

TOSA NEWS

May/June 2012
Volume 51 No.4

Price: \$2.00

Sunday 17th June 2:00pm

Co Patron **John Atwell**

and

Cabaret Artist

Glenn Amer

Play Wurlitzer and

Grand Piano

Orion Theatre, Campsie

Membership renewal now due

Directory

Patrons

John Gorrie and John Atwell

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Geoff Brimley 6351 3122 *president@tosa.net.au*

Vice Presidents

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Neil Palmer 9798 6742 (after 7pm)

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Vacant

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Orion Players Convenor

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Photography Barry Tooker 9744 1535

Publicity Officer John Shaw 9543 3112

Printing by Rob Gliddon

From the President



Greetings,

Thank you all who attended our Christie fundraiser show. A great variety of styles was evident from our seven artists and during the afternoon the Wurlitzer's versatility was displayed with a huge range of registrations featured. Thank you also to those who have donated towards the Christie project: all amounts received, whether small or large, are appreciated. The Committee is confident and determined that this instrument will be restored and installed to the highest standard – one in which all members will be able to take pride.

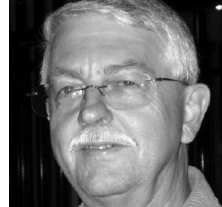
Some of our members recently visited the home of John Shaw and enjoyed the talents of a young Romanian pianist Alexandru Negriuc. Total proceeds from this privately organized performance were donated by John to the Christie project. Thank you to John and those who attended.

Membership renewals are due at the end of June. Regrettably it has been necessary to increase fees by five dollars for each level of membership. Like everyone else, our costs are increasing and, while we have done everything possible to minimise expenses, we are unable to prune costs any further. Hire fees for both venues increase again from 1st July. I thank you for under-

standing the reasons for this increase in membership costs.

Happy organizing, Geoff Brimley

Editorial



In this issue there is an interesting article about the 5th Avenue Theatre, Seattle, courtesy of JoAnn Evans from Seattle USA who is Editor of the Puget Sound Pipeline along with her husband Russ Evans. There is an overview of the performance by Romanian pianist Alexandru Negriuc.

Information about The State Theatre Sydney extensions makes interesting reading along with information about the State Wurlitzer.

We look forward to seeing you at the John Atwell and Glenn Amer show.

The ATOS Convention is in Los Angeles this year with a very interesting program of instruments and organists as outlined herein.

Deadline for TOSA News is the 12th of the previous month.

Enjoy the music,
Ernie Vale
PO Box A2322
SYDNEY SOUTH, NSW, 1235
editor@tosa.net.au

From the Mailbox...



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

New Members

TOSA welcomes new members & wish them a long and happy stay

No new members this month

A note from member Peter Pullar

Yesterday, I took the opportunity to attend the member's playing afternoon at the Orion Centre in Campsie. With the small outlay of a \$2-50 concession train ticket from Newcastle to Sydney, what a wonderful afternoon it turned out to be. As a listener I was treated

to a whole range of musical items played by TOSA members - and what a talented lot of people we have in this organisation. While it was only a small group, it was a great opportunity to meet and talk to other TOSA members - I was made very welcome and I would like to say a big thank you to John and Craig who took the time to show and explain many of the finer points of the Wurlitzer. A delicious afternoon tea was served before we went home. To all TOSA members, if you get the opportunity, try and go along to a members playing event - you will have a great afternoon. I look forward to future Players Afternoons and maybe the opportunity of "having a go" on the organ myself one day (will have to do lots of practice first !!!)

Thanks again TOSA and cheers.

Vale Ian Cameron

Long time TOSA member and Archivist, Ian Cameron, passed away in hospital on 13 May. Ian had had a long battle with emphysema. He was very active in the community being involved in Rotary and on a committee at Goulburn hospital. Ian had a vast knowledge of the theatre organ world and would research publications and recordings about theatres, theatre organs and theatre organists.

Ian was a great friend of TOSA Committee Member Barry Tooker who would catch up with him on a regular basis when he lived in

Sydney and to a lesser extent when Ian and his family moved to a rural property at Marulan. Ernie Vale and his wife have fond memories of our visits to Marulan where we were always made most welcome and would have a long chat with Ian about theatre organ history and several publications that Ian had tracked down. TOSA express our appreciation for all the work Ian did as archivist and send our condolences to Maureen and family.

To Watch Out For

Sunday 17 June 2:00pm

John Atwell &

Glenn Amer

Play

The Orion Wurlitzer

and Grand Piano

Please come along to

hear these accomplished

musicians

and invite your friends

and family

Advertising

Rates in

TOSA News

For Members:

Small, Organ related ads = FREE!

For all other cases:

Small bubble = \$11.00

Quarter Page = \$24.75

Half Page = \$49.50

Full Page = \$99.00

Full Page Insert = \$125.00

Members' Playing Dates 2012

**The Orion Theatre Campsie
2nd Thursday 1:30pm -
4:30pm**

***June - no play-
ers afternoon - John Atwell
practising for the June 17
show***

July 12th

Phone or SMS Craig Keller on
0418 484 798

Players and listeners welcome.
Please bring a plate of goodies for
afternoon tea.

Tea/Coffee provided. Parking at
rear off Shakespeare St.

Marrickville Town Hall

4th Monday evening at 7:30pm

***In view of a booking by
Australian Opera from 4 June
to 2 July MTH will not be
available until Mon 23 July***

To be sure there is no last
minute cancellation at
Marrickville please ring Neil on
9798 6742 after 7:00pm
the Friday before.

Private performance by Romanian Concert Pianist Alexandru Negriuc

TOSA Vice President, John Shaw, arranged a private performance at his home by this talented concert pianist who is currently studying in Germany. The proceeds of the afternoon were kindly donated to the Theatre Organ Society Christie Organ Restoration Fund.



Alexandru Negriuc

The afternoon turned out to be fine and sunny and John had organised for approximately 60 guests to attend. The piano is located in the music room which opens into a combined open plan lounge and family room. Guests included the Romanian Consul General, several Romanian people, a number of music teachers and some of their pupils, former deputy organists from St Mary's Cathedral, the designer and builder of the Sydney Opera House Organ, Ron Sharpe and his wife, and many other music lovers.



Alexandru Negriuc

Alex's performance was very well received and afternoon tea was provided during the interval break.

Alex's encore piece was a number by George Gershwin that brought rapturous applause as had his programme. Alex likes to wind down after a performance by playing some jazz.



Four accomplished musicians

The Programme

Alexandru Negriuc Sunday 25 March 2012

J.S.Bach - *Prelude and Fugue in G sharp minor, book 1*

L. van Beethoven - *Piano Sonata Op. 27 no. 2, in C sharp minor,
"Moonlight Sonata"*

F. Chopin - *Impromptu Op. 51, no. 3 in G flat major*

F. Liszt - *Transcendental Etude no. 10 in f minor, "Appassionata"*

-----INTERVAL-----

F. Chopin - *Impromptu Op. 29, no. 1 in A flat major*

- *Impromptu Op. 36, no. 2 in F sharp major*

A. Scriabin - *Etude Op. 2, no. 1 in C sharp minor*

- *Etude Op. 8, no. 12 in D sharp minor*

- *Etude Op. 42, no. 4 in F sharp major*

- *Etude Op. 42, no 5 in C sharp minor*

S. Rachmaninov - *Etude-tableaux Op. 39, no. 2 in A minor*

- *Etude-tableaux Op. 39, no. 3 in F sharp minor*

- *Etude-tableaux Op. 33, no. 4 in D minor*

- *Etude-tableaux Op. 33, no. 7 in E flat major*

G. Enescu - *Toccata Op. 10 in D major*

TOSA NSW Christie Organ

Donations towards the Restoration and installation of the Christie Organ are gratefully acknowledged:

*J Alleway
R Arthur
D Baker
A Brooker
M Christiansen
I Cameron
B Cooper
Mrs Feltham
D Grant
A R Keirle
J Lawson
L & D Mc Nally
L & B Morris
Mi Mortimer
N Olivier
D Parsons OAM
J & B Rose
J Reed
P Robinson
R Russell
B Valence
R Willis
L Walters
J Waters
B Weismantel
R & M Wells*

Also there have been several anonymous donations.

There have been several fund raiser events:

Concert in 2010;

Players day at Epping;

Anthony Buckley donated the amount he paid for the model organ console made by David McMullan;

Piano Performance receipts donated by J Shaw in 2012;

Christie Fund Raiser April 2012.

The Total funds raised so far are \$4,599.70

In addition TOSA Committee members and Executive along with members of TOSA have contributed many hours of work in organising the details for installation of the organ as well as many hours on restoration of the various components of the organ. David and Deirdre McMullan have provided storage facilities for several components of the Christie.

TOSA Victoria member, John McLennan, has kindly donated his valuable knowledge and expertise in restoring some of the chests for the Christie. TOSA NSW member, John Andrews, has transported the Christie chests to and from Melbourne to enable John McLennan to undertake the restoration.



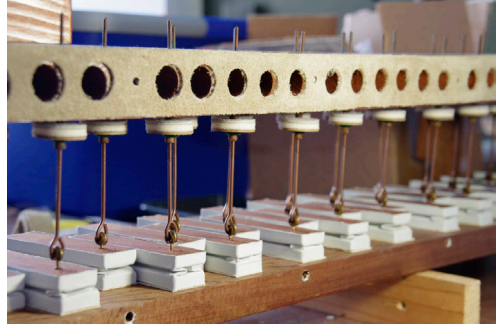
John McLennan with a Christie Chest

Organ Builder, John Parker, has kindly donated a 1928 Hill Norman and Beard 16' Tuba Octave of 12 pipes and the original chest.

The budget for the Restoration and installation of the Christie Organ is \$80,000.



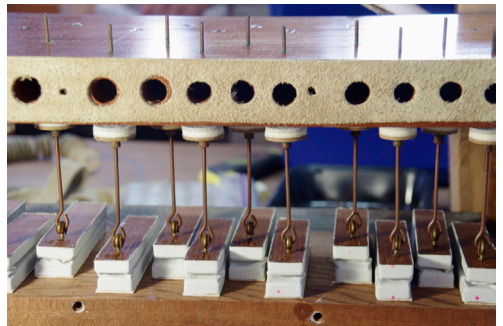
Graham Glendenning punches out a new gasket



New gasket fitted, valve faces recovered and motors recovered with kangaroo skin



The hammer unit for the bass drum being restored



Show & Membership Prices

The following TOSA show ticket prices now apply:

	All Artists
Non-members	\$27.50
Non-member Pensioner/Seniors Card holder	\$25.00
TOSA Members	\$20.00
Students 18-21yrs	\$10.00
Group Booking for 10 or more Adults	\$20 per person
Group Booking for 10 or more Students	\$8 per person
Students under 18yrs	FREE!
Annual Membership Fees are now:	\$35.00 for Full membership, and \$25.00 for Concession, Country, Interstate & Overseas.

Membership enquiries Geoff Brimley (02) 6351 3122 membership@tosa.net.au

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

State Theatre Sydney Wurlitzer Slave Console

Many of you will be aware that the Sydney State Theatre was equipped with two Consoles (same as the State Theatre, Melbourne).

The second Console, or Slave as correctly known, was installed on "stage" at the State during 1929 and remained there until about 1936. This Console was purchased by Arthur Lord when he moved from Petersham to Killara in 1937 and formed the basis of his eventual 81 rank organ which was housed in a 3 story building. Pipes were sourced from various local Wurlitzer Photo players including some theatre organ ranks imported from UK & USA. This comprises about 36% of the organ consisting of theatre organ ranks.

In 1961 Arthur Lord passed away – his organ being split-up for parts. The Console was purchased by John Clancy. For the next 50 years it has remained in the situation in the home at Wentworthville. The Slave Console was restored to the original Wurlitzer factory finish & relevant protection applied. For the majority of the Console's life at Wentworthville it has been playable (via relays) with the existing 2 Manual Wurlitzer Console & pipe work. Dual organists were often featured playing together as the Wurlitzer designers intended when providing two Consoles in Theatre environments.

In April 2012 the Console has been returned home to the State Theatre. Both Consoles are on route

to USA for complete restoration and return expected during 2013 upon completion of their restorations. Upon completion of the organ restoration expected to take several years it will mean that the Sydney State 4/21 Wurlitzer together with the Denver Paramount 4/20 Wurlitzer will be the only existing twin Console Wurlitzers both in their original locations.

Please bear in mind that TOSA NSW has no Input/Ownership or Consultancy in the project. The Wurlitzer at the State Sydney remains the property of the State Theatre.

Kevin Clancy

Editors Note: This article was provided by TOSA member Kevin Clancy and no correspondence will be entered into regarding its content by either TOSA or Kevin.

Broadway ambitions dashed as modest State Theatre revamp approved

From an article by Wendy Frew in the S.M.H. Monday May 21 2012

A proposal for a \$32 million extension of the State Theatre to attract larger productions and "world-class events" has fallen well short of promises, say theatre heavyweights who are disappointed the State still won't be able to stage big, Broadway-style musicals.

City of Sydney last week approved Amalgamated Holdings Ltd's development application to extend the

theatre's stage and backstage facilities, and to demolish the two-storey Mick Simmons building to make way for a 16-storey retail and commercial building on George Street.

AHL managing director, David Seargent, said the company, which hired UK consultants to advise it, had wanted a full-scale extension but said it wasn't possible because of the theatre's original design as a picture palace.

"It is an improvement in functionality ... there is a marginal improvement in the scale but not big enough for large-scale musicals," said Mr Seargent.

In its original application to the council, the company claimed "the proposed extension ... will transform this heritage listed theatre into a theatre that is capable of attracting and supporting larger productions".

Australia's biggest commercial theatre producer, John Frost, said the project was a missed opportunity for Sydney.

"Sydney could have had a theatre that would have been financially viable for the owner and for the city," said Mr Frost.

"The opportunity for Sydney to get a new, 2000-seat lyric theatre has gone for ever because of this decision."

It looked like short-term commercial interests trumping long-term civic benefits, said theatre director

and Honorary Fellow of Drama and Theatre Program, at La Trobe University, Dr Julian Meyrick. "I think it is a great shame. While private interests have a say over private property the State Theatre has a public role as a theatre in Sydney. The concern is a broader civic role for the theatre has been missed."

Dr Meyrick said the State's stage was too small for large productions, the scenery dock was too small to take modern set trucks, and the theatre needed a fly tower of at least 20 metres.

A City of Sydney spokeswoman said the development included a significant investment in the improvement of the building and restoration of its Wurlitzer Organ.

For Sale

A former TOSA member, Marcia Brandreth has a Lowrey organ for sale. Marcia used to have home parties with other friends in her area who also had electronic organs in their homes. Parts of the Lowrey are not working at the moment so some restoration will be necessary.

Lowrey Celebration C500 organ, not fully working. New owner to remove at their own expense. Kiama area Ph 42377925

The next show

Australia's International Artists



John Atwell
at the Mighty Wurlitzer
Unit Orchestra



& Glenn Amer
in Cabaret Style
at the Grand Piano

Orion Theatre

155 Beamish Street, Campsie

Sunday 17th June, 2012 at 2:00pm

Free parking at the venue

(Disabled Access available at the entrance)

Non-Member Pensioner/Seniors Card holder \$25

Non-Members \$27.50; Student (18 – 21 Years) \$10

Students up to 17 years FREE

Group bookings for 10 or more adults \$20 per person

Group bookings for 10 or more students \$8 per person

see www.tosa.net.au for more information

John Atwell & Glenn Amer

John Atwell

Over the last thirty years a select group of Australian theatre organists have achieved international recognition. John Atwell is amongst them. He has developed a reputation for providing programs, whether in concert or on recordings, which are carefully prepared to provide a variety of enjoyable music, with a balance between the familiar and the not so well known. His playing style is not easily pigeonholed, and reflects the diversity of his musical experience.

John receives repeat invitations to play concerts at theatre organ venues around Australia both as a solo performer, as well as in piano/organ duo combination with his long-time colleague and friend, Tony Fenelon.

John has also taken his talents overseas on several occasions, playing performances in the USA, Canada, the United Kingdom and New Zealand. John's musical activities have not been limited to theatre organs. He is an experienced classical organist and pianist, having played many classical organ recitals, participated in concerts for the 'All Stops Out' series on the Melbourne Town Hall organ, 'Music for the People' at the Myer Music Bowl and Melbourne Town Hall, and 'Carols by Candlelight'. John has also been accompanist to several Melbourne choirs.

Glenn Amer

Glenn Amer was born in Sydney in 1974. He is a pianist, singer, operatic and choral conductor, and organist. He studied at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music between 1986 and 1993, his studies also including composition, clarinet and horn. At the age of thirteen, he was invited to London to study with, and participate in the studios of the late Geoffrey Parsons (piano), and Erich Vietheer (voice).

Glenn Amer tours Australia extensively as both a soloist and accompanist. His Liberace style of piano playing is always extremely popular with audiences who are also impressed with his Robert Goulet/Mario Lanza style singing! He has also appeared in the jazz world with renowned Diva, Su Cruickshank and popular violinist Ian Cooper as well as the beautiful television personality, Helen Zerefos.

Glenn has appeared as a headline entertainer on the Radisson, Royal Caribbean, Silver, Celebrity, Crystal, Norwegian, Orient, Holland America, NHK, Saga and Seabourne cruise lines.

Players' Events enter Autumn: Marrickville (26th March) & Campsie (12th April).

The prospect of a public Members' Show in April brought out a number of stalwarts for the fourth Monday Members' evening at Marrickville Town Hall (March 26th). We were also joined by a young fellow who had expressed the wish to try out the Wurlitzer. So attendance numbers were well up on February's turn-out.

Those who played and enjoyed their console time were **Tom Barber, Graeme Costin, Peter Held, Craig Keller, Clive Manzie, Deirdre McMullan,** and **John Batts**. Providing an audience on this occasion the ever-reliable **David McMullan** was joined by young Clive's parents. It's quite something to be able to explain to visitors that this instrument began life in 1924.

David and **Deirdre** once more provided refreshments, including some fresh figs from their garden.

On the second Thursday of the month TOSA(NSW) members' afternoon was held at The Orion Centre, Campsie (12th April). After the disappointment of the March meeting being cancelled at the very last moment on account of flood-water having accumulated in the bottom of the console lift and therefore threatening the electrics and hydraulics, a good crowd assembled to enjoy the Wurlitzer.

Even the Wurlitzer seemed to enter into the spirit of the day — apart from one brief Kinura cipher. As the old saying has it, "organs enjoy being played." Maybe they like being exhibited too, because we had two separate excursion parties who had a short tour of the chambers.

Suffice it to say that a good time was had by all. The players who took turns on the Wurlitzer bench were: **Tom Barber, Alan Caradus, Graeme Costin, Kevin Eadie, Craig Keller, Deirdre McMullan, Walter Pearce, Peter Robinson,** and **John Batts**.

Among the listeners, those seasoned supporters, **Dorothy Robinson** and **David McMullan**, were joined by a number of out-of-town members, **Gus Robilliard** and **Sylvia Child** from Moss Vale, and both **Peter Pullar** and **Peter Waller** had journeyed from New-castle.

Many TOSA members brought along a plate of food, so we all enjoyed cakes, biscuits, and sundry munchies, along with tea and coffee — indeed there were fresh strawberries and figs too. Very special thanks to **Deirdre** and **David** for providing those.

Don't forget that you too can be part of these members' events each month; as player or as listener you will be most welcome.

From John Batts.

Players' Events 2012: Marrickville (30th April) & Campsie (10th May).

On account of a previous booking, TOSA Members' Evening at Marrickville Town Hall was put back to the fifth Monday of the month. Notwithstanding that the occasion was a one-off, those who came much enjoyed their extended console time; the lucky trio were **Graeme Costin, Kevin Eadie, and John Batts.** **David** and **Deirdre** were much missed on this occasion, but we got by in what used to be called bachelor fashion.

On the regular, second Thursday of the month TOSA(NSW) members' afternoon was again held at The Orion Centre, Campsie (10th May). And this time the attendance was up, and so, including the two visitors who looked in and briefly played, we had nine players to enjoy the Wurlitzer. The instrument and all the ancillary bits performed flawlessly. There was also another short tour of the chambers offered to the newcomers.

The players who took turns on the Wurlitzer bench were: **Tom Barber, Alan Caradus, Kevin Eadie, Graham Glendenning, Basil Kaplan, Peter Robinson, and John Batts.** The two who took a great interest in proceedings while there were **Craig Mecak** ("Everything's Coming Up Roses") and **Matt Richards**, who explored the "straighter" side of the instrument. Among the listeners were **Dorothy Robinson** and **Barry Tooker.**

Craig Keller looked in on us but being in moving-house mode could not be persuaded to play.

Once more we were without **David** and **Deirdre McMullan**, and so we missed the usual range of baked goods and home-grown fruit. However, most TOSA members brought along something to eat or drink so we managed to offer some refreshments. Perhaps the only downside was an earlier close than planned because Joe Zouki had to go off and meet his son.

Don't forget that you too can be part of these members' events each month; as player or as listener you will be most welcome. A last-minute phone call or email to either Craig or John should confirm that event will be taking place.

From John Batts

Silent Movie at Wesley Theatre

Thursday 23rd August 6.30pm to
8.30pm

Australia's Silent Film Festival
presents

"The Phantom of the Opera" with
accompaniment

by David Bailey at the Christie
theatre organ.

Wesley Theatre, 220 Pitt Street,
Sydney.

Admission : \$20, concessions \$15.
Proceeds to Wesley Mission's youth
project at Mt. Druitt.

**The spectacular
5th Avenue Theatre
opened September 24,
1926 to an enthusiastic
crowd.**

This flowery description of the theatre is reprinted from the Grand Opening Program.

**5th Avenue Theatre
"The Magic Sign of a
Wonderful Time"**

It is no exaggeration to state that in the sympathetic artistry of the conception, and the painstaking authenticity with which it has been carried out, the splendor and richness of its expression, nothing has ever been accomplished in America more adequately to reflect the art of the Ancient People than is here portrayed.

States a recent article in describing the 5th Avenue . . . "In this really remarkable theatre, an Oriental gem in a Western setting, is truly a crystallization of old Chinese splendors, a replica of that beauty of imagery and nobility of thought, that inimitable feeling for color and grace of line, that variety of design and perfection of craftsmanship, which have given the world perhaps its finest art.

"To attempt in a brief space a description of the theatre, with all its superlative color and infinite detail of design, is impossible, but perhaps its most imposing feature

is the great dome, as elsewhere throughout the theatre, its symbolic themes borrowed from Chinese legends, its motifs from Chinese poetry. Coiled within an azure sphere and surrounded by glowing hues of cloud-red, emblematic of calamity and warfare; blue, of rain; green symbolic of plague; black, of floods; and gold, of prosperity—is the Great Dragon, guardian of the heavens and foe of evil spirits. He is, indeed, the brooding genius of the place, his presence shadowed and multiplied in varying shapes and forms throughout the structure.

"On huge beams surrounding and supporting the dome are five-clawed dragons—the Emperor's emblem—spitting fire in pursuit of the Jewel, rendered in the shape of a disc emitting effulgent rays, and symbolic of Omnipotence. In the squares of the richly coffered ceiling the dragon appears repeatedly again and again, often in the company of his consort, the phoenix, symbol of the virtues, and the personal emblem of the Empress. Along the tiered beams of the theatre the dragon writhes and coils his gilded length among the brilliant bird and flower motifs. Again in the proscenium arch and on the face of the great curtain he reigns supreme, flanked only by the minor creatures of his animal realm.

"Throughout the decorative scheme the flower forms embodied in the moutan, the lotus, the chrysanthemum and the horned orange, prevail in only a slightly lesser degree than the birds and beasts. High on the side walls are inset

grills simulating shallow balconies and wrought in further variations of the bird and beast forms. The theatre boasts a single balcony—a wide, low, gently inclining elevation around the sides of which are again the exquisite panels, the same graceful patterns worked out in delightfully varied line.

“In brilliant colorings that catch and carry on the hues of the luxurious curtain hanging from it, the proscenium arch is a massive but graceful plastic form in which two coiled guardians, one on either side, are supplemented by a row of squatted lions, or Dogs of Foh.

“The two main curtains are themselves works of art. Here on the asbestos shield the dragon appears in scintillating coils against a background of rich color, surrounded by conventional flecks of cloud. In abrupt departure, however, from the grim themes employed in its framework, the silken stage curtain makes a charming presentation of a Chinese garden, in which graceful and picturesque figures linger in the tranquility of weeping willows, rippling brook and flowering lotus.

“Striking and beautiful features of the interior design are the two grills screening the great organ. One on each side of the stage, they are in the form of two lyric medallions in the confines of whose circles groups of Ho-ho birds, emblematic of the five cardinal virtues, stalk in colorful propinquity.”

Built as it is from the soul of works that have endured through the

ages, the 5th Avenue breathes that soul and possesses an atmosphere of authenticity that is as awe-inspiring as it is majestic.

Supplementing the glory of the design is the completeness of its equipment and magnificence of its appointments. With the comfort of its patrons uppermost in mind, unusual care was exercised in the design and building of chairs, the installation of a ventilating system that would be as near perfect as human possibilities could make it, a stage that would be large enough to anticipate the most pretentious productions, a booth that would be the last word in projection attainment, a lighting system that would permit of the most delicate blendings and changes.

Thus we find the chairs at the 5th Avenue, every one made to order from moulds in harmony with the decorative scheme, a few inches wider than is usually found in theatres, soft and luxurious, with more room from “back to back” to permit patrons to take their seats with no inconvenience to those already seated.

Thus, too, we find a huge ventilating system with “mushrooms” under practically every seat, permitting a steady flow of pure, filtered, washed air into the auditorium at an even temperature, electrically controlled.

Hence it is that the stage is 100 feet wide, 48 feet deep, with a capacity of 50 “lines” sufficient to take care of that number of cur-

tains and scenery changes at any one performance and controlled by an "Arpo" counterweight system recognized as the last word in stage manipulators. On the stage, too, we find a vast array of lighting equipment, including spotlights, borders, olivettes, bunch lights, all mounted on "trees" and towers and controlled from a huge central switchboard, allowing for an infinite variety of light effects from every possible angle.

The booth, the heart of the picture house, pulsates with the steady purr of mighty projectors, controlled by myriad electrical instruments. A soft steady image is produced on a carefully woven silver screen, restful to the eyes—the ultimate in picture projection.

The house lighting, intricate as it is, is controlled from a central switchboard and so arranged as to permit the most delicate changes and intensities, permitting the hues to "mix" in infinite ratios, producing almost unbelievable symphonies of color.

A disappearing orchestral stage with unique lighting facilities, makes possible unusual and impressive effects, while the "ascending Wurlitzer Organ" arranged to rise or descend simultaneously or independently of the pit, further enhances the opportunity for musical effects.

Backstage are thirty dressing rooms with a capacity for taking care of over a hundred artists; a big re-

hearsal room for ballets and special acts; a music room; a large music library—while atop the theatre is a smaller theatre in which all pictures are previewed and "cued" for music.

Indeed, Mr. Harry C. Arthur, Jr., had long cherished a theatre like this. To him it is a dream of years come true. What a tribute to Seattle that his faith in its future and the faith of his associates would take so tangible a form as in the erection of a playhouse so glorious.

Well may it be said that the 5th Avenue Theatre is not only the "Magic Sign of a Wonderful Time," but the magic sign of a wonderful metropolis as well!

Opening night September 24, 1926

The 5th Avenue Theatre's four-manual, 18 rank Wurlitzer "Special" (opus 1388). The console was the standard panel-style with a very subdued Asian design painted on the sides. It was located on a hydraulic lift in the center of the orchestra pit.

The Stewardess watched as a passenger, overloaded with bags, tried to stuff his belongings in the overhead locker. Finally she informed him he would have to check the oversized luggage. "When I fly with other airlines", he said irritably, "I don't have this problem". The Stewardess smiled "when you fly with other airlines, I don't have this problem either"



The 5th Avenue Theatre Wurlitzer Console

The ATOS Convention 2012 July 2 - 8, 2012

Los Angeles, California

Included in the convention registration fee:

**4th July Fireworks Spectacular
Hollywood Bowl**

Featuring the LA Philharmonic Orchestra
With Special Guest

Barry Manilow

ATOS Annual Convention 2012

Los Angeles, California
July 2-8, 2012
Marriott LAX Hotel

Visit the website
www.atos2012registration.webs.com
for more information

Artists

Simon Gledhill
Tony Wilson
Dave Wickerham
Chris Elliott
Jelani Eddington
Scott Foppiano
Mark Herman
Jerry Nagano
Walt Strony
Chris Gorsuch
Tony Fenelon
Lyn Larsen

Main Venues

Pasadena Civic Auditorium,
5/28 Moller
Balboa Park, 4/73 Austin
Balboa Theatre
4/24 Wonder Morton
Plummer Auditorium, 4/33
Wurlitzer
San Gabriel, 3/17 Wurlitzer
Barnum Hall, 3/19 Wurlitzer
Trinity Church, 4/24 Wurlitzer

Preglow Venues

Trousdale Castle, 3/25
Wurlitzer
First Congregational Church,
5/346
E.M. Skinner/Schlicker
Old Town Music Hall, 4/22
Wurlitzer

Afterglow Venues

Nethercutt Museum, 4/73
Wurlitzer
Avalon Casino, 4/15 Page

Preglow (optional)

Multiple groups of 150 will tour three pipe organ installations including the private studio Trousdale Castle, the magnificent First Congregational Church in Los Angeles, and the Old Town Music Hall in El Segundo.

Artists at installations will be Lyn Larsen and Chris Elliot at the Trousdale Castle, Scott Foppiano at First Congregational, and Tony Wilson at the Old Town.

ATOS Convention

Tuesday, July 3rd

Morning - Registration and Record Shop Open, Young Artists

Afternoon - Registration and Record Shop Open, No-host Reception

Evening - Opening Concert, Pasadena Civic Auditorium (*Walt Strony, Mark Herman, Moller*)

Wednesday, July 4th

Morning - Meetings and Seminars at the Marriot

Afternoon - Allen Organ Extravaganza

Evening - Hollywood Bowl with Fireworks and LA Philharmonic Orch. including box dinner

Thursday, July 5th

Morning - Balboa Park, San Diego (*Dave Wickerham, Austin*)

Noon - Box Lunch, Trinity Church (*Jerry Nagano, Wurlitzer*)

Afternoon - Balboa Theatre, San Diego (*Jelani Eddington, Chris Gorsuch, Wonder Morton*)

Evening - Open

Friday, July 6th

Morning - Plummer Auditorium (*Chris Elliott, Wurlitzer*)

Afternoon - San Gabriel Auditorium (*Tony Fenelon, Wurlitzer*)

Evening - Awards Banquet, Marriott (*optional event*)

Afterglow #1 (optional)

Saturday, July 7th

Morning/Afternoon - Lunch, tour of Nethercutt Museum, Concert (*Simon Gledhill, Nethercutt Wurlitzer*)

Evening - Free Time

Afterglow #2 (optional)

Sunday, July 8th

Morning/Afternoon - Excursion boat tour to Catalina Island, lunch at the Galleon Restaurant, tour and organ demo at the Avalon Casino.

TOSA NSW

* 2012 - OUR 52nd YEAR *

John Atwell & Glenn Amer
Sunday 17 June at 2:00pm
Orion Theatre, Campsie

Contact Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131

TOSA South Australia

Tuesdays and weekends TOSA (SA) members play the
4/29 Wurlitzer in their Capri Theatre, Goodwood Road,
Goodwood (08) 8272 1177

TOSA Western Australia

John Leckie Music Centre 3/12 Compton
Currently Members days first Sunday of the month at 2pm in the
Dalkeith Hall using a Kawai Organ
Contact: Pat Gibbs (08) 9450 2151 patgibbs@oneseniors.com.au.

TOSA Gold Coast

Club Musical Afternoon on the 3rd Sunday of each
month (except December)
Contact: Rosa Free 5575 3295

TOSA Queensland

Executive Secretary: Brett Kavanaugh 0412 879 678

Stirling Productions

Karrinyup Community Centre, Perth, Western Australia
All concerts are on Sundays at 2pm. Prior bookings are
essential with John Fuhrmann on (08) 9447 9837

Interstate TOSA Members are welcome to a 50% discount to
concerts on presentation of their membership card

TOSA Victoria - mto

Contact Margaret Sutcliffe on (03) 9891 7227

Warragul Theatre Organ Society

Events Contact: Di Yuill (03) 5623 3301

Members Diary

May

**Monday 28th Planning Meeting for 2013 season
7:00pm Burwood RSL**

June

Monday 4th Committee 7:00pm Burwood RSL

***** Sunday 17th 2:00pm Orion Theatre *****

John Atwell and Glenn Amer

Complete the enclosed booking form or
Contact Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131

July

Monday 2nd Committee 7:00pm Burwood RSL

***** Sunday 22nd 2:00pm Marrickville Town Hall *****

Ryan Heggie and Chris McPhee

Contact Theo Langenberg 0410 626 131

Radio 2MBS-FM 102.5 "Colours of the King" (program of the Organ Music Society of Sydney) 2nd Saturday of each month, 5pm till 6 pm

Web Sites of Interest:

www.theatreorgansaust.info (history of cinema organ installations in Australasia)
www.sydneyorgan.com (our sister society, the Organ Music Society of Sydney OMSS)
www.ATOS.org

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PO Box 2583

Membership Renewal due by 30 June 2012

