



english text

## **THE PARABRAHM ORGAN IN THE PROTESTANT CHURCH IN EICHWALDE**

The Parabrahm organ was built at the same time as the Protestant church in Eichwalde – in the year 1908. It is an instrument of the late romantic period of organ building in Germany. The term “Parabrahm” is derived from Indian philosophy and implies the striving for perfection and entirety. Its construction is remarkable, almost unique. Besides the organ itself, built by the Weigle-firm in Echterdingen near Stuttgart, a harmonium is integrated that was built by the Schmiedmeyer company in Stuttgart.

Both instruments can be played separately as well as together ( two organ, one harmonium manual).

The organ has as many as 458 pipes and 9 registers. With its Seraphon register, the patent for which was obtained by the Weigle firm, an its comparatively large windinstrument the organ has a powerful sound.

By using numerous manual and pedal connections, swells etc. a sound volume of almost 70 registers can be reached.

Three organs of this type (Dominator type by Paul Schmidt) were built: the organ in Eichwalde, in 1908, the organ of the Martin Luther church in Berlin-Neukölln (destroyed by bombing in World War II) in 1916 and the one in Liegnitz/Silesia , today`s Legnica in Poland in 1921. The latter has not been preserved in its original form. Thus the Parabrahm organ in Eichwalde is the only remaining instrument of this type in Germany, in Europe, probably in the world.

In 2002 the instrument was fully restored at Christian Scheffler’s organ workshop in Frankfurt/Oder. Since then it has sounded in services and many concerts.