

and beautiful? Yes. Does it help you make music with ease? Yes. Is it inspiring? Yes. Think impressionism: beautiful in a different way than realism (i.e., real pipes). I'm happy to have the full box of paints and brushes, and you can imagine how easy it is to get excited about Romantic and post-Romantic music at Northminster these days.

On principal, is the tracker better? That argument could certainly be made, and the instrument is an old friend that we'd never abandon. We love our Möller pipe organ for what it has to offer—a mechanical key action, percussive chuff, and a great Handel concerto now and then—but with our virtual pipe organ we now have something that can accompany that Handel concerto, play transcriptions, or deliver Howells and Franck with the right registrations. As a player, I find this versatility gratifying—and so inspiring when I put on my composer hat. Having the two instruments may seem a bit ostentatious for our modest building, but together they have enhanced our worship services and concerts so much more than we could have dreamed of when we first began to ponder these possibilities.

So come down to visit us and see it in person. Or hear us in action at [northmin.org/music](http://northmin.org/music).

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Cover photo: Bailey Green



The author, his dog Abbey, and Dan Lemieux

**Northminster Church • Monroe, Louisiana**  
**Meta Organworks • Argyle, New York**

#### Sample Set Collection

Builder	Church/Hall	Location	Stops	Style
Cavaillé-Coll	Saint-Étienne	Caen, France	67	French Romantic
Rosales	Trinity Cathedral	Portland, Oregon	54	American Eclectic
Casavant	First Presbyterian	Bellevue, Washington	74	Canadian Eclectic
E.M. Skinner	Temple Emanu-El	San Francisco, California	88	American Symphonic
Hill	St. Afra	Berlin, Germany	48	Early English Romantic
Sauer	Lutherkirche	Chemnitz, Germany	50	German Romantic
Chapelet	House Organ	Montpon-Ménésterol, France	27	Spanish Chamber
Janke	Stadtkirche	Bückerburg, Germany	47	German Baroque
Colombi & Zanin	Corpus Christi	Valvasone, Italy	8	Italian Renaissance
Wurlitzer		Buffalo, New York	31	Theater Organ

Also included are a Flemish double harpsichord, an Estey reed organ, and the Ghent Cathedral carillon. Sample set curation and on-site voicing by Daniel Lemieux (Meta Organworks).