

Coventry Cathedral

Specification of the Main Organ

SOLO		SWELL		GREAT		CHOIR	
Diapason	8	Quintadena	16	Double Diapason	16	Claribel Flute	16
Rohr Flute	8	Hohl Flute	8	Bourdon	16	Diapason	8
Viole	8	Viola	8	Open Diapason I	8	Harmonic Flute	8
Viole Celeste	8	Celesta	8	Open Diapason II	8	Gedackt	8
Octave	4	Principal	4	Spitzflute	8	Dulciana	8
Open Flute	4	Spitzflute	4	Stopped Diapason	8	Principal	4
Wald Flute	2	Fifteenth	2	Octave	4	Rohr Flute	4
Sifflöte	1	Sesquialtera	-	Gemshorn	4	Nazard	2 ^{2/3}
Mixture IV	-	Mixture IV	-	Octave Quint	2 ^{2/3}	Fifteenth	2
Corno di Bassetto	16	Oboe	8	Super Octave	2	Block flute	2
Tremulant		Tremulant		Mixture IV	-	Tierce	1
Orchestral Trumpet	8	Contra Fagotto	16	Cornet II-V	-	Larigot	1
Orchestral Clarion	4	Trumpet	8	Double Trumpet	16	Mixture ^{2/3}	-
Octave		Clarion	4	Trumpet	8	Cromome	8
Unison Off		Octave		Clarion	4	Tremulant	
Sub Octave		Unison Off		Solo/Great		Solo/Choir	
		Sub Octave		Swell/Great		Swell/Choir	
		Solo/Swell		Choir/Great			
		Swell Pistons On					
		Pedal Generals					
PEDAL		ACCESSORIES					
Sub Bourdon (GT)	32	8 foot pistons to the Pedal Organ					
Open Wood	16	8 pistons to Solo, Swell, Great & Choir Organs					
Open Metal	16	12 general pistons (8 duplicated by foot pistons)					
Diapason (Gt)	16	2 general pistons for couplers (duplicated by foot pistons)					
Sub Bass	16	All the above pistons are immediately adjustable at the console					
Dulciana	16	1 general cancel piston					
Principal	8	1 cancel piston each to Solo, Swell, Great, choir & Pedal Organs					
Spitzflute	8	Reversible pistons to Solo/Pedal, Swell/Pedal, Great/Pedal, Choir/Pedal,					
Twelfth	5	Swell/Choir, Solo/Choir, Solo/Great, Swell/Great, Choir/Great, Solo/Swell,					
Fifteenth	4	Pedal Sub Bourdon					
Rohr Flute	4	Reversible foot pistons to Choir/Pedal, Great/Pedal, Swell/Great, Solo					
Open Flute	2	Great, Pedal Bombardon					
Mixture IV	2	1 fixed piston to Solo Organ: Corno 8					
Bombardon	32						
Ophicleide	16						
Fagotto (Sw)	16						
Posaune	8						
Bassoon	8						
Schalmei	4						
Kornett	2						
Solo/Pedal							
Swell/Pedal							
Great/Pedal							
Choir/Pedal							
Great/Pedal							
combinations coupled							

NUMBER OF PIPES:	WIND PRESSURES
Solo Organ 927	SOLO 4", except for Orchestral Trumpets 12" SWELL 3½, except for Contra Fagotto, Trumpet & Clarion 5"
Swell Organ 1028	GREAT 4" CHOIR 3"
Great Organ 1037	PEDAL 4½, except for Bombardon 10"; Ophicleide & Posaune 4"; Dulciana 3"
& Cornet 233	The manual compass is C-c''''(61 notes) and the pedal CC-g (32 notes).
Choir Organ 1098	There are 74 speaking stops and 21 couplers, etc, making a total of 95 drawstops. The action is electro-pneumatic.
Pedal Organ 652	The blowing & humidifying equipment (there are two blowers) by Messrs Watkins & Watson is placed in a special chamber beneath the High Altar. The wind is fed to the organ by zinc trunking.
Total Number 4975	

The Organs of Coventry Cathedral

The magnificent 14th century church of St Michael, raised to cathedral status in 1928, was reduced to ruins in an air raid in November 1940. The fine 'Father' Willis organ of 1886 (identical to that in Truro Cathedral) was totally destroyed.

The building of a new Cathedral presented the opportunity for a brand new organ to match it. Messrs Harrison & Harrison were appointed in 1952 and a provisional specification drawn up. The 1950's were a turbulent time for organ building in general. The revolutionary design of the new instrument in the Royal Festival Hall, London, and passion running high between those who favoured the romantic or neo-classical style, meant much argument and controversy before the specification of the organ as it stands – the work of Sidney Campbell in conjunction with Cuthbert Harrison – was agreed in 1959. The organ is therefore something of a compromise, but in a busy cathedral where many demands are placed upon it - recitals, daily services, major events with capacity congregation – it fulfils its role admirably and there are many who hold it in high regard.

The organ was overhauled and upgraded to include solid-state technology in 1986/87.

The Norwegian Organ, which stands at the west end, was a gift from the people of Norway in 1967. It was built by Torkildsen Brothers and designed by Ole Rasmus Krag. The action is mechanical. In the chancel is a small chamber organ built by Peter Collins. This is a memorial to David Lepine, the first Organist of the new Cathedral who died in 1972 at the age of 43.