

TOSA NEWS

Oct/Nov 2019
Volume 58 No.7

Price: \$2.00

David Gray - UK

will entertain you on the

3/17 Wurlitzer

at the

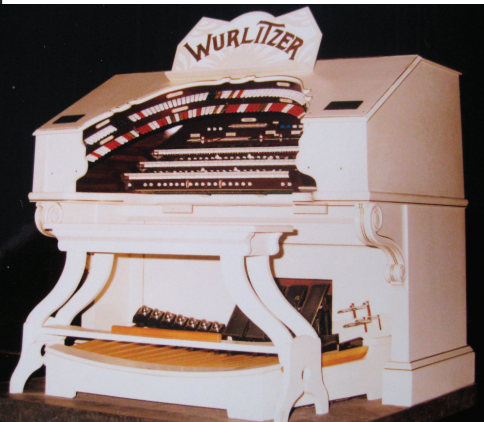
Orion Centre

Theatre

Sunday

October 27th

2:00pm



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Facebook

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#tosansw

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TOSA News David & Margaret Badman

Printer Printers of Richmond

President



Hello Members,

A great concert by Ken Double on 25 August at Campsie. He once again delivered the goods as he always does, and with his fantastic "broadcaster's voice" he regaled us with a few stories and a couple of jokes along the way. We even had two part-songs that Ken sang to his pre Uniflex recorded tracks.

It was fascinating watching him record the tracks earlier in the day as he sat and played, quietly singing over the top of the track and working out where to stop his recording as that would be the point he would be back at the console ready to pick up the playing live.

It was encouraging to see a number of new concert attendees there. It included a few groups - one near 20 people. Publicity was well supported using a multitude of free channels such as community newspapers, social media, Sydney Morning Herald and even 2GB. Thanks to Ernie Vale and Margaret Badman for hunting down and succeeding with those sources.

Remember that on Sunday 27 October we have our next international artist for this year. David Gray is making his final theatre organ concert tour of Australia and we always look forward to his superb musicianship. Reports of his recent concerts in the

USA and England are highly favourable (would we expect less?) and his concert at Campsie promises to be a cracker! Book your tickets soon, via Trybooking or by contacting Theo. Remember to invite friends, family and social groups to this very special concert.

The AGM is looming on Saturday 9 November at West Ryde Anglican Church (St Columb's) and it will be a good opportunity for members to socialise and check out the latest exciting advances in the Christie installation. Who knows what you might see and hear?

In final news, my PETScan gave me the "all clear" so apart from regular specialist appointments, it appears we have put lymphoma behind us!

See you at Campsie on the 27th of October.

Cheers, Craig Keller

Editorial



Look forward to seeing you at the David Gray Concert on October 27th. I was very pleased to see so many new patrons at Ken Double's concert thanks to wider advertising and Ray Palmer organising people from his church and car club groups.

Enjoy the Music Live,
Ernie Vale
editor@tosa.net.au

From the Mailbox...



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Thanks for your responses and please continue to email or write in, telling us what you think.

Where space permits we will do our best to publish your comments, but as space is limited, the editor reserves the right to edit any submitted comments and, as always, the views expressed by any individual may not necessarily coincide with the views of TOSA NSW Div.

Please submit all comments via email to:

The Editor editor@tosa.net.au
or in writing to:

The Editor - TOSA News (NSW Div)
PO Box A2322
SYDNEY SOUTH, NSW, 1235

Sydney Town Hall Organ Events

Concerts as originally planned:

- Monday 30th September, 12:30pm-Christopher Wrench
- Tuesday 5th November, 12:30pm-Robert Ampt with the NSW Police Band
- Tuesday 17th December, 8:00pm-Christmas at Sydney Town Hall
- Saturday 28th December, 12:30pm-Young Organist's Day

Robert Ampt
Sydney City Organist

Please Note Change to TOSA Bank Account

The Society's only bank account now is with **St George**. Details are **BSB 112-879, account number 0442 088 530**

Please direct all payments to this account with St George Bank.

The AGM is a little earlier this year to enable the President to attend the Presidents Forum in November

For sale by donation to TOSA NSW

Year bundled collections of the ATOS Theatre Organ Journal from part 2010 to 2018. Each year bundle \$5. Available at the record bar at the October 27 Concert.

All magazines in good condition except a couple that received minor water damage when delivered.

John Weismantel

Members may not be aware that Vice President John has recently undergone open heart surgery.

The operation went very well and John is now recovering at home.

TOSA wish John a great steady recovery in the care of Sharon and the family.

To Watch Out for

You can now pay for tickets at the box office by credit or debit card.

TOSA NSW Divn Inc

Annual General Meeting

**Saturday 9th November
2019 at 2:00pm**

St Columb's Anglican Church,
Cnr Dickson Ave & Bellevue
Ave., West Ryde

This is the location of the TOSA (NSW) Christie Cinema Organ. Please come along to the meeting and take the opportunity to hear about and see the significant progress on the installation of the Christie that you will have read about in the Christie Reports in recent issues of TOSA News.

Afternoon Tea will be provided following the meeting to allow members to mingle and chat to the Executive and Committee members about your Society.

Advertising

Rates in

TOSA News

For Members:

Small, Organ related ads = FREE!

For all other cases:

Quarter Page = \$25

Half Page = \$50

Full Page = \$100

Full Page Insert = \$125.00

Members' Playing Dates

**The Orion Theatre Campsie
Second Thursday of the
Month**

**October 10th
November 14th
Convener is**

Craig Keller on 0418484798
or John Batts on 0420424103

**Marrickville Town Hall
4th Monday afternoon/evening**

**Start time is 6:00pm
October 28th
November 25th**

Convener is

John Batts on 0420424103
will email you to confirm the day is
available or
Neil Palmer on 9798 6742 after
7:00pm
to confirm availability

**Annual General Meeting
of
Theatre Organ Society of Australia
NSW Divn Inc**

Saturday 9th November 2019

2:00pm

West Ryde Anglican Church

Cnr Dickson Ave & Bellevue Ave., West Ryde

If any member wishing to attend the AGM at West Ryde Anglican Church requires transport from West Ryde Station to the church, please phone Editor, Ernie Vale on 0415 626 064 or email editor@tosa.net.au before Saturday 9th November to arrange where to pick you up near the station.

Nominations for all positions

on Executive and Committee for 2019-20
have now closed

The Returning Officer advises he has received just sufficient nominations to fill each position on Executive and Committee

The Secretary advises he has not received

Any Motions or Special Resolutions for the AGM



The Breaking of the Drought

Franklyn Barrett's silent film + live music

at The Ritz Cinema, Randwick



Monday 23rd SEP 2019

***The Ritz Cinema Randwick, (Cinema 2) --
43 St Paul's Street, Randwick - The Spot.***

Unfortunately the film would not project at the first date of 8th September and was rescheduled to Monday 23rd September.

Filed in 1920 by Randwick local, director and cinematographer Franklyn Barrett, it was accompanied by the talented **John S. Batts** on the Allen R311 "Theatre Organ". The owner of the organ who kindly lent it for the occasion played the audience into the theatre in traditional style. There were approximately 80 patrons in attendance and your Editor was kindly allowed by the organiser from Randwick Council, Avril Jeans, to distribute flyers for the David Gray concert to patrons as they entered the theatre.

The Mayor of Randwick, Kathy Neilson, introduced the film with quite a deal of the history about Franklyn Barrett and the fact that his house where the nitrate film was spliced is now a Randwick Community Centre and museum to Barrett's work.

Entertaining historian, Bruce Dennett, continued introducing the film with significant detail about the locations where scenes were shot and answered any questions at the conclusion. The film was made up of two parts that had survived as some of the film had been damaged by moisture from condensation.

The film ran for 105 minutes and TOSA Member, John Batts, did a great job in accompanying the film on the Allen Theatre Organ for that rather lengthy time frame.



John Batts plays the Allen R311 accompanying the film

Congratulations to Randwick City Council Mayor, Kathy Neilson and her event organiser, Avril Jeans, for their persistence in ensuring that the film was finally shown and to the new Ritz Cinema Randwick management for providing access to Cinema 2 and its facilities for the purpose.

Article and photos by the Editor

Home Party at Peter & Dorothy Robinson's

A sunny Sunday 15 September saw a good number of TOSA NSW members arrive at Peter and Dorothy Robinson's lovely home in Eastwood for an event which we have not had for a long time. A home organ party.

For those that aren't aware, a home organ party at the Robinson's isn't just about a single instrument. I think many know that the downstairs music room contains an Allen LL-324Q (the Lyn Larsen model) and its eight channels of speakers. To keep this mighty instrument company there is a Technics digital piano, a massive Lowrey (with some speakers in the seat!), an excellent Yamaha and even a Conn 530. A veritable smorgasbord of instruments to choose from.

We took it in turns to play our own selections of tunes and each player chose the instrument for their playing. During the day every instrument was played by at least one person.

Players on the day were David Badman, host Peter Robinson, Tom Barber, Simon Ellis, new member Eric Burwood, Kath Harding, me and someone we've not heard play much in recent years, Peter Held. There were many listeners in attendance and encouragement was given to every player on their performances. Barry Tooker took a number of photos and even a video of the day.

Of course, everyone "brought a plate" and a generous range of

Show & Membership Prices

	All Artists
Non-members	\$40
Non-member Pensioner/Seniors Card holder	\$35
TOSA Members	\$25

All Students FREE on confirmation of Student status

All Children FREE accompanied by an Adult

Group Booking for 10 or more Adults \$22 per person

First time Adult \$25 by completed Voucher at Box Office

Annual Membership Fees 2019-20:

\$50.00 Full membership, \$40.00 Concession, Interstate or

Overseas \$50. \$5 discount if TOSA News emailed to you

Membership enquiries David & Margaret Badman

(02) 4776 2192 membership@tosa.net.au

Associate Membership for a spouse/partner is an additional 50%

savoury and sweet items was consumed for afternoon tea while we chatted on the balcony.

All too soon it was time to head home and we bid our farewells and disappeared into the late afternoon.

Thank you, Peter and Dorothy, for hosting this excellent event. We all had a grand time!

Craig Keller

President, TOSA NSW Inc

Photos *Barry Tooker*



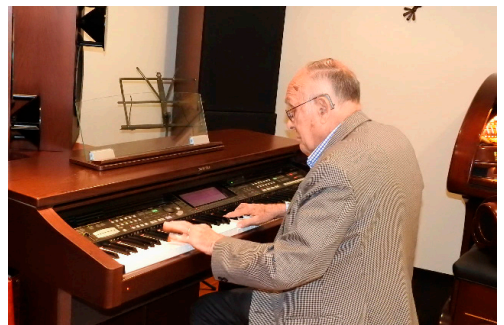
Peter Robinson plays the Allen



Tom Barber plays the Lowrey



David Badman plays the Allen



Eric Burwood plays the Yamaha



Simon Ellis plays the Allen



Peter Held plays the Conn



Members listen intently as Peter Held plays the Conn 530



The delectable afternoon tea was enjoyed by everyone.

The Next Concert
The fabulous young Scottish musician
David Gray



Plays
The Orion Wurlitzer

Sunday October 27th at 2:00pm
155 Beamish Street, Campsie

Tickets : \$ 40; Conc/Senior \$ 35; Members \$25

First time patrons \$25 by Voucher at the Box Office

Credit & Debit cards accepted

Adult Group of 10 or more \$22/person - Organiser and driver of
the group has Free entry to the concert

A TOSA Member who organises a Group receives Free entry to the
next concert

Students free on confirmation of student status.

Book securely on line at Trybooking via www.tosa.net.au/events
click on the booking link

or

Phone Theo Langenberg on 0410 626 131 before 8:pm please

David Gray

***This will be David's last Australasian Tour as he intends to pursue his concert piano career from next year
A rare opportunity to hear David, master of the Wurlitzer***

In 2015 David completed a Master of Arts degree in piano performance at the Royal Academy of Music in London. On graduation night he was awarded the prizes for the highest concerto marks and final recital marks in his year as well as collecting two prestigious Academy prizes. This recognition was extended when he was named the 2015 "Organist of the Year" by the American Theatre Organ Society.

David plays a wide repertoire of music ranging from classics to stage & screen, jazz & swing numbers ensuring something for everyone.

Following David's performance at the ATOS Convention in the USA this year David performed for the Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society on the 3/25 Kimball-Wurlitzer.

Gray opened with Harry Warren's snappy "All's Fair in Love and War," and "Nickel in the Slot," a Zez Confrey novelty tune no less fun for being less known. Then, for a slower pace, the traditional Irish melody "Londonderry Air," also known as "Danny Boy" with lyrics by Frederic Weatherly. Gray then performed the legendary "Slaughter on Tenth Avenue," a short ballet by Richard Rodgers from the 1936 musical *On Your Toes*, followed by three more numbers maintaining the "feeling low" theme: Piazzolla's accordion tango "Oblivion"; the Davis/Young/Ager toe-tapper "I Hate Myself (For Being So Mean to You)," as arranged by Sidney Torch; and a transcription of the aria "Nel di della vittoria" from the Verdi opera *Macbeth*. Next were two songs as arranged for organ by Jim Riggs, a major influence on Gray: "Georgia on My Mind"; and Ray Henderson's "Strike Me Pink (If I Don't Think I'm Falling in Love)" from the same-named 1933 musical starring Jimmy Durante. Gray opened the second half with a rousing march, "The Dam Busters". David Gray Thrills Again! Continuing the alternation of moods: the Barbra Streisand hit "People" from *Funny Girl*; an organ

transcription of Liszt's piano arrangement of Schubert's "Soirées de Vienne: Valse-Caprice No. 6"; Rodgers and Hart's "Manhattan" from Garrick Gaieties; and "A Garden in the Rain," a hit first in 1929 by Gene Austin, then in 1952 by The Four Aces. No David Gray program would be complete without an example of British light music, in this case Frederic Curzon's "Dance of the Ostracised Imp," delightfully sprinkled with sudden modulations. To close the concert, Gray played a medley from the 1934 Cole Porter musical Anything Goes, including variations on the title tune, "You're the Top," "All Through the Night," "Blow, Gabriel, Blow," and "I Get a Kick out of You." Following an extended standing ovation, Gray encored with the 1945 Ellington hit "I'm Beginning to See the Light," predictably followed by another standing ovation.

Don't miss this opportunity to be entertained by David Gray on Sunday October 27th, 2pm at the Orion before he moves onto his career on Concert Piano.

You can now pay by credit/debit card on the day

Hammond Organ in Good Condition

Free to good home, \$50 donation to TOSA, and new owner bears cost of removal

Model: 8122 - May be Aurora Classic and stool.

Age: 1978

Purchased from: EMI Aust.

Condition: Spotless (Always covered when not in use)

Location: Petersham NSW.

Included the following:

"Hammond Touch" instruction course portfolio, Sheet music,

5 Copies "Hammond World" magazine,

Assorted literature including TOSA booklet of "Jonus Nordwell in Australia Sept/October 1980"

Contact: BRIAN ph 0408 418 937 anytime.



Hammond organ Free to a Good Home



Ken Double Concert Sunday 25th August 2019
Orion Centre Campsie

Review by Chris Styles Photos by Barry Tooker



What a delight to have Ken Double back at our Orion Wurlitzer and it's ten years since he last visited Australia (as he told us). I like the way he often promotes the Wurlitzer as a wonderful instrument and his joy at being able to play the instrument shows throughout his concert. I am also grateful that, whilst I was presenting a theatre organ programme on Community Radio years ago, he gave me two of his CDs to use on the programme.

Off to a fine start with "*It's Today*", the Jerry Herman composition from the show "*Mame*". (Therein lies a tale that in the 1960s I somehow finished up in a chorus line of a revue in Brisbane and we featured just that tune!)

Accepting applause, Ken launched into "*My Heart Belongs to Somebody Else*" which made a delightful contrast to the opening piece. Ken then welcomed us to the Orion and our 3/17 gem. In introducing us to some Strauss next, "*Waltzes of Spring*". Ken first mentioned that the Wurlitzer used to be known as a Unit Orchestra and that he wanted to show off the orchestral sounds of the instrument. This piece did that well. Always good to have a

light classic as part of the overall music. I was once told by a revered ABC music presenter that "the listener" likes to hear familiar tunes with surprises of the unfamiliar every now and then. To a Jazz mode and "*Cry Me a River*", a Julie London favourite of many years ago that those of us of a certain age remember well. I liked Ken's registrations and key changes.

Ken then gave us a demonstration of how an organist approaches the instrument ie use of right hand/left hand/pedals etc. I've come to the conclusion that three manuals are about right but then (and thank you, Simon Ellis) four can be great – or even five - for the more talented organists (unlike me!!)

On to "*Londonderry Air/Danny Boy*" and Ken pointed out that this music was well out of copyright so there were no problems in worrying about copyright matters. (I had personal experience of problems with copyright a couple of years ago when I tried to help English friends print up some locally (UK) composed new hymns and discovered the "joys" of trying to get copyright permission. It ain't easy!)

Oh, sugar! Ken's selections to remind us of the problems with too much sugar in our food/drinks these days were "*When I Take My Sugar to Tea*" and "*When My Sugar Walks Down the Street*". No need to worry about the possible damage from that kind of sugar! Ken wanted to use the bird whistle on the instrument and let us know that different Wurlis have that particular button in odd places. I know I've mentioned this before but I still can't help be amused by people referring to the latest PCs/iPhones etc as having "all the bells and whistles". We theatre organ lovers have known about bells and whistles for 100+ years and what that statement refers to!!

Ah, the Music Man. Memories of Robert Preston and those wonderful tunes "*Seventy-six Trombones, Till there was you*, and *Lida Rose*".

Second last before Interval was a "party" piece of mine "*Try a Little tenderness*". A pretty song and I'll one day try it in another key rather than my usual laziness in "C"! To take us up to tea time Ken played "*Cumana*" (which is a town in Venezuela), music of Jazz pianist Barclay Allen and in mambo rhythm.



Part the Two. Ken walked on stage to the Wurli playing and immediately burst into song, *All of me*. I once had thoughts of playing and singing at the Wurli organ but decided that I'd keep that to my church organ playing and only sing with my playing when I thought the congregation needed some help in getting familiar with the tune! Ken followed this up with another song, *You're nobody till somebody loves you* a la Dean Martin and with both these vocals perfectly timed by taking over the computer prerecording and playing the last part of the tunes live. Very smart!!

"*To the land of my own romance*", a Victor Herbert composition and a piece made famous by soprano Beverley Sills and the orchestra of Andre Kostelanetz many years ago. (Hands up those, again of a certain age, who collected Kostelanetz LPs in younger days?). Ken's interpretation of this music was excellent.

Come in now Frank Sinatra and a selection of his well known and played songs including "*I've got you under my skin, You Will be My Music, That's Life* (with the Wurli temporarily converted to a Hammond B3 sound) and *Chicago*". And, no, you can't have "*My Way*" at your funeral (especially if you belong to my church in the city).

Ken hails from Georgia in the States and wanted to give us a taste of that State. "*Hard Hearted Hannah, Sweet Georgia Brown*" and

Hoagy Carmichael's "*Georgia on My Mind*". I love the first piece and used to feature it more than occasionally on my days on radio with the theatre organ programme.

Now to a selection from the Jerry Herman musical Mack and Mabel. "*Tap Your Troubles Away*". This 1974 musical told the story about silent film star Mack Sennett and his "lady" Mabel Normand.

Before his final musical offering, Ken again thanked us for being in the audience and reminded us that our instrument is over ninety years old (it will be 100 in 2024!!). It had performed well with only the occasional computer glitch. Also good to be reminded by Ken that the Wurlitzer organ is one of the best kept musical secrets and we should share its joy with our friends.

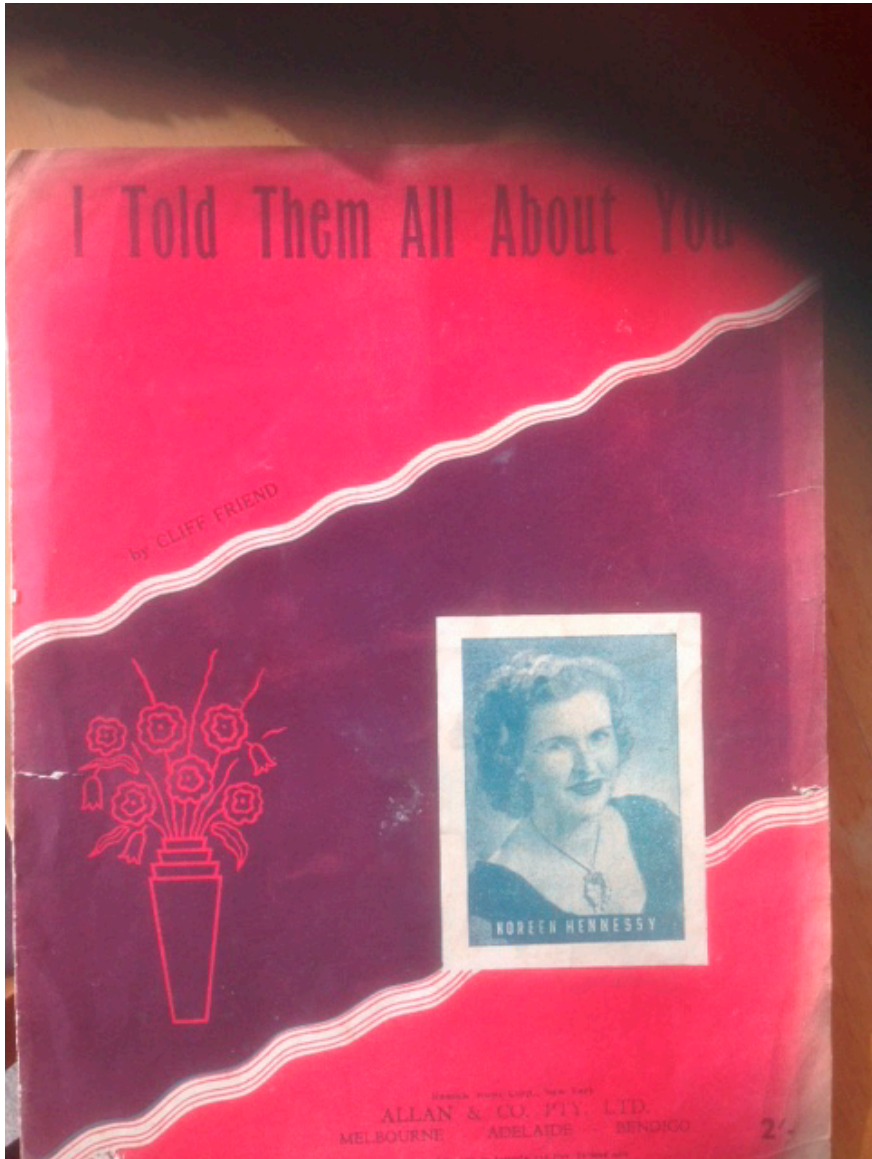
Ken's final offering was an offering for our troubled world at this time, a piece composed in 1955, "*Let there be peace on earth*". Sixty-five years have gone by since that song was written and still no nearer peace on earth!

Great applause for Ken's concertising on the almost perfectly behaving Wurli, and he sent us home with his encore "*If you knew Suzie*". Light and fun.

Thank you Mr Double for a most enjoyable afternoon's entertainment. Don't wait another ten years!



Sheet music from Allans, Sydney and Melbourne, 1927 originally New York, Remick, 1927. Song by Cliff Friend, "I Told Them All About You". I assume that this copy featuring Noreen Hennessy is of later date. Sold for two shillings.



More Players at Robinson's Home Party



Kath Harding at the Lowrey



Peter Held plays the Allen

**Remember the Annual General Meeting
on Saturday November 9th at 2:00pm
West Ryde Anglican Church**

Please bring a plate for afternoon Tea



Members Diary

Next Committee Meetings - Monday October 14th
Monday November 4th , West Ryde Anglican Church

Sunday 27 October 2:00pm

Come along to enjoy

David Gray

entertain you

playing the Orion Wurlitzer

**Remember this will be David's last Theatre
Organ Tour before he pursues his
concert piano performances in 2020**

**Don't miss this very talented musician
Please tell your friends & Neighbours
and your church, club or local retirement village**

**Book Tickets - www.tosa.net.au/events/trybooking
or**

Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131 Before 8:00pm please

www.theatreorgansaust.info (history of cinema organ installations in
Australasia)

www.omss.org.au (our sister society, Organ Music Society of Sydney OMSS)
www.ATOS.org American Theatre Organ Society

****Theatre Organ Magic* on RNB - FM from Sydney, NSW, Australia.***

88.7 FM and 90.3 FM 12 noon first Sunday of the month for one hour

Web Sites of Interest: <https://www.facebook.com/tosansw>

www.ATOS.org American Theatre Organ Society

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