

The organ first came to life in 1735 (6 years after the church first opened) at the hands of Peter Prelleur, a local man of Huguenot descent, who taught and composed music. Our first appointed organist, when not playing in Hawksmoor's magnificent building could be found playing at the Angel and Crown tavern in Whitechapel. Such was his commitment to bringing music to the masses.

Bridge had been the leading organ builder of his age and ours was considered his best, it was also for over 100 years the largest organ in England. Following the death of Bridge in 1758, the care of the organ moved from one to another. By 1837 the then Rector Rev W Stone concluded the organ to be in a 'parlous state.' Some would say that despite valiant attempts to maintain and develop this fine instrument throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century it really had seen the end of its glorious days.

By the 1950's the church was in danger of demolition and the organ unplayable. Following the restoration of the Church which reopened in 2004 the Friends of Christ Church Spitalfields, committed themselves to restoring the organ which they completed in 2015.

For more information: Nicholas Thistlethwaite: 'The 1735 Richard Bridge Organ.'

### The 2015 Specification

#### Great Organ (GG-d<sup>3</sup>, 56 notes)

Open Diapason	8
Open Diapason	8
Stopt Diapason	8
Principal	4
Principal	4
Twelfth	2 <sup>2/3</sup>
Fifteenth	2
Tierce	1 <sup>3/5</sup>
Larigot	1 <sup>1/3</sup>
Sesquialtra	V
Furniture	III
Cornet c <sup>#1</sup>	V
Trumpet	8
Trumpet	8
Bassoon	8
Clarion	4

#### Swell Organ (g-d<sup>3</sup>, 32 notes)

Open Diapason	8
Stopt Diapason	8
Principal	4
Flute	4
German Flute	4
Cornet III	III
Trumpet	8
Hautboy	8
Clarion	4

#### Choir Organ (GG-d<sup>3</sup>, 56 notes)

Flute to Cfaut	8
Stopt Diapason	8
Principal	4
Flute	4
Fifteenth	2
Mixture	III
Cremona	8
Voxhumane	8
French horn (d)	8

#### Pedal Organ (GG-e<sup>1</sup>, 34 notes)

Open Diapason	16
Principal	8
Trumpet	8
Great to Pedal	
Choir to Pedal	
Drum Pedal, C (4 pipes)	

Temperament: 5th comma meantone  
Pitch: 440 Hz at 20°C