

The Organ of the Prime Cathedral of Bogota Amezúa – Binder – Grenzing

The construction of an organ for the Prime Cathedral of Bogota was commissioned in 1890 by Archbishop Ignacio Velasco S.J. to Spanish organ builder Aquilino Amezúa Juaristi, whose peak work, in terms of size, rich sound, and technological advances, are the great organs of the Seville Cathedral choir, built between 1901 and 1903.

After the organ was transported by sea (port of Barranquilla), river (Honda), and road to Bogota, it was installed in the antechapel of Our Lady of the Topo's Church, in a choir specifically built to receive it, and was inaugurated on April 10th, 1892.

The organ was subsequently the object of several modifications, the most important of all made in 1965 before the celebration of the International Eucharistic Congress and Pope Paul VI's visit to Colombia. It was in this year that organ builder Oskar Binder translated it to the Chapel where it currently resides, modified its appearance, changed the traction system and the console, extended some of the sonorous registrations, and eliminated other.

By the initiative of the Ministries of Culture, Commerce, Industry and Tourism / FONTUR, and the Archdiocese of Bogota, the Spanish company Gerhard Grenzing started in 2013 the process of restoration of the organ. It recuperated the old registrations (Amezúa and Binder) and installed new ones; it also replaced the motor, the *secretas* and transmissions, constructed the *cadereta*, and installed a new console with four keyboards, among many other things. At the end of the restoration, the instrument was tuned and harmonized, a lengthy and specialized process, necessary for securing the success of the project, since it is in this process when the instrument, a piece of historic heritage, acquires its characteristic timbre, unique to each pipe organ.

The lively, vigorous, and warm sound of the organ, adapted to the Prime Cathedral acoustics, will accompany the solemn liturgical occasions of present and future generations of Colombians. The organ is also becoming a focal point of cultural and artistic interest for organ and organ-repertoire lovers at the national and international level.

The organ, in its current version, was inaugurated on July 2, 2016.

Keyboard I – Órgano Mayor		
Flautado Principal 16'	Violón Mayor 16'	Flautado 8'
Flauta Armónica 8'	Octava 4'	Fl. Dulce 4'
Docena 2' 2/3	Quincena 2'	Lleno-III
Corneta III-V	Contrafagot 16'	Tromp Real 8'

Keyboard II – Positivo Exterior / Cadereta		
Flautado 8'	Violón 8'	Octava 4'
Tapadillo 4'	Quincena 2'	Sesquialt II
Decinovenas 1' 1/3	Vox Humana 8'	Trémolo

Keyboard III – Recitativo Expresivo		
Violón 16'	Keraulofón 8'	Violón 8'
Flauta Travesera 8'	V. da Gamba 8'	Celeste 8'
Octava 4'	Octaviante 4'	Lleno IV
Nazardo 2' 2/3	Flautín 2'	Nazard 1' 3/5
Fagot 16'	Trompeta 8'	Oboe 8'
Corno 8'	Vox Humana 8'	Trémolo

Keyboard IV – Positivo Interior / ECO		
Flautado 8'	Fl. Euskaria 8'	Violón 8'
Voz Angelical 8'	Salicional 8'	Octava 4'
Ocarina 4'	Fagot-Oboe 8'	Clarinete 8'
Trémolo		

Batalla	
Trompeta Angelical 8'	Trompeta Batalla 8'
Bajoncillo–Tr. Magna 4'–16'	

Pedal		
Contrabajo 16'	Subbajo 16'	Quinta 10'2/3
Contrabajo 8'	Bajete 4'	Corno 2'
Bombarda 16'	Trompeta 8'	Clarín 4'

Acoples		
Inv I – II	IV/III/II/I – P	IV/III/II – I
IV/III – II	IV – III	Acople cascada
Batalla – I/II/III/IV/P		

Diapasón 441 Hz	Temperamento igual	Crescendo
Tesitura C – g''' C – f'	5000 Combinaciones	