

Colchester Moot Hall Organ

Organ Specification

The organ was constructed in the Moot Hall in 1902 by the firm of Norman & Beard of Norwich. It is situated at one end of the Moot Hall on a platform and is housed in a solid oak case, carved by Fabrucci & McCrossan and constructed by Kerridge & Shaw of Cambridge.

The organ is being restored by Harrison & Harrison Ltd of Durham, the funds are provided by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and the Friends of the Moot Hall Organ.

The specification of the organ will be as follows:

W = wood; M = metal

Pedal Organ (C-f, 30 notes)

Open Diapason	16	Wood
Bourdon	16	Stopped wood
Principal	8	Derived from Open Diapason
Flute	8	Derived from Bourdon

Choir Organ (C-c⁴; 61 notes)

Viole d'orchestre	8	M; Harrison & Harrison, 2014
Lieblich Gedackt	8	W & M; new from c25-c61 in 1972
Dulciana	8	M
Concert Flute	4	M
Orchestral Clarinet	8	M; Harrison & Harrison, 2014
Choir Sub		
Choir Octave		
Tremulant		

Great Organ (C-c⁴; 61 notes)

Double Open Diapason	16	W & M
Grand Open Diapason	8	M, heavy gauge, leathery lips
Claribel Flute Harmonique	8	W, part harmonic
Octave	4	M
Hohl Flute	4	W
Fifteenth	2	M
Mixture	IV	M, composition: 12:15:19.22
Posaune	8	M, hooded
Clarion	4	M, hooded – independent rank
Reeds Sub Octave		

Swell Organ (C-c⁴; 61 notes)

Contra Gamba	16	W & M
Open Diapason	8	M
Rohr Flute	8	W and M with wooden stoppers
Viol d'Amour	8	M
Voix Celestes	8	M from Tenor C up
Principal	4	M



Harmonic Gemshorn	2	M Harrison & Harrison, 2014
Mixture	IV	M 15:19:22:26
Horn	8	M
Oboe	8	M
Swell Octave		
Reeds Sub Octave		
Tremulant		

Couplers

Swell to Great
Swell to Choir
Swell to Pedal

Choir to Great
Choir to Pedal

Great to Pedal

3 Composition pedals to Great Organ
4 Composition Pedals to the Swell organ
1 Great to Pedal on and off (reversible)

'The whole of the pipework to have spotted metal trebles and to be voiced on special principles – producing the finest Orchestral quality of sound.'

'The action to be Tubular-pneumatic throughout of the most improved principal (patent 18373 [dated] 1891).'

The pitch of the organ was formerly C=517Hz (A=435Hz) which was known as 'Normal Continental Queen's Hall USA PMA 1891 or French New Pitch'. This was changed to modern pitch (A=440Hz) between 5 August and 19 September 1952. This modern pitch will be retained in the restoration work.

William McVicker
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