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THE ORGAN – QUEEN OF INSTRUMENTS AND PART OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

ORGULJE - KRALJICA GLAZBALA I DIO KULTURNE BAŠTINE

ABSTRACT

Cultural heritage in any of its forms through its diversity and peculiarity represents the wealth of mankind, and its preservation is one of the most important factors for recognising, defining and achieving recognition of cultural identity. Organ is not only an instrument or a tool used during the church service, but it can certainly be claimed to be an inevitable part of cultural heritage. It is one of the most ancient types of musical instruments that is passed on from generation to generation for centuries. For this reason, its cultural value is practically invaluable. This paper provides main information on the organ, its main constituent parts and the building systems used from the very beginning of the organ building until the present day. More than eight hundred organs are registered altogether in the Republic of Croatia. The purpose of this paper is to give an overview of the most important organs that can be found in five counties in the eastern Croatia that represent an important and valuable part both of the Croatian and the European cultural heritage. By the number of registers (but not their cultural value) the largest organs can be found in the cathedrals of Osijek, Đakovo and Požega. Beside the organs, the most important organ builders are also discussed in this paper. Some of the organs belong to the category of cultural monuments that have to be taken care of and maintained regularly. Therefore, they are under the protection of the Ministry of Culture, which is in charge of the development of mechanisms and the establishment of cultural heritage protection measures with the aim to provide their sustainability. The protection and preservation of cultural heritage ensure the persistence of cultural values and provide a potential for further development of the Republic of Croatia, its reputation, the stimulation of economic competitiveness as well as a better quality life in the European environment. This is very important having in mind the fact that many organs in the eastern Croatia were severely damaged or even completely destroyed during the Homeland war.

Key words: cultural heritage, musical instrument, organ, organ builder, Slavonia, Croatia

SAŽETAK

Kulturna baština u bilo kojem postojećem obliku svojom raznolikošću i posebnošću predstavlja bogatstvo čovječanstva, a njezino očuvanje jedan je od najvažnijih čimbenika za prepoznavanje, definiranje i afirmaciju kulturnog identiteta. Orgulje nisu samo glazbalo ili pomagalo koje se koristi za vrijeme bogoslužja već se za njih sa sigurnošću može ustvrditi da predstavljaju nezaobilazan dio kulturne baštine. Riječ je o jednoj o najstarijih vrsta glazbala koja se stoljećima prenose iz pokoljenja u pokoljenje te je stoga njihova kulturološka vrijednost praktički neprocjenjiva. Ovaj rad daje osnovne informacije o orguljama, glavnim dijelovima od kojih se ta glazbala sastoje te o sistemima gradnje koji su se koristili od početka gradnje orgulja do današnjih dana. U Republici Hrvatskoj sveukupno je evidentirano više od osamsto orgulja. Cilj ovog rada je dati prikaz najznačajnijih orgulja koje se nalaze u pet županija na području istočne Slavonije koje svakako čine značajan i veoma vrijedan dio kako hrvatske tako i europske kulturne baštine od kojih su po broju registara (ne i po kulturološkoj vrijednosti) najveće one koje se nalaze u katedralama u Osijeku, Đakovu i Požegi. Osim samih glazbala u radu su navedeni i najznačajniji graditelji orgulja. Neke od orgulja ubrajaju se u spomenike kulture o kojima treba redovito brinuti i održavati ih te samim time podliježu zaštiti Ministarstva kulture koje je zaduženo za razoj mehanizama i uspostavljanje mjera zaštite kulturne baštine s ciljem osiguranja njene održivosti. Zaštitom i očuvanjem kulturne baštine osigurava se postojanost kulturnih vrijednosti kao i potencijala za daljnji razvitak Republike Hrvatske, njenu afirmaciju, stimulaciju ekonomske konkurentnosti i kvalitetnijeg života u europskom okruženju što je veoma bitno imajući u vidu činjenicu da je podosta orgulja na području istočne Slavonije bilo znatno oštećeno pa čak i u potpunosti uništeno za vrijeme domovinskog rata.

Ključne riječi: kulturna baština, glazbalo, orgulje, graditelj orgulja, istočna Slavonija, Hrvatska

1. Introduction

As the name itself suggests, cultural heritage is something that earlier generations have created and nourished for years. It is the legacy of the past. Division of cultural heritage is regulated by law and according to this division cultural goods are divided into immovable cultural goods such as cities, villages, archaeological sites, parks, etc., mobile cultural goods such as collections of objects in museums, church inventory items, ethnographic objects, films, etc., and intangible cultural goods such as languages, dialects, folk art, traditional art, etc. (The Law on the Protection and Preservation of Cultural Heritage, 1999. art. 7th to 9th). According to this division organs are included into mobile cultural goods, and as such are recorded as well by the Ministry of Culture from which side large number of organ have a status of protected cultural goods. This paper consists of four chapters. The first chapter contains a brief introduction. The second chapter presents basic information about history of the organ from its beginning to the present day, as well as a brief overview of the development of organ through history in Croatia and explained the basic parts of organ. The third chapter provides a view of the most important organs in eastern and a brief overview of the most important organ builders who worked in this area in previous years as well as today. The fourth chapter is a conclusion.

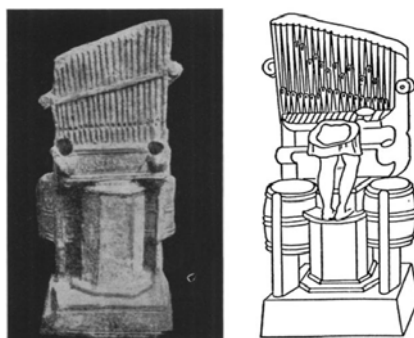
2. Organ – the queen of music

2.1. A brief historical overview

The history of the organ dates back to the third century BC. The oldest preserved sample today originates from 228th BC. The instrument was probably invented in 246th BC, and its technical performance was based on the principle of hydraulics (Dearling, 2005, 230). The organ was the oldest instrument with keys with three basic features of construction, and these are group of

separately tuned pipes, artificially air supply and the keys that allowed entry of air into the closed pipe. Greek engineer Ctesibius who worked in Alexandria is considered to be the inventor of organ (Apel, 1948, 192). For the ancient Greeks and Romans, organ was secular instrument which was used for entertainment and in circuses. Figure 1 shows a clay model of organ from Carthage. In the eight century organ were introduced in Western Church, while Orthodox Church never actually introduced them (degl' Ivelio, 2008,1). In a letter to his father from 17th October 1777., W. A. Mozart called organ the queen of all instruments.

Figure 1 A clay model of organ from Carthage



Source: Apel, W. (1948.): *Early History of the Organ, Speculum*, Vol. 23, No. 2, page 197

2.2. Development of organ in Croatia

The oldest archival information about organ in Croatia are from 14th century. In the 1359th organ were mention in the church of St. Mark at Gradec in Zagreb (Hudovsky, 1968, 4). At that time, the organ receive the church of St. Anastasia in Zadar as well. Father Urban, organ builder in St. Mark in Venice, builds organ for the Cathedral in city of Trogir, of which today have survived only painted doors, the work of Gentile Bellini from the 1489th. Zagreb Cathedral gets its first organ around 1480th, and in Pula they were first mentioned in 1417th. In 1649th Zagreb Cathedral has supplied organ from organ builder Gregor Strukel. The oldest still standing organ in Croatia is from the early 17th century. It is a group of six small organ and positives from Lepoglava, Varazdin, Zlogonje and Vukovje. In the area of southern Croatia there are registered only remnants of organ from Carlo de Benni in Labinci, and remnants of organs from St. Justine in Rab (Meder, 1992, 11). With the census of academician Ladislav Saban from 1972.-1975. in Croatia are registered 774 organ in the period from the 1649th up to 1974th (Armano, 2006, 21).

2.3. The essential parts of the organ

Dugan in his book "Doctrine studies about instruments with special regard on organ" cites that organ is instrument of very intricate structure that consists of many parts. As the most important parts of organ he points out pipes, bellows and devices by which the air as needed is introduced in individual pipes, and in these devices are included console, windchest and action which represent the combination of console with pipes (Dugan, 1944, 144). Figure 2 shows console of organ in Dakovo cathedral. This figure clearly indicates that this is an organ with three keyboards. At the base of console there is pedal - keyboard which is played by foot, which is in generally another organ specificity. Figure 3 shows front or head of the organ with pipes. These organs are located in the Franciscan monastery in Osijek. Pipes which are standing in the organ front actually belongs to the group of principals.

Figure 2 Console



Source: Šercer Mario, own collection

Figure 3 Front



Source: Šercer Mario, own collection

In the previous section of this chapter it was mentioned that the pipes are connected with the console using action, and according to performance of action the organs are divided into mechanical, pneumatic and electrical organs (Adelung, 1991, 129). At mechanical action airflow through each pipe is released through interconnected levers and bars. For pneumatic action working medium is air, while at electrical action electromagnetic valves are used for transmission of impulse. Chronologically observed, first actions were mechanical, but it is worth to mention that this work system is still in use and it is most popular among organists.

3. The organ in the eastern Croatia

3.1. Statistical review

According to data from the Ministry of Culture in Croatia is today listed about eight hundred organ, of which 261 of them are under protection of the Ministry of Culture. In the five counties of eastern Croatia by the end of March 2013. under the protection of the Croatian Ministry of Culture is located 45 organ as it is shown in Table 1. The exact number of organ in the entire Croatian territory as well as in the eastern Croatia is not known because data collected through years are still not statistically analyzed.

Table 1 Number of organ protected by the Ministry of Culture in the eastern Croatia

Osijek-Baranja county	20
Vukovar-Srijem county	6
Brodsko-posavska county	8
Požeško-slavonska county	9
Virovitičko-podravska county	2
Total	45

Source: Šercer Mario, own drawing

3.2. The most prominent organ in the eastern Croatia

Each organ is made individually according to the characteristics of the space in which they will be placed, both acoustically and visually. Their value is not just the value of one instrument and it would certainly be wrong to evaluate them according to their size, material values or according to the number of embedded pipes. The organ are transferd from generation to generation, and as mentioned in previous chapters they represent the cultural heritage and this is the fact which gives the organ its special and priceless value. The oldest data about the existence of the organ in general

in Slavonia refers to the church of St. Michael in the citadle in Osijek from 1699 (Šaban, 1983, 632). It was smaller positive for which it is assumed that it has arrived from Graz through the Drava river. It was replaced by the organ from 1759., and in the end by the Fischer organ from 1830. of which today has left only organ case. From the organ from 1890. built by Lorenzo Fabinga, the only thing that have left are pipes, everything else is the work of Franco Jenko from 1937. With the biedermeier elegance organ case of the organ is artistic decoration of the church, and with the quality of rich sound it is a befitting musical correlative to the artistic and stylish valuable inventory of the church (Meder, 1992, 142). In the recent research in the parish church of the Holy Name of Mary in Osijek Lower Town there were found data about positive built in the 1674th which was built by Joseph Aurum form Graz (Ban, 2004, 218). The same positive is now in good condition and is used in the liturgy even more than a church organ. During the World War 1st, positive was alomst alienated from the church, but it was excluded because of its artistic value (Adžić, 2011, 9). On of the most famous, and certainly the largest organ are located in the Co-Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul. These large concert organ with three keybord and 62 registry were built by the austrian company Mauracher and by according to the size they are among the largest organ in Croatia (archival data of the Ministry of Culture, 2013). Among the data about organ collected in the archives of the Ministry of Culture it is worth to mention cathedral organ at the Co-Cathedral of St. Peter in Djakovo which are among the highest in the Croatian churches in general. The first organ that were designed by the Viennese architect Friedrich von Schmidt and built by bishop Jospi Juraj Strossmayer were completed 1882nd, and burned in the fire in 1933. (Damjanović, 2007, 254). Detailed design of these organ is shown in Figure 3. A new organ to its original form, but larger scale with 73 registers and 5486 pipes, has built Slovenian Franc Jenko in 1936. (Jarm, 1993, 176).

Figure 3 Modified detailed design from Friderich von Schmidt for organ from Djakovo Cathedral, the end of 1878th – the beginning of the 1879th.



Source: Damjanović, D. (2007.): *First and second organ of today's Djakovo Cathedral*, *Arti musices - Croatian Musicological Review*, Vol.38, No.2, page 246.

Certainly it is worth to mention organ in the church of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Valpovo whose organ case is high artistic quality. They were built by the Casper Fischer from Apatin in 1805. In the Osijek-Branja county arguably one of the most important organs are located in the church of St. Anthony of Padua in Nasice. According to the data from the archives of the Ministry of Culture organ were procured in Budim in 1776th at „master Joseph“ (probably Jozsef Janicska, born in Prague). Although over the time they have experienced more reconstructions they are mostly original. They have big historical and artistic value. Colossal organ case, which is the work of local franciscan master carpenter is culmination of woodcarving in 18th century in Croatia. One of the most valuable organ in Vukovar county is located in the church of St. John of Capistrano in Ilok. They were built in the 1838th by the builder Friar Ignatius Lehner. As a valuable historical monument and very well preserved work from the first half of the 19th century, these organs are among the most important achievements in this region (Meder, 1992, 198). Near Ilok in Vinkovci church of St. Polion and Eusebio are organ which were built around 1850. by the builder Franz Vogt from Pecuh. Among the most prominent organ are organ located in the church of St. Trinity in Slavonski Brod. Their builder, Ignatius Lehner completed them in 1838. and they are among one of the most important Croatian instruments from the first half of 19th century. Cathedral in Pozega received a new modern organ from German builder Wolfgang Eisenbarth in 2007. In church of St. Lovro in Pozega there are organ from Croatian organ Ferdinand Heferer built in 1896. In the church of St. Rok in Virovitica Reieger brothers from Jagendorf (today Krnov in the Czech) built organ with 20 registers at the beginning of the twentieth century (around 1900.), which are one of the best preserved Rieger works preserved in this area. Another instrument deserves to be mentioned as a valuable part of the cultural heritage and that is physharmonica from the Vienna master Peter Tietz. It was built in the mid-nineteenth century, the exact year is not known (Armano, 2006, 28). Musicologist Branka Ban from Osijek has found Titz physharmonica in the south tower of parish church of St. Michael the Archangel in the 2002. Physharmonica, although damaged was still able to be played (Ban, 2006, 14). Heritage value of found physharmonica confirms the fact that there are few examples of Titz physharmonica in the world, but they have not been preserved in its original state.

3.3. The most important organ builders in the eastern Croatia

During the time in eastern Slavonia organs were built by many different organ builders. Unfortunately, for a number of organs data about their builders are not found as the organ procurement documents had not been made or have been lost or destroyed. On the other hand, from some organs labels with information about their builders were severed or removed. Thus, for the organ in the church of St. Michael the Archangel in the Lower Miholjac is assumed that they have been built around 1852nd by an excellent masterly hand, and these organs are among the most important senior instruments in Croatia in general. On the outside of the organ case are the initials of the donor CBP (Conrad baron Prandau), while name of the builder is not known (archival data of the Ministry of Culture, 2013). In the mid-nineteenth century, precisely in the 1833. the Andrew Febing in Osijek founded organ company that has been building instruments until about 1920. and a plenty of pneumatic organs were built in the period from 1907. to 1931.by Vaclav Venceslav Holub from Pozega (Bush, Kassel, 2006, 130). One of the most important organ originating from eastern Croatia certainly is famous organ builder from Baranja Josef Angster, born in the 1834. in the village Jagodnjak, then Kacsfalú (Varga, 2008, 145). Certainly worth mentioning is Heferer company whose activity in the are of Croatia are constant from the 1868. (Armano, 2006, 33).

4. Conclusion

Organ on Croatian territory exists for nearly seven centuries, which suggests that they are not just instruments made up of thousands of parts that are commonly used in the liturgy. Once built, they serve to generations for several centuries; as a musical instrument and as a monument of time in

which they are incurred. Organs are not just a part of cultural heritage, but also a piece of history. Churches throughout the eastern Croatia boast a host of valuable organ. Unfortunately, during the war, numerous organs are partially or completely destroyed, but also a lot of them have been restored during the reconstruction or have been built a new ones. The largest contribution to the creation of organs certainly have their builders. Organs that are located in the eastern Croatia were built by the prominent organ companies and organists from the time in which they worked, and some of the most important are Andrew Fabing from Osijek, builder from Baranja Josef Angster, builder from Vienne Peter Titz, Jan Tucek from the Kutna Hora in Czech Republic, german builder Josef Brandl, croatian organ workshop Heferer and many others. The fact that in Croatia there are more than eight hundred organs says that it is really rich cultural heritage to which is certainly necessary to devote as much attention as possible to maintenance of existing organs, and restoration and repair of those derelict or damaged in any way. Croatian Ministry of Culture has a rich collection of data collected through decades, but it should be emphasized that this data should be professionally processed and digitized because this is the only way for data to become accessible and usable to all users.

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