

Pipes of the month

8ft Open Diapason I (Great)

8ft Open Diapason II (Great)

16ft Double Open Diapason (Great)

16ft Open Bass (Pedal)

4ft Principal (Great)

4ft Principal (Swell)

2 $\frac{2}{3}$ ft Twelfth (Great)

2ft Fifteenth (Great)

1 $\frac{3}{5}$ ft Tierce (Choir)

The Diapason is the basic tone in the pipe organ - it is a Foundation stop, heard in all divisions of the organ and is the tone quality from which all the other stops are classified.

The tone is unique and completely useable from the lowest bass to the highest treble pitch as it keeps its timbre over the all the octaves.

It has a refreshing and vital sound and is used widely in organ music as it has the characteristic sound of the church organ and forms the base-tone upon which many varieties of sound colour can be placed with other types of pipe (flutes, strings or reeds).

It has a firm pitch and non-fluttering overtones.

The Principal, Twelfth, Fifteenth, Tierce and Open Bass are all forms of Diapason of different pitches and help to build up the depth of sound.

Diapason pipes are usually open flue pipes which means the sound wave produced by the moving air in the pipe is the first harmonic, with the air blown in one end and coming out the other end.

Diapason pipes are usually made from metal, though the open bass pipes in the pedal are wood.

The gold-coloured pipes on the front of the Willis organ are Open Diapason pipes.