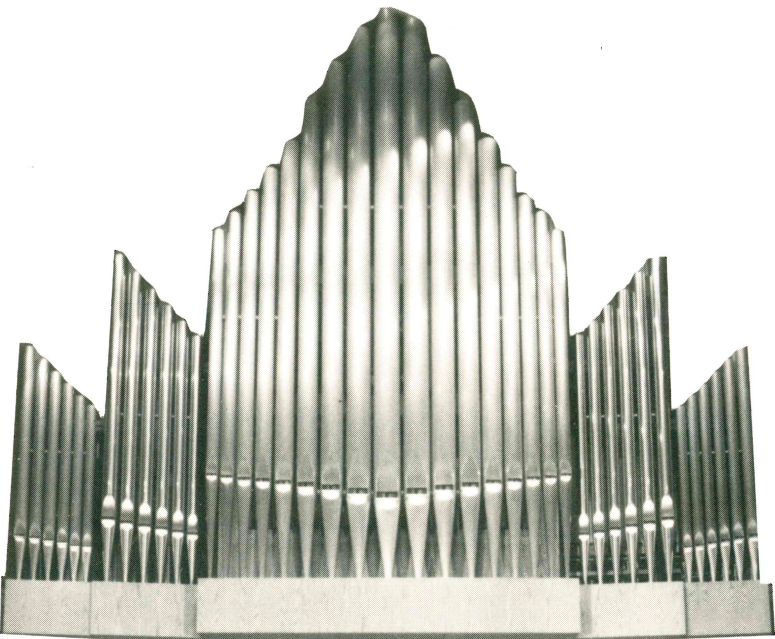
*Not affected by couplers

<u>PEDALE</u>		<u>Feet</u>	<u>Pipes</u>
32. Basse acoustique	(Wired with No. 34)	32	—
33. Violon	(Grand Orgue)	16	—
34. Soubasse	(Wood)	16	32
35. Octavebasse	(1-6 polished copper, 70% tin)	8	32
36. Bourdon	(Extension of No. 34)	8	12
37. Octave		4	32
38. Flûte harmonique	(Grand Choeur)	4	—
39. Principal	(Extension of No. 37)	2	12
40. Bombarde	(Full-length)	16	32
41. Clarinette basse	(Récit)	16	—
42. Trompette	(Extension of No. 40)	8	12
43. Trompette royale	(Grand Choeur)	8	—
44. Clairon royal	(Grand Choeur)	4	—

<u>ANALYSIS</u>			
	<u>Stops</u>	<u>Ranks</u>	<u>Pipes</u>
Grand Orgue	10	14	818
Récit	12	15	915
Grand Choeur	3	3	144
Pédale	4	4	164
Total:	29	36	2041

All usual couplers. Combination
action by solid state logic. 16
modes. Crescendo pedal pro-
grammable with 4 modes.

The Sanctuary
Organ



Casavant Opus 3713

Southminster Presbyterian
Church
Prairie Village, Kansas