

Royal Poinciana Chapel Palm Beach, Florida

CHANCEL GREAT Violone Principal Violone Spitzflote	16 8 8 8	Larigot Zymbel Rohrschalmei Tremulant	1-	1/3 III 8
Violone Principal Violone	8 8 8	Zymbel Rohrschalmei		III
Principal Violone	8 8 8	Rohrschalmei		A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR
Violone	8 8	Tremulant		
	8			
Splittiole				
Octave		CHANCEL CHOIR		
Rohrflote	4	Concert Flute		8
Fifteenth	2	Gemshorn		8
Fourniture	IV	Gemshorn Celeste, T.C.		8
Cymbel	iii	Koppelflote		4
Kontra Trompete	16	Rauschquint		11
Trompete	8	Clarinet		8
Tremulant	0	Harp		
Heindiant		Tremulant		
GALLERY GREAT		Trompette en Chamade	(Solo)	8
Principal	8			-
Bourdon	8	CHANCEL SOLO		
Octave	4	Flute Harmonique		8
Twelfth	2-2/3	Violon Cello		8
Super Octave	2	Cello Celeste		8
Mixture	III	Orchestral Flute		4
Trompette		English Horn		8
En Chamade	(Solo) 8	Bombarde		8
Tremulant	(00.0)	Bombarde Clairon		4
		Tremulant		
GALLERY SWELL		Chimes		
Bourdon Doux	16	Trompette en Chamade		8
Flute a Cheminee	8			
Viole de Gambe	8	GALLERY PEDAL		
Viole Celeste	8	Montre		16
Flauto Dolce	8	Bourdon Doux		16
Flauto Dolce Celeste	8	Octave		8
Fugara	4	Flute a Cheminee		8
Flute a Fuseau	4	Bombarde		16
Principal	2	Trompette		
Cornet	11	En Chamade	(Solo)	8
Plein Jeu	IV		100.07	
Bombarde	16	PEDAL ORGAN		
Trompette	8	Contre Bourdon		32
Vox Humana	8	Contrebasse		16
Clairon	4	Bourdon		16
Tremulant		Violone	(Gt)	16
OLIANISEL SIMELL		Bass Gedeckt	(Sw)	16
CHANCEL SWELL		Quint		2/3
Bass Gedeckt	16	Principal		8
Salicional	8	Bourdon		8
Voix Celeste	8	Gedeckt	(Sw)	8
Gedeckt	8	Cello	(Gt)	8
Principal	4	Twelfth		1/3
Flute Harmonique	4	Choral Bass		4
Mixture		Flute		4
Basson	16	Octavin		2
Trompette	8	Cornet		32
Vox Humana	8	Mixture		IV
Schalmei	4	Contra Trombone		32
Tremulant		Trombone		16
CHANCEL POSITIV		Kontra Trompete	(Gt)	16
	8	Basson	(Sw)	16
Principal Singand Godookt	8	Trumpet	(000)	8
Singend Gedeckt	4	Clairon		4
Principal Blockflote	2	Rohrschalmei	(Pos)	4
Blockflote	2	TOTA SOLIDATION	(1.00)	-

The Royal Poinciana Chapel

The Royal Poinciana Chapel, the grounds of which border on the Inland Waterway, in beautiful Palm Beach, Florida, was established in 1884 as the only religious institution within 150 miles. During the late 1880's a few wealthy northerners built their "cottages" on the lakefront, adding to the congregation in the winter season.

Palm Beach became the Newport of the south with the arrival of Henry Morrison Flagler, who did much to develop Florida with his hotel companies and his railroad enterprises stretching over the Florida Keys to Key West. Flagler was a devout man who made every effort to have churches and schools built in each of the towns he developed along the east coast of Florida.

The 1895 meetinghouse, designed by J.W. Ingle, is a wood frame Colonialstyle building which has been moved and enlarged or rebuilt three times. Its original seating capacity of 350 has been increased to the current 650 and

at one time sat 910.

In 1978, Thomas R. Thomas was appointed Director of Music and Organist at the Chapel. He majored in organ at the Philadelphia Music Academy and had been serving churches in Florida and Pennsylvania since the age of 12. While attending the Academy he established a friendship with the late Dr. Virgil Fox, who coincidentally moved to Palm Beach within a few months of Thomas' appointment at the Chapel. At Thomas' urging, Dr. Fox was invited to become Artist-in-Residence at the Chapel, which allowed him use of the existing organ for practice.

Sharing the same console, Thomas and Fox began designing a proper and adequate organ for the Chapel, capable of playing all periods of literature.

Deterioration of the existing console became increasingly apparent, and the purchase of a new four-manual Austin console, designed to play the ultimate instrument, was underwritten by Mr. A. Guy Freas and his wife, Louise. The generosity of the Freas Foundation proved to be the impetus that set the organ project in motion. At the dedication of the console the Freas Foundation established an organ fund for the completion of the design as formulated by Thomas and Fox.

The first new voice, a Festival Trumpet, was installed in 1983 in memory of C. Frances Murray and is now mounted horizontally at the rear of the Chapel.

Mr. Robert L. Rooke, a friend of Mr. Freas, offered to fund one-half the new organ, the other half to be raised by the congregation and friends. This challenge was accepted and their goal realized in only six weeks.

The magnificent instrument now gracing the Chapel is Austin Organs, Inc., Opus 2685. It incorporates all of the previous instrument and adds 58 ranks

of new Austin pipework and action.

The original Great division, revoiced, was moved to a cantilevered position in the rear gallery to become an Antiphonal Great along with a large new Swell and Pedal.

New Great, Positiv, Pedal and Solo divisions were installed in the chancel, the Positiv and Pedal enjoying placement where the choirloft had previously been located.

The Chancel and Antiphonal organs are both now fronted with basses from the new organ, these displayed pipes made of highly polished tin in an attractive arrangement. The beautiful subdued white Colonial casework, supporting the front facade and encasing the rear gallery organs, was executed by F. J. Fitchett, a local English cabinetmaker of great skill.

Following the physical installation, voicers from the Austin factory spent several weeks in the final tonal finishing to ensure the finest blending of the

new organ to its setting and environment.

The new organ, now totalling 89 ranks is a significant new instrument in southern Florida, and it is anticipated that it will see much use in services and recitals in the coming seasons.

Organs built by Austin Organs, Incorporated Organ Architects and Builders HARTFORD, CONN. 06105





