



Lachine, Quebec—Église Saints-Anges-gardiens

Four manuals and pedals, 55 stops, 72 ranks
Detached drawknob console, compass 61/32
Electro-pneumatic action (ventil-type)
Casavant Opus 869 (1921); Renovation 2001-6
Photograph: Simon Couture

The Église Saint-Anges-gardiens (Church of the Holy Guardian Angels) in Lachine, west of Montreal, was completed in 1920. The interior decor and the stained glass windows were done respectively by Quebec's famous artists Ozias Leduc and Guido Nincheri. The 1921 Casavant organ was installed in two towers on either side of the back galleries, the layout being imposed by the architect of the church, Louis-Alphonse Venne. Despite the sumptuous acoustics of the church, the organ sounded muffled because of its location and tonal design.

Over the years, the organ had been revisited by some local builders and technicians, and it was in poor condition. Without the vision and determination of some local organists and music lovers, it would have never been the object of such an ambitious renovation, which we undertook in 2001.

The project was done in three stages. First, the Great and Pedal divisions (West Tower) were tonally revised and a new four-manual console was provided. It is prepared for the future addition of a two-manual and pedal Sanctuary Organ. The second stage consisted of relocating and encasing the Positif division and adding *en chamade* trumpets to speak along the main axis of the building. The Récit and Solo divisions were rebuilt as the last stage. As part of this work, the Solo windchests were raised in order to provide room to add a tone chute to make the Récit more audible from the console.

The original ventil-type, electro-pneumatic windchests and the wind system were refurbished.

From a tonal standpoint, most of the original pipework was retained, and the stop list was enhanced to provide complete choruses and a more colourful tonal scheme. The compared specifications follow.

1921		2006	
Grand Orgue		Grand Orgue	
Montre	16	Montre (revoiced)	16
Montre	8	Montre (revoiced)	8
Principal étroit	8	Principal étroit (revoiced)	8
Flûte ouverte	8		
Bourdon	8	Bourdon	8
Gemshorn	8	Gemshorn	8
Prestant	4	Prestant (revoiced)	4
Flûte harmonique	4	Flûte harmonique	4
Quinte	$2 \frac{2}{3}$	Quinte (revoiced)	$2 \frac{2}{3}$
Doublette	2	Doublette (new)	2
Mixture IV	$2 \frac{2}{3}$	Fourniture III (composition revised)	$2 \frac{2}{3}$
		Cymbale IV (new)	$1 \frac{1}{3}$
Trompette	8	Trompette (revoiced)	8
Clairon	4	Clairon (revoiced)	4
Récit		Récit	
Bourdon	16	Bourdon	16
Principal	8	Principal (revoiced)	8
Bourdon	8	Bourdon	8
Flûte harmonique	8	Flûte harmonique	8
Viole de gambe	8	Viole de gambe	8
Voix céleste	8	Voix céleste	8
Principal	4	Principal (revoiced)	4
Flûte octavante	4	Flûte octavante (revoiced)	4
Octavin	2	Octavin	2
Cornet V	8	Sesquialtera II (new)	$2 \frac{2}{3}$
		Plein Jeu III-V (new)	2
Trompette	16	Trompette	16
Trompette	8	Trompette (revoiced)	8

Hautbois	8	Hautbois	8
Voix humaine	8	Voix humaine	8
Clairon	4	Clairon (revoiced)	4
Tremolo		Tremolo	

Positif

Principal	8
Mélodie	8
Dulciane	8
Quintaton	8
Flûte douce	4
Flautino	2
Clarinette	8
Tremolo	

Positif

Principal (new, in façade)	8
Voce umana (new, in façade)	8
Bourdon (from existing pipework)	8
Flûte harmonique (new)	8
Prestant (new)	4
Flûte douce (new)	4
Nazard (new)	2 ² / ₃
Quarte de nazard (new)	2
Tierce (new)	1 ³ / ₅
Plein Jeu III-IV (new)	2
Clarinette	8
Tremolo	

Solo

Stentorphone	8
Grosse Flûte	8
Violoncelle	8
Viole d'Orchestre	8
Viole céleste	8
Flûte traverse	4
Cor anglais	8
Tremolo	
Tuba Mirabilis	8
Tuba Clairon	4

Solo

Flûte ouverte (from Grand Orgue)	8
Violoncelle	8
Viole d'Orchestre	8
Viole céleste	8
Flûte traverse	4
Flautino (from Positif)	2
Grand Cornet V (new)	8
Cor anglais	8
Tremolo	
Tuba Mirabilis (revoiced)	8
Tuba Clairon (revoiced)	4
Trompette en chamade (ext.)	16
Trompette en chamade (new)	8
Trompette en chamade (ext.)	4

Pédale

Flûte (resultant)	32
Flûte ouverte	16
Bourdon	16
Violon	16
Flûte (ext.)	8
Bourdon (ext.)	8
Violoncelle (ext.)	8

Pédale

Flûte (resultant)	32
Bourdon (new, resultant)	32
Flûte ouverte	16
Bourdon	16
Violon	16
Flûte (ext.)	8
Bourdon (ext.)	8
Violoncelle (ext.)	8

Flûte (ext.)	4	Flûte (ext.)	4
Bombardon	32	Contre Bombarde	32
Bombarde (ext.)	16	Bombarde (ext.)	16
Trompette (ext.)	8	Trompette (ext.)	8

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