

Wurlitzer Ranks List – compiled by Al Sefl

I make no guarantees about the accuracy or completeness of the information that follows. It is still a work in progress at this time, January 10, 2002. All I was doing for the last 40+ years was putting stuff in my notebooks about what ranks I saw at various installations. After the rank name was the number of pipes in the rank, compass, the type of pipe, and the lowest pitch seen. An odd listing like the Nazard appears on a Wurlitzer tubular pneumatic chapel organ and other odd listings are likewise from instruments that would not be considered part of the mass production. Some pipes are physically the same with two names like the French Trumpet which appears to be identical to the non-brass small scaled Trumpet rank found in the church model organs. Here then is my rough compilation of ranks included in Wurlitzer organs of all types now with data from other researchers included:

Rank name seen	Max. Compass	Type	Lowest pitch
1. Aeoline	73 notes	Flue	8'
2. Celestina	61 notes	String	8'
3. Cello	73 notes	String	8'
Cello Celeste	73 notes	String	8'
4. Clarinet	73 notes	Reed	16'
5. Concert Flute/Bourdon	97 notes	Flue	16'
Bourdon (extension)	12 notes	Flue	32'
6. Cornopean	73 notes	Reed	8'
7. Cor Anglais	73 notes	Reed	16'
8. Diaphonic Diapason	85 notes	Diaphone/Flue	32'
9. Diapason, Horn	85 notes	Diaphone/Flue	16'
10. Diapason, Open	85 notes	Diaphone/Flue	16'
11. Diapason, Double Open (wood)	32 note	Flue	16'
12. Diapason Phonon	73 notes	Flue	8'
13. Diapason, Principal	73 notes	Flue	8'
14. Diapason, Stopped	73 notes	Flue	8'
15. Doppelflute	61 notes	Flue	8'
16. Dulce Flute	73 notes	Flue	8'
Dulce Flute Celeste	49 notes	Flue	8'
17. Dulciana	73 notes	Flue	8'
Unda Maris (celeste)	61 notes	Flue	8'
18. Echo Flute (wood)	61 notes	Flue	8'
19. Flute (wood)	73 notes	Flue	8'
20. English Horn	73 notes	Reed	16'
21. Flute D'Amour	61 notes	Flue	8'
22. French Horn	73 notes	Reed	8'
23. Gamba	85 notes	String	16'
Gamba Celeste	73 notes	String	8'
24. Gedeckt	85 notes	Flue	16'
25. Gemshorn	73 notes	Flue	8'
Gemshorn Celeste	73 notes	Flue	8'
26. Harmonic Flute	73 notes	Flue	4'
27. Kerauliphone	73 notes	Flue	8'
28. Krumet	61 notes	Reed	8'
29. Kinura	61 notes	Reed	8'
30. Lieblich Flute (wood)	73 notes	Flue	8'
31. Lieblich Gedeckt (metal)	73 notes	Flue	8'
32. Melodia	61 notes	Flue	8'
33. Musette	61 notes	Reed	8'
34. Muted Viol	61 notes	String	8'
Muted Viol Celeste	61 notes	String	8'
35. Nazard	49 notes	Flue	2-2/3'
36. Oboe Horn	85 notes	Reed	16'
37. Oboe, Orchestral	61 notes	Reed	8'
38. Quintadena	61 notes	Flue	8'
Quintadena Celeste	61 notes	Flue	8'

Quintaten (Quintadena bass extension)	12 notes	Flue	16'
39. Philomela	73 notes	Flue	8'
40. Salicional	73 notes	String	8'
Voix Celeste	61 notes	String	8'
41. Saxophone, Brass	61 notes	Reed	8'
42. Saxophone, early Hoyt Metal	37 notes	Reed	8' TC
43. Saxophone, late Dennison style	61 notes	Reed	8'
44. Solo String	85 notes	String	16'
Solo String Celeste	73 notes	String	16'
45. Spitz Flute (Gemshorn)	61 notes	Flue	8'
Spitz Flute Celeste	61 notes	Flue	8'
46. Tibia Clausa (normal scale)	85 notes	Flue	16'
47. Tibia Clausa (Solo scale)	97 notes	Flue	16'
48. Tibia Plena	97 notes	Flue	16'
49. Trombone/Tromba	73 notes	Reed	16'
50. Trumpet, Brass	61 notes	Reed	8'
51. Trumpet #2, "Style D"	61 notes	Reed	8'
52. Trumpet, French	73 notes	Reed	16'
53. Trumpet, Military	73 notes	Reed	16'
54. Tuba Diaphone (extension)	12 notes	Diaphone	16'
55. Tuba, Harmonic	85 notes	Reed	16'
Tuba Profunda (ext.)			
56. Tuba Horn	85 notes	Reed	16'
Ophicliede (pedal ext.)			
57. Tuba Mirabilis	85 notes	Reed	16'
Bombarde (pedal ext.)		Reed	32'
58. Viol d' Amour	73 notes	String	8'
VDA Celeste	73 notes	String	8'
59. Viol d' Orchestra	85 notes	String	8'
VDO Celeste (rarely sharp and a flat both)	73 notes	String	8'
60. Viola	73 notes	String	8'
Viola Celeste	73 notes	String	8'
61. Violin	85 notes	String	8'
Violin Celeste TC	73 notes	String	8'
62. Violina	61 notes	String	8'
Violina Celeste	49 notes	String	8'
63. Vox Humana	73 notes	Reed	8'
Vox Humana (chorus ext.)	12 notes	Reed	16'
64. Vox Humana (Solo Scale)	61 notes	Reed	8'
65. Vox Angelica	73 notes	String	8'
Vox Angelica Celeste	73 notes	String	8'
66. Wood Diaphone	32 notes set	Diaphone	32'
67. Waldhorn (Cornoepan)	73 notes	Reed	8'

I am indebted to Ian Mclver who acquainted me with the interesting diversions from standard US Wurlitzer pipework that is to be found in the UK. Specifically the French Trumpet and the late odd Dennison style non-brass Saxophones. Also with Ian's urging I have added the Waldhorn (nee Cornoepan) found in the Radio City Music Hall. I am also indebted to Ray Thursby for his information about the 16' Solo String having a Celeste on some studio instruments and for jogging my memory about the Fisher Theatre Double Open Diapasons, wood from 16'. Ray also had information about a Stopped Diapason and a Kerauliphone! Steve Durham asked about the Philomela in the Plummer Auditorium, Fullerton, California, and then I realized I had copied the list one off and left out the Philomela. John Ledwon posted about his Viol d'Amour and Celeste that I had forgotten about so it is included now. Robert Trousdale was kind enough to add the rare items in Plummer to the list, including a Cornoepan, Larry Chace provided information about the Military Trumpet, and Tom De Lay confirmed that Gemshorns were in fact listed under that name rather than Spitzflute which I first listed. Tom also reminded me I had seen the extremely rare metal Lieblich Gedeckt in one of his contract instruments and has in his possession a Wurlitzer Diapason Phonon. In summation, a list like this is not the work of one person and there will always be the oddity that pops up to prove you haven't yet arrived at a complete, one hundred percent accurate, listing; but, stay tuned, I'll keep compiling.

"Special thanks go to Bill Schlotter, Rudy Frey, and Kevin King for incorporating some of the rarest pipework in the world into the ATOS NorCal Chapter Organ in the Berkeley Community Theatre and certainly helped to expand my list."

As for the Mixture in the Radio City Music Hall, is it a Fournature, Zimbel, Scharff, Quint, or what? I'll add it to the list as soon as I find out where it belongs.

Corrections and additions welcome.

Al Sefl < ASeflPipes@aol.com >

At the age where he has to write everything down...

And then loses the paper...

©Reserved - cause this just might go into a book someday.