

YORK MINSTER



[Photo: Martin Doering]

The origins of the Minster organ go back to 1834, when Elliot & Hill built an ambitious but problematic organ of 75 stops; the case, front pipes and two 32ft stops survive today. Hill & Son reconstructed this organ in 1859, with a modern compass and 69 stops. In 1903 J.W. Walker & Sons built a new organ with a revised layout, retaining the old case and some rescaled and revoiced Hill stops. This instrument forms the core of the present organ.

In 1917 Harrison & Harrison augmented and revoiced the Great Organ high-pressure chorus and reeds, and added the famous Tuba Mirabilis, thus increasing the organ's impact in the immense space of the nave. Further work was done in 1931, when a new console and actions were provided.

A rebuild in 1960 by J.W. Walker had the intention of making the organ more suitable for the performance of the Baroque repertoire. There was extensive tonal revision, in the course of which wind pressures were lowered and the Mixtures reconfigured. Principal Pipe Organs made further alterations to the pipework and mechanism in 1993.

An important aim of the major work being carried out in 2018-20 is to recapture the musical character and energy of the organ as left in 1931 by Harrison & Harrison, while maintaining the instrument's versatility within this aesthetic and bringing the diverse pipework together in a coherent tonal structure. New slider soundboards and electro-pneumatic actions will be provided, and the layout will be conservatively revised, allowing the waisted lower part of the case once again to be visible.

HARRISON & HARRISON

2020

YORK MINSTER

PEDAL ORGAN

1. <i>a</i>	Double Open Wood	(from 4)	32
2. <i>a</i>	Double Open Diapason		32
3. <i>h</i>	Open Wood I		16
4. <i>a/c</i>	Open Wood II		16
5. <i>c</i>	Open Diapason		16
6. <i>e</i>	Violone		16
7. <i>c</i>	Sub Bass		16
8. <i>c</i>	Gamba		16
9. <i>h</i>	Octave Wood	(from 3)	8
10. <i>d</i>	Principal		8
11. <i>g</i>	Flute		8
12. <i>g</i>	Fifteenth		4
13. <i>f/h</i>	Mixture	12.17.19.22	IV
14. <i>h</i>	Double Ophicleide	(from 16)	32
15. <i>c</i>	Double Trombone	(from 17)	32
16. <i>e</i>	Ophicleide		16
17. <i>c</i>	Trombone		16
18. <i>g</i>	Fagotto		16
19. <i>e</i>	Posaune	(from 16)	8
20. <i>g</i>	Trumpet		8
21. <i>h</i>	Clarion	(from 16)	4

I Choir to Pedal *II* Great to Pedal *III* Swell to Pedal
IV Solo to Pedal *V* Pedal Divide

CHOIR ORGAN

22. <i>b/c</i>	Lieblich Bourdon		16
23. <i>b</i>	Open Diapason		8
24. <i>b/c</i>	Lieblich Gedackt		8
25. <i>c</i>	Gamba		8
26. <i>b</i>	Gemshorn		4
27. <i>b</i>	Claribel Flute		4
28. <i>b/f</i>	Nazard		2 ² / ₃
29. <i>g</i>	Flautina		2
30. <i>b/f</i>	Tierce		1 ³ / ₅
31. <i>g/h</i>	Mixture	15.19.22	III

VI Tremulant
VII Octaves Alone *VIII* Solo to Choir
IX Swell to Choir *X* Choir and Great exchange

GREAT ORGAN

32. <i>b/c</i>	Double Open Diapason		16
33. <i>b/c</i>	Double Stopped Diapason		16
34. <i>h</i>	Open Diapason I		8
35. <i>d</i>	Open Diapason II		8
36. <i>c</i>	Open Diapason III		8
37. <i>b</i>	Open Diapason IV		8
38. <i>b</i>	Salicional		8
39. <i>c</i>	Hohl Flute		8
40. <i>b</i>	Stopped Diapason		8
41. <i>d</i>	Octave		4
42. <i>b</i>	Principal		4
43. <i>c</i>	Harmonic Flute		4
44. <i>c</i>	Octave Quint		2 ² / ₃
45. <i>d</i>	Super Octave		2
46. <i>h</i>	Harmonics	17.19.21.22	IV
47. <i>d</i>	Mixture	15.19.22	III
48. <i>h</i>	Mixture	15.19.22.26.29	V
49. <i>c</i>	Contra Posaune		16
50. <i>c</i>	Posaune		8
51. <i>h</i>	Clarion		4
52. <i>c/d</i>	Tromba		8
53. <i>c/d</i>	Octave Tromba		4

XI Posaunes on Choir *XII* Posaunes on Pedal
XIII Trombas on Choir *XIV* Trombas on Solo
XV Choir to Great *XVI* Swell to Great
XVII Solo to Great

SWELL ORGAN

54. <i>b/c</i>	Bourdon		16
55. <i>b</i>	Open Diapason		8
56. <i>b/c</i>	Violin Diapasons	(2 ranks)	8
57. <i>b/c</i>	Rohr Flute		8
58. <i>c</i>	Echo Gamba		8
59. <i>c</i>	Voix Céleste	(low A)	8
60. <i>c</i>	Principal		4
61. <i>c</i>	Wald Flute		4
62. <i>b</i>	Fifteenth		2
63. <i>c</i>	Mixture	15.19.22	III
64. <i>b/c</i>	Dulciana Mixture	19.22.26	III
65. <i>c</i>	Double Trumpet		16
66. <i>c</i>	Trumpet		8
67. <i>c</i>	Horn		8
68. <i>c</i>	Oboe		8
69. <i>b</i>	Clarion		4

XVIII Tremulant
XIX Octave *XX* Unison Off *XXI* Sub Octave
XXII Solo to Swell

SOLO ORGAN

(70-81 enclosed)

70. <i>c</i>	Echo Dulciana		8
71. <i>e</i>	Viole d'Orchestre		8
72. <i>g</i>	Viole Céleste	(low A)	8
73. <i>c/h</i>	Harmonic Flute		8
74. <i>c</i>	Concert Flute		4
75. <i>h</i>	Harmonic Piccolo		2
76. <i>c</i>	Bassoon		16
77. <i>h</i>	Clarinet		8
78. <i>c</i>	Orchestral Oboe		8
79. <i>c</i>	Vox Humana		8

<i>XXIII</i> Tremulant			
80. <i>c</i>	Contra Tuba		16
81. <i>c</i>	Tuba		8
82. <i>d</i>	Tuba Mirabilis		8

XXIV Octave *XXV* Unison Off *XXVI* Sub Octave
XXVII Enclosed Solo on Swell

COMBINATION COUPLERS

XXVIII Great & Pedal Combinations Coupled
XXIX Generals on Swell foot pistons
XXX West shutters On

ACCESSORIES

Eight foot pistons to the Pedal Organ
Eight foot pistons to the Swell Organ
Reversible foot pistons to *II*, *XXVII*; 15
Eight thumb pistons to the Choir Organ
Eight thumb pistons to the Great Organ
Eight thumb pistons to the Swell Organ
Eight thumb pistons to the Solo Organ
Reversible thumb pistons to *I-IV*, *VIII*,
IX, *XV-XXVII*, *XXII*, *XXVII*; 1
Eight general pistons and general cancel
Stepper, operating general pistons in sequence
16 divisional and 999 general memory levels
Balanced expression pedals to the Swell and
Solo Organs

ORIGINS OF PIPEWORK

<i>a</i> 1834 Elliot & Hill	<i>e</i> 1931 Harrison & Harrison
<i>b</i> 1859 William Hill & Son	<i>f</i> 1960 J W Walker & Sons
<i>c</i> 1903 J W Walker & Sons	<i>g</i> 1993 Principal Pipe Organs
<i>d</i> 1917 Harrison & Harrison	<i>h</i> 2020 Harrison & Harrison

The manual compass is 58 notes; the pedal 30 notes.

The key actions are electro-pneumatic

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