

THE AMERICAN ORGANIST

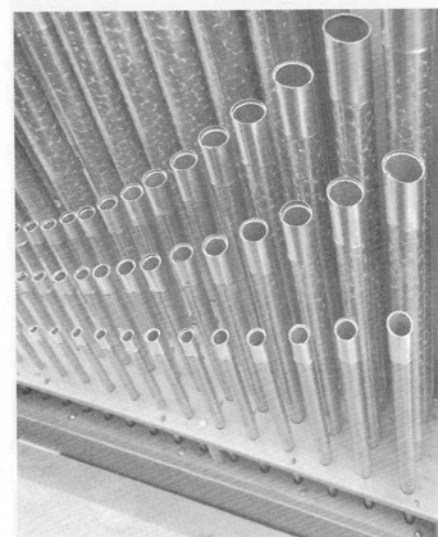
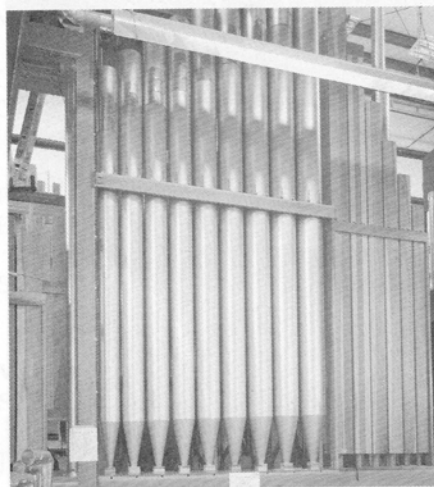
JANUARY 2010



COVER FEATURE

ST. JAMES' CHURCH, NEW YORK CITY

SCHOENSTEIN & CO.



WE ARE TELLING the story of the organs at St. James' Episcopal Church in pictures of shop work, unloading trucks, installation, and finished instruments. Views also show the dedicated support of parishioners and staff led by the Rev. Brenda G. Husson, rector, who was ably assisted by parish manager John Scibilia and project manager Salvatore Barbieri. It was a pleasure to work with music director Davis Wortman and his associate Christopher Jennings. Their good humor throughout the long process and their artistry in bringing out of the organ more than we thought we put into it were highly valued by all of us. Working with Davis had special meaning for me personally because it was his total support and encouragement that made possible our very first comprehensive symphonic organ at Highland Park Presbyterian Church in Dallas (see January 1993 TAO). What was at that time a startling departure from conventional organ design would not have been possible without a client who had faith in the concept, even with no similar organs to audition. He had the fortitude to withstand the criticism of colleagues who thought the idea was outlandish. An organbuilder can receive few greater compliments than a second order from a musician who knows all about the builder's work from lengthy experience with the first order.

JACK M. BETHARDS
President and Tonal Director

Photo credit: Dean Meyers and Louis Patterson

