

# The Organs

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Capitol Square  
Richmond, Virginia



St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Capitol Square

815 East Grace Street | Richmond, Virginia

[stpaulsrva.org](http://stpaulsrva.org)

Saint Paul's Church is very fortunate to have a fine organ by the renowned organbuilder Manuel Rosales of Los Angeles, California. This one of only two instruments by Rosales on the East Coast of the United States (the other being at St. Bartholomew's, Atlanta, Ga.).

Manuel Rosales is particularly well known for his uncanny ability to "voice" organ pipes so that they are not only especially beautiful on their own, but also blend in remarkable ways with other pipes of the organ.

The St. Paul's organ is not of one specific style. It is not German, French, English, or American; nor does it try to be all of these styles at once. Rather, it falls into its own category. Seeking insight from many different organ building traditions, Manuel Rosales found a middle way, and musical life of this city and the worship of God in this church benefit from this approach.

In July of 1998 over 100 people helped carry the first parts of the organ into the church. A small part of the organ was first heard in February 1999. The first recital was played by Dame Gillian Weir as part of the Repertoire Recital Series of the Richmond Chapter of the American Guild of Organists on March 24, 2000. The Rosales organ was dedicated on Sunday, May 21, 2000 at a morning celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

Major funding for this organ was provided by the Massey family in memory of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Massey, Sr.

This is the fourth organ in this church. The first organ stood in the rear gallery where the present organ is now. This was a large three-manual instrument by Henry Erben of New York. It was installed in 1845 when the church opened.

The second organ, installed in the front of the church in 1907, was built by Lyon and Healy of Chicago. This instrument was a memorial to fourth rector of the church, Hartley Carmichael. At this time, the Parish Choir sang from divided choir stalls in the chancel. A new console for this organ, installed in 1923, likely made this a four-manual instrument.

The third organ was Op. 1188 by the Aeolian-Skinner Organ Company of Boston. This was one of four organs the company designed for churches this city in 1950. The organ was housed in chambers on lectern side of the chancel, while the console was on the pulpit side of the chancel. This organ included an Echo-Antiphonal division in the rear gallery of the church, and later a console was added so that the choir could sing from that position. The organ was removed to St. Anne's, Reston, Va., and, at last report, is now destined for Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Cleveland, Ohio.

—David Sinden, May 2014

Rosales Organ Builders, Inc., Los Angeles, California  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Richmond, Virginia • Opus 22

**Great Manual II**

Prestant 16' 1-6 wood; front pipes from FF#  
Principal 8' front pipes  
Salicional 8'  
Chimney Flute 8'  
Octave 4'  
Spire Flute 4'  
Octave Quint 2 2/3'  
Super Octave 2'  
Tierce 1 3/5'  
Mixture V (1 1/3')  
Trumpet 8'  
Clarinet 8'

**Solo Manual I**

Flûte harmonique 8'  
Bourdon 8'  
Prestant 4'  
Cornet III from g 20  
Trompette harmonique 8'  
Clarion harmonique 4'

Cymblestern with two rotating stars  
Nightengale  
Swell Tremolo  
Great & Solo Tremolo  
Wind Stabilizer Cut-out  
Compass: 58 notes manuals, 30 notes pedals  
Mechanical key action, electric stop action  
Bach-Kellner temperament

99 level Solid State combination system  
15 general combination pistons  
8 Swell, 8 Great, 5 Solo, 8 Pedal  
divisional pistons

*Tutti programmable*

Crescendo pedal programmable  
Balanced electric action Swell pedal  
Front pipes of 85% polished tin  
Wind supplied by 1 h.p. blower  
Wind pressures 3 1/4 to 4 3/8 inches

**Swell Manual III**

Bourdon 16' wood & metal  
Geigen Principal 8'  
Viole de Gamba 8'  
Voix céleste 8' from CC  
Flûte traversière 8' common bass  
Stop'd Diapason 8' wood & metal  
Principal 4'  
Rohrpipe 4'  
Nasard 2 2/3'  
Doublet 2'  
Tierce 1 3/5'  
Mixture IV (2')  
Double Trumpet 16'  
Trumpet 8'  
Hautbois 8'  
Vox Virginia 8'

**Pedal**

Grand Bass 32' resultant  
Open Wood 16'  
Prestant 16' Great  
Bourdon 16' wood  
Flute 8' ext.  
Octave 8'  
Spire Flute 8'  
Super Octave 4'  
Trombone 16'  
Trumpet 8'  
Clarion 4'

**Couplers**

Great to Pedal  
Swell to Pedal  
Solo to Pedal  
Swell to Great  
Swell to Solo  
Great to Solo

Front pipes of 85% polished tin  
Pipes of lead & tin alloys; poplar & pine  
45 stops, 51 ranks, 2,667 pipes

Casework designed by John Blatteau, AIA, Philadelphia & constructed of Honduras mahogany, built by TMS, Richmond

## **The Chapel Organ Built by Henry Erben**

The present organ in St. Paul's Chapel was built by the celebrated New York organbuilder Henry Erben in 1837 for St Luke's Episcopal Church, Granville, Ohio. After a series of installations in a number of Ohio churches and the home of an antiques dealer, the organ was purchased by Lawrence Schwartzenberger of Warsaw, Ohio, dismantled, and stored in two barns separated by 15 miles of corn fields.

In 1984 it was purchased by the Church of the Epiphany, Newton, North Carolina, which commissioned Lawrence Trupiano of Brooklyn, New York to restore it.

During 1985, the original mechanical and tonal attributes of the organ were restored by Mr. Trupiano. An electric motor now supplies the wind, but can be superseded by the original hand pumping mechanism. The elegant Spanish mahogany cabinet has been stripped and resealed; the ornamental façade pipes and carvings have been restored with 22K gold leaf; and the keyboard has been refurbished and retains its original ivory coverings.

In 1988 the organ was purchased by St. Paul's. The instrument was dedicated on February 26, 1989. It is the oldest organ in the city of Richmond.

### Specifications

MANUAL, 58 notes, GG-f (no GG#); wind pressure 2½ inches

Open Diapason	TF	8'	common metal
Stop'd Diapason Treble	TF	8'	stopped wood & common metal chimney flute
Stop'd Diapason Bass		8'	stopped wood
Dulciano	TF	8'	common metal
Principal		4'	four open wood & common metal
Flute	TF	4'	common metal chimney flute
Fifteenth		2'	common metal
Silent			