

# Aeolian-Skinner, Opus 1301

Oakland, California

The Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ, opus 1301 was manufactured in 1956-1957, when the company's tonal director was Joseph S. Whiteford who was the successor of the deceased G. Donald Harrison.

The organ is still rooted in Harrison's "American Classic" style, although Opus 1301 bears witness to the tonal philosophy of Harrison's later interests, when he experimented with modern versions of old German solo reeds (Krummhorn, Fagott, Rohr-Schalmei) and moved somewhat towards the neo-Baroque design (principal choruses crowned with mixtures on all manuals, unenclosed pipework). Joseph S. Whiteford's tonal principles were similar to the late Harrison visions, perhaps putting even more emphasis on the baroque organ building principles (unnicked flues with expressive articulation, lower wind pressures, intense reeds).

The Opus 1301 is a rather universal instrument, upon which many schools of organ compositions will sound clear and plausible. Aeolian-Skinner organs are famous for the delicate and even voicing, decisive speech, and good blending of choruses, allowing clarity in polyphonic textures as well as graceful (even sublime) solo melodic lines.

It was built for St. John's Presbyterian Church in Berkeley, later sold and moved to the First Covenant Church, Oakland, California. After the transfer, the organ was reassembled and overhauled by Schoenstein & Co. organbuilders in 1983. On that occasion, adjustments were made to the tonal layout, some stops were revoiced, several stops were cleverly added, emphasizing the traditional "Werkprinzip" and individuality of each division in the design.

An excellent extension to this set has been made which adds many wonderful stops. The extended version stop list is below, and the original stop jams are to the right. Both versions are available from one load-up of the organ.



Choir		Great		Swell		Solo		Pedal	
Krummhorn	8	Bombard	16	Vox Humana	8	Corno di Bassetto	8	Untersatz	32
Rohr Schalmei	4	Bombard	8	Klarine	4	Trompete Harmon.	8	Prinzipal	16
Zimbel	III	Klarine	4	Fagot	16	Violon Coelestis	8	Gemshorn	16
Dulzian	16	Flöte	2	Trompete	8	Violon	8	Subbass	16
Bombard	8	Terz	1 3/5	Oboe	8	Harmonic Flute	8	Gedackt Bass	16
Klein Prinzipal	2	Mixtur	IV	Spitz Quint	1 1/3	Diapason	8	Oktav	8
Blockflöte	2	Zauber Flote	4	Plain Jeu	III			Flöte	8
Terz	1 3/5	Twelfth	2 2/3	Scharf	III			Gedackt	8
Spitz Prinzipal	4	Praestant	2	Nasat	2 2/3			Choralbass	4
Pommer	4	Bordun	8	Nachthorn	2			Flöte	4
Rohr Nasat	2 2/3	Gambe	8	Terz	1 3/5			Mixture	IV
Spitzflöte Coelestis	8	Oktav	4	Geigen Prinzipal	4			Bombard	32
Echo Viole	8	Gemshorn	16	Rohr Flöte	4			Posaune	16
Echo Viole Coelestis	8	Prinzipal	8	Violina	4			Fagot (SW)	16
Spitzflöte	16			Flote Celeste	8			Trompete	8
Koppelflöte	8			Viola Pomposa	8			Klarine	4
Spitzflöte	8			Viola Coelestis	8				
				Gambe	16				
				Diapason	8				
				Singend Gedackt	8				
				Bourdon	16				