



## Rodgers Testimonials



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**Irchester, Mr Martin Gibson**

Until recently I was unaware of Church Organ World until I accessed the Rodgers Organ USA website. They directed me to their UK outlet at Church Organ World which turned out to be my lucky day.

From my initial telephone call to the invitation to visit their premises at Shaw I was treated in a very special way. It matters not that one is an experienced musician or a keen amateur (I include myself in the latter category) they are most helpful and understanding. Their knowledge of all aspects of digital organs coupled with Ian Tracey's involvement with the company means that they have to be one of the leaders in this field. After much thought I eventually decided on the purchase of the Rodgers Artist draw stop 599. This is a fantastic instrument with more voices than you can imagine and quite honestly I would find it difficult to improve on this model which is just right for my needs. At no time was I pressured into buying a particular make/model - I was just given their honest opinions and advice.

In conclusion I would most certainly recommend anyone aspiring to all things digital to contact Church Organ World - and by the way they make a lovely cup of coffee !!

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**Lois Smith - Organist, St. Luke's Church Wimbledon**

Although the small size of our church's budget must have made this a relatively inconsequential order for Rodgers budget we were treated in a friendly, professional manner right from the initial phone call I made. The whole process took over two years, but Richard was patient, and helpful with handling the diocese. When it came to fitting the organ Rodgers took the time needed to voice the organ for our building. We have ended up with an organ that is within our budget but yet is versatile, making a variety of different sounds. The congregational singing (especially over Christmas) has been lifted and we are all appreciating the depth of the organ sound as it fills the building. I would have no hesitation in recommending both Rodgers!

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**Richard Carr - Director of Music at St. Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford**

The Rodgers 599UK series organ, with its English console layout and stop disposition, is proving itself to be an excellent temporary substitute for our pipe organ. The high quality amplification and voicing options produce a very convincing sound, and the service and support we have received from Rodgers has been excellent.

As a church with a strong musical tradition and a thriving SATB choir we wanted to try and hire a digital organ that was as close as possible to the "real thing" whilst our pipe organ was being rebuilt by Mander Organs. Our considerations extended to specification, quality of tone, playability as well as the appearance of the console.

Both myself, as Organist, and our Director of Music did a lot of research into the various options before making a decision and unanimously concluded that the Rodgers 599UK would be the best option for our particular situation. The organ has in fact surpassed our high expectations and the customer service from Rodgers, even though we are just hiring the organ for six months, has been exceptional.

The organ works well leading the congregation in hymn worship, accompanying the choir and as a solo instrument. Our former organ scholar, Alex Jones, has had a lot of fun discovering the full potential of the instrument as a solo instrument and I would commend the You Tube recording of his concert to anyone with an interest in this organ.

Whilst we are very much looking forward to having our traditional pipe organ back from Manders, had this not been an option for us due to cost, I am pretty certain that we would have opted for the Rodgers on a permanent basis and I must admit there are a few stops and features that I will miss when it goes at the end of the year.

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**Robert Stokely - Organist St. Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford**

Thank you once again for organising the loan and I would not hesitate to recommend this instrument to anyone considering purchasing it.

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**Jonathan Clegg - Organ Scholar - Halifax Minster**

This organ has been the core motivator to learning new repertoire. It has allowed me to practice in comfort at home at times that simply weren't practical with previous arrangements. It fits like any piece of furniture and is at home in my bedroom. I cannot fault this instrument and after over 4 years of use I am still finding beautiful sounds and stop combinations to use.

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**Revd Mark Griffin - Vicar - St. Luke's Church Sevenoaks**

We have been absolutely bowled over by the sound and by the way the organ has fitted so well into our life as our church- everyone is very impressed. I think we owe the whole team a great debt of gratitude, and have enjoyed working with you.

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**Malcolm Archer - Director of Chapel Music, Winchester College**

We have recently purchased a Rodgers organ for our St. Michael's Church at Winchester College. We have been delighted by the quality of the sounds and by the versatility of the instrument for playing a variety of repertoire. For this particular space, it has proved to be an ideal organ for liturgical and teaching purposes.

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**Paul Allen - Director of Music, St. George's RC church, Norwich**

Having had the experience of trying out several different companies and their instruments, the team at Rodgers made the final decision easy to make. This was because of their complete and utter professionalism from start to finish and the way they dealt with all the questions that we asked. It goes without saying that the sound is outstanding and the player can feel at ease with a comfortable layout at the console. Well done to the whole Rodgers team and thanks for being so supportive throughout".

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**Dr P A Siepmann LRSM ARCO - Organist & Director of Music, St Peter's Nottingham**

"he Rodgers/MPOS combination organ installed at St Peter's Church Nottingham in December 2010 has met with a very warm reception. We at the church are delighted with it - the Rodgers technology is second to none, and when combined with the huge skill of the Modular Pipe Organ Systems team, the seamless voicing of the digital and pipe components makes for a very fine instrument indeed, and one that even has the sceptics thinking again!"

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**Geoffrey Holroyde. B.Sc., B.Mus., ARCO., Hon. Life Fellow, Birmingham Conservatoire**

"don't like digital organs. The sound is fine when first heard, but after a long exposure it becomes wearisome. Surprisingly, mixing pipes with digitals works well. The unpredictable charm of pipe sounds captures the listener, whilst digitals can add colour and variety. St. Nicholas, Warwick, needed to replace its old (and not good) pipe organ. Cost ruled out a pipe organ. It now has a Rodgers combination organ based on 7 quality pipe ranks, deployed flexibly. Normally at least one pipe rank will be mixed with the digitals. It is a pleasure to play and to listen to.

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**Robert Perkins - St. Nicholas Church Warwick**

As non-technical coordinator of our new organ project, I am delighted with the outcome in the shape of our Rodgers combination organ. Several other organists have played it, and have enjoyed playing. To me, the joy is the way in which the instrument suits the acoustic of our church, and seems to me to have a special warmth in both leading our congregation, and in recital. This is before investigating the potential for using some of the

electronic bells and whistles in other future activities.”

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**Philip Berg, Director of Music - Colet Court Pre School, London**

We are very happy with our Rodgers instrument. It is ideally suited to the space it is in, and has a comprehensive and convincing range of tone colours, from gentle strings to Fanfare Trumpet (with so much in between). The bespoke console is comfortable to play, and the key and pedal actions are wonderful. I would recommend this company to anyone.

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**Helen Parker - Organist - Wesley Methodist Church, West Bromwich**

Everyone is thrilled with the new organ; you probably won't be at all surprised to hear that. We have been most pleased with everything associated with the specification and installation of the new organ, the attention to detail in you searching the web and finding the stop-list for our previous organ was very much appreciated as I had completely forgotten to take details before the old console was taken away. The positioning of the speakers inside the original organ loft in church means that the organ still sounds exactly as a traditional pipe organ would, with the sounds coming out of the loft, the speakers are camouflaged well and can hardly be seen, I sat in the congregation myself and closed my eyes and the effect is fantastic.