

The new organ for Peachtree Road United Methodist Church is the culmination of over four years of planning and building. Discussions began at an early stage in the planning of the new Sanctuary to ensure that the instrument suited the building and the use to which it would be put. Initial proposals suggested an organ spread round a semicircular Apse. Later a single centrally placed case was envisaged, but it was felt that this was at odds with the desire to make the marble mounted Crucifix a focal point of worship, which lead to the unusual design of two asymmetrical cases with a space in between. It was also assumed that the organ would have electro-pneumatic action, but as the design developed, it became evident that tracker or mechanical action would be a possibility; preferable because of its longevity and superior musicality. The result is an unusual design for an organ, but one well-founded in the requirements of the liturgy and sound organouilding practice.

Detailed design work commenced early in 2000. By the middle of that year, manufacture of components and pipework had begun and the construction of the casework was begun early in 2001. Towards the end of 2001, most of the components of the instrument were nearing completion and the first shipments were made early in 2002, after which the lengthy installation process in the church commenced. As the cases were erected, more containers arrived with components to be installed and by the beginning of June, the technical installation was complete. At this stage, work began on making all the various parts of the organ become a musical instrument, the voicing, which took a further four months to complete.

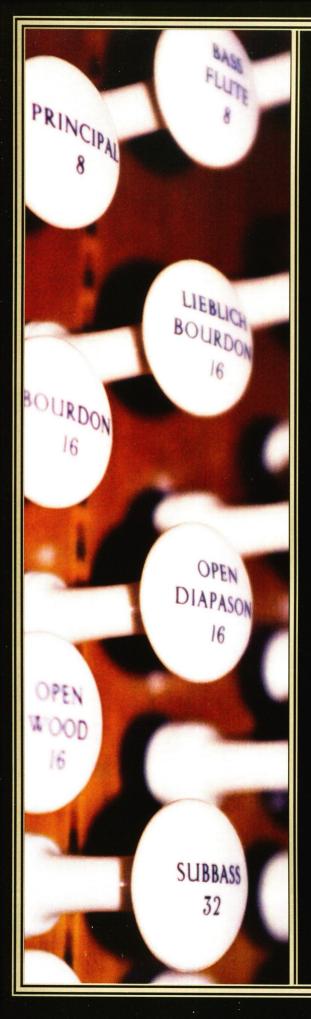
Designing an organ for a church with a lively and varied musical programme such as that at Peachtree Road is a challenging task. After lengthy discussions with the Organist and Choirmaster, Scott Atchison,

a specification was arrived at which addresses those diverse requirements. The cornerstone as always is the Great Organ, a complete division independent Principal and Flute choruses and mutations, topped by two mixtures and three chorus reeds. The secondary chorus appears in the Swell Organ, also a large division containing the softest sounds on the organ, but also able to create the wonderful "caged rage" effect of the best romantic Swell Organs of the Classic American organ. The Choir Organ is an inferesting department as it is required in some respects to fulfil three roles. Firstly, it provides the more gentle enclosed division so necessary for the sympathetic accompaniment of the singers. Secondly, it has the tertiary chorus often demanded in the organ literature. But it also has a solo role providing some of the more idiosyncratic sounds one expects of an enclosed Solo Organ. These three divisions are on mechanical action and built into the left hand case. The fourth division is the one which provides the crowning glory to the instrument. It has three unenclosed Bombarde reeds at 16, 8 and 4st pitch which whilst considerably more powerful than the Great chorus reeds, are nevertheless closely related in style. In addition, the Solo Organ has the Tuba and Trompette Royale. With exception of this latter stop, which is situated in the Gallery of the church and will ultimately be incorporated in an independent Gallery Organ, the Solo Organ is situated in the Pedal case which is the right hand one of the pair, all the Solo Organ being on electro-pneumatic action. Mechanical action was not feasible for this division as it is too remote from the console and on too high a pressure. The right hand case contains the entire Pedal division, most of which is on mechanical action, the rest electropneumatic. Once again, this section is remarkably complete up to a five rank mixture (containing, unusually, a Tierce in its composition) and no less than six reed stops. Behind the case stands an open wood Diapason 32st, which fills the church with the deep bass sound, the first time such a stop has been made for a Mander Organ.

The console reflects the ethos of the instrument, based on the sumptuous consoles built by the great Classic American organ builder E.M. Skinner. The instrument is designed to be highly versatile, capable of producing musical performances of a wide ranging organ literature, from the Baroque to the modern day French, German, English, Spanish and of course American. If our aim to make the organ truly versatile is successful, the organists will spend many years exploring its tonal capabilities and they will still be discovering new tonal attributes a decade from now.

John Pike Mander, Mander Organs





STOPLIST OF THE GREAT ORGAN

GREAT ORGAN		SWELL ORGAN	
Double Open Diapason	16	Bourdon	16
Open Diapason I	8	Open Diapason	8
Open Diapason II	8	Gedackt	8
Stopped Diapason	8	Salicional	8
Harmonic Flute	8	Voix Celeste	8
Cone Gamba	8	Flauto Dolce	8
Principal	4	Unda Maris	8
Octave	4	Principal	4
Open Flute	4	Wald Flute	4
Twelfth	2 2/3	Fifteenth	2
Fifteenth	2	Flageolet	2
Seventeenth	1 3/5	Sesquialtera III	2 2/3
Mounted Cornet III	2 2/3	Plein Jeu IV	1 1/3
Fourniture V	2	Contra Fagotto	16.
Cymbal IV	2/3	Harmonic Trumpet	8
Trombone	16	Hautbois	8
Trumpet	8	Vox Humana	8 .
Clarion	4	Harmonic Clarion	4
Tremulant		Tremulant	
CHOIR ORGAN		PEDAL ORGAN	
Open Diapason	8	Double Open Diapason	32
Chimney Flute	8	Subbass	32
Viola Pomposa	8	Open Diapason	16
Viola Celeste	8	Open Wood	16
Principal	4	Bourdon	16
Koppel Flute	4	Lieblich Bourdon	16
Nazard	2 2/3	Principal	8
Fisteenth	2	Bass Flute	8
Recorder	2	Fifteenth	4
Tierce	1 3/5	Open Flute	4
Larigot	1 1/3	\mathbf{M} ixture \mathbf{V}	3 1/5
Sharp Mixture IV	1	Contra Bombarde	32
Cor Anglais	16	Bombarde .	16
Cremona	8	Bassoon	16
Tremulant		Trumpet	8
		Clarion	4
		Schalmei	4
		Tremulant	
SOLO ORGAN		COUPLERS	
Bombarde	16	Swell to Great, Choir to Great,	
Bombarde	8	Solo to Great, Swell to Choir,	
Clarion	4	Solo to Choir, Great to Pedal,	
Tuba	8	Swell to Pedal, Choir to Pedal,	
Trompette Royale en chamad	le 8	Solo to Pedal	
Cl:			

Chimes

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