

The Organ in St. Ignatius of Loyola Basilica

The instrument of St. Ignatius of Loyola Basilica was built in 1935 by the *Pontificia Fabbrica d'Organi Tamburini*. The organ has three manuals and it seems to incorporate some registers of the preceding organ *Inzoli* (1888). The phonic configuration is typical for a twentieth-century organ and we can find in it registers of the organ classical tradition, necessary for the eighteenth/nineteenth-century repertoire, but also peculiar timbres, like the powerful "Tuba Mirabilis", or "symphonic" registers, which are normally used in the twentieth-century organ compositions. The potency of the instrument is well measured to the spaciousness of the place and its efficiency conditions are very good. This organ gives good possibilities for performing almost all the organ repertoire. It seems to be predestined for music by Bach, Franck, Liszt, Reger, Karg-Elert, Brahms, Reubke, Mendelssohn, Vierne, Bossi, Manari, Ravanello (from the eighteenth century until contemporary period). There are no doubts, that St. Ignatius Basilica is a very suitable place for organ concerts.

The favourable elements are:

- the enormous size of the organ, its phonic configuration and potency;
- possibility of moving the console so that the organist can be seen by the audience;
- central position of the Basilica in the town, easy to get there by public transportation;
- celebrity of the place for historical and architectonic reasons, but also because it was the favourite place for the concerts of Ferdinando Germani (Rome, 1906-1998), one of the most important organists of all times, who performed there the complete works for organ by Johann Sebastian Bach.

An audience of enthusiasts and experts has always been attached to this basilica, because it represented for decades the only place of the organ culture in Rome.

Phonic Configuration

1^a tastiera (O.P.E.)

1. Eufonio 8'
2. Flauto a camino 8'
3. Viola 8'
4. Flauto 4'
5. Flauto in XII
6. Flauto 2'
7. Terza
8. Clarinetto 8'
9. Corno francese 8'
10. Tremolo
11. Annullatore corno

2^a Tastiera (G.O)

12. Principale 16'
13. Principale forte 8'
14. Principale dolce 8'
15. Dulciana 8'
16. Flauto corno 8'
17. Flauto traverso 8'
18. Ottava forte 4'
19. Ottava 4'
20. Flauto 4'
21. Duodecima
22. XV
23. Ripieno di 6 file
24. Ripieno di 7 file
25. Voce umana

26. Tromba 8'
27. Tuba mirabilis 8'
28. Gran tuba 8'
29. Tuba 4'
30. IP
31. IIP
32. IIIP
33. Sopra Pedale
34. I/II
35. III/II
36. III/I
37. Sopra I
38. Sopra III/I
39. Grave I
40. Grave III/I
41. Sopra II
42. Sopra I/II
43. Sopra III/II
44. Grave I/II
45. Grave III/II
46. Sopra III
47. Grave III

3^a Tastiera (Recitativo)

48. Bordone 16'
49. Principale 8'
50. Gamba 8'
51. Salicionale 8'
52. Bordone 8'

53. Ottava 4'
54. Flauto armonico 4'
55. Flauto 2'
56. Ripieno 5 file
57. Voce celeste 8'
58. Concerto viole 8'
59. Oboe 8'
60. Tromba armonica 8'
61. Chiarina 4'
62. Voce corale 8'
63. Tremolo
64. Tremolo oboe
65. -----

Pedale

66. Contrabbasso 16'
67. Violone 16'
68. Bordone 16'
69. Basso 8'
70. Violoncello 8'
71. Bordone 8'
72. Quinta 10 e 2/3
73. Quinta 5 e 1/3
74. Ottava 4'
75. Bombarda 16'
76. Trombone 8'
77. Tremolo 8'
78. -----