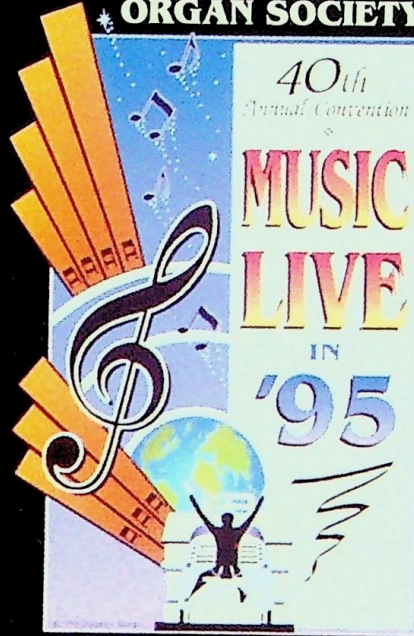


**AMERICAN THEATRE
* ORGAN SOCIETY**



40th
Annual Convention

**MUSIC
LIVE**
IN
'95

**DETROIT • MICHIGAN
JUNE 30th - JULY 6th**





The enthusiasm for the "revival" of the theatre pipe organ has lasted longer than the original era of their use — this year the American Theatre Organ Society celebrates its 40th Anniversary.

Welcome...

Welcome to the Motor City Theatre Organ Society and our home, the Historic Redford Theatre. Members of the Society have worked diligently to provide a week of wonderful music by international theatre organists on some of the very finest instruments in the country.

The members not only maintain the Barton in the Redford Theatre, but are also involved in helping to maintain and preserve various instruments in Michigan. We are dedicated to preserving one of the greatest arts, "Theatre Organ" and the theatres in which they were installed.

We sincerely hope you will leave with fond memories of your visit. ENJOY!

Dorothy Van Steenkiste,
Chairman
1995 ATOS Convention



There is no finer moment in life than when the soul soars on the wings of music. Aloft with a view of the world which charms the senses, we are truly alive when bathed in the harmony and expression of the realms.

Thank you for joining hundreds of kindred spirits in Dearborn, Michigan, as we celebrate this elixir of life with the theatre pipe organ as our wings. ATOS is a robust and mature 40 years old in 1995, and you are confirming this milestone with your presence.

Our Society is rich in heritage and strong from battle. Our scars are badges of courage and endurance. And we have never been better poised for a new era of peace and reconstruction, upon which a new generation of theatre organ lovers will flourish. Share in the power and the potential of ATOS by joining hands in Dearborn, in the joy and enthusiasm of this communal spirit.

Raise a glass at least once during the convention in observance of our endurance and passion for the most noble, the King of Instruments!

Stephen L. Adams
President ATOS



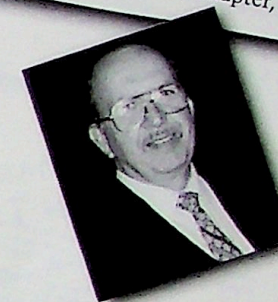
I would like to take this opportunity as President of the Motor City Theater Organ Society to welcome all ATOS members to Detroit for "Music Live in 95."

Our convention committee headed by Dorothy VanSteenkiste has worked very hard to put together well balanced programs with both national and local artists. I'm sure that you will enjoy their selections.

We have tried to take care of all your needs to make your stay in Detroit a memorable one. If we have forgotten something feel free to ask me or any Motor City member and we will try to correct it as soon as possible.

We hope your stay in Detroit will be a pleasant experience with many wonderful memories to take back home with you.

David Ambory, President
Motor City Chapter, ATOS



CONVENTION PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Chairman - Dorothy Van Steenkiste
- Show Chairman - Steve Schlesing
- Secretary - Margaret Tapler
- Treasurer - Gil Francis
- Registration - Penny and Gil Francis
- Transportation - Ray Van Steenkiste
- Hospitality - Irene and Tom FitzGerald
- Banquet - Melissa and Chris Eidson (Melissa Ambrose)
- Artist Transportation - Jeff Cushing
- Record Store - Edie and Jim Teevin
- Publicity, Journal Preparation and Convention Book - Stuart Grigg and Dorothy Van Steenkiste
- Theatre Tour - Michael Hauser
- Packet Favors - Virginia Zeller and Evalyn Eucker
- Logo - Donald Martin
- Master Of Ceremonies - Ken Double and Don Lockwood
- Ann Arbor Lunch Arrangements and Bus Parking - Bo Hanley
- Organ Room Displays - Scott Foppiano
- Security - Bob Duerr
- Convention Photographer - Bo Hanley
- Convention Posters - Michael Hauser, Will Walther and Tom Lewandowski
- Convention Book Proofreaders - Margaret Tapler and Don Lockwood

SPECIAL THANKS

The Detroit Edison Foundation for sponsoring the After-Glow Program at the Redford Theatre celebrating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Buster Keaton.



Tim Needler - ATOS Convention Coordinator

Alden Stockebrand - Bus Coordinator

Grace McGinnis - ATOS Journal Editor

Jim Weisenborne - Furnishing rolls for the roll player in the lobby of the Fox Theatre.

Roger and Sue Mumbrue - For opening their home for tours.

Dave Brewer - For opening his home for organ tours.

Mark Braden, Asst. Director - Ford Estate

Susan D. Childers - Kughn Enterprises (Carail Museum)

Scott Smith - Arrangements for Lansing After-Glow

Greg Bellamy and Harry Skrdla - Fox Theatre Arrangements

Russ Collins, Exec. Director, Michigan Theatre, Ann Arbor

Phil Michael, Music Dir. - Jefferson Ave. Presbyterian Church

Linda Puryear, Executive Dir. - Church Of Today, Warren, Mi.

Howard Baron - Stagecrafters, Baldwin Theatre, Royal Oak

Jim Teevin, President - DTOS - Senate Theater

Thomas Gerdorn, Exec. Dir. - Flint Institute Of Music

Dave Ambory, President - MCTOS - Redford Theatre

Gabe Tapler - Stained Glass Organ Raffle

Bill Loos - Music Donation for Raffle

And a Special Thanks to all the technicians, bus captains, stage managers and key personnel at all the venues that made this convention possible.

THE PRESIDENTS OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

1955-1958	Dick Simonton	1978	Preston Fleet
1958-1961	Judd Walton	1978-1980	Tommy Landrum
1961-1964	Tiny James	1980-1981	Richard Haight
1964-1966	Carl Norvell	1981-1983	Lois Segur
1966-1968	Dick Schrum	1983-1985	Rex Koury
1968-1970	Al Mason	1985-1988	Jack Moelmann
1970-1972	Stillman Rice	1988-1991	John Ledwon
1972-1974	Erwin Young	1991-1994	Vern Bickel
1974-1976	Paul Abernathy	1994-Present	Steve Adams
1976-1978	Ray Snitil		

The initial meeting of the founding fathers (then ATOE) met Tuesday Evening February 8, 1955 at Dick Simonton's Residence.

OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS OF MOTOR CITY THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

President - David J. Ambory
 Vice President - David Martin
 Secretary - Margaret Tapler
 Treasurer - Robert Weil

Board Members

David Ambory
 Audrey Candea
 Evalyn Eucker
 Thomas Hurst
 Donald G. Lockwood
 David Martin
 George McCann
 Dorothy Van Steenkiste
 William Walther*

*Chairman of the Redford Operating Committee

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

President - Stephen L. Adams
 Vice President - Paul J. Quarino
 Secretary - Jack Moelmann
 Treasurer - Alden Stockebrand
 Past President - Vernon P. Bickel
 Executive Secretary - Harry Heth

Board of Directors

Tom DeLay
 Dorothy Van Steenkiste
 Byron Melcher
 Jim Riggs
 Allen Miller
 Jeff Weiler
 Jack Moelmann
 Steve Adams
 Bob Markworth

ATOS Journal Editor - Grace E. McGinnis
 Pipes and Personalities Editor - Marion Flint

THE PRESIDENTS OF MOTOR CITY THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

October 19, 1964 - July, 1968	Al Mason
August, 1968 - November, 1969	James Brown
December, 1969 - One Month	Peter Henkel
December, 1969 - November, 1970	Al Mason
December, 1970 - November, 1971	Phillip Gordon
October, 1971 - November, 1972	Claude Sheridan
December, 1972 - November, 1974	David Ullin
December, 1974 - August, 1976	John Fischer
August, 1976 - November, 1977	Ron Werner
December, 1977 - October, 1979	Lawrence Gleason
December, 1979 - November, 1982	David Lau
November, 1982 - November, 1986	Harold Bellamy
December, 1986 - November, 1990	Robert Duerr
December, 1990 - November, 1992	Brian Carmody
December, 1992 - November, 1993	S. Raymond Nicholl
December, 1993 - Present	David Ambory

There are sixteen members in the president's Circle formerly called "Life Members."

We have come a long way since the thirty-one Founding Fathers gathered at the home of Dick Simonton on February 8, 1955.

AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY 1955 - 1995

"Organized in 1955 as the American Association of Theatre Organ Enthusiasts (ATOE) and later changed to the American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS), for the purpose of preserving the tradition of the Theatre Organ and to further the understanding of this instrument and its music through the exchange of information." The Society is one of the oldest preservation groups in the country.

It has grown from its early beginning to what it is today. A world-wide membership of approximately 6000 that share in the fun and excitement provided by the Theatre Pipe Organ while working to preserve it for all time.

From the first chapter in 1956 (Eastern Massachusetts) it grew to 92 chapters down through the years, with 69 active chapters at the present time. The newest chapter is the Golden State Chapter.

We have installed an organ in the Towe Ford Museum in Sacramento where it is heard daily.

Many new programs have been initiated:

- Young Theatre Organist Competition
 - Young Organist Scholarship Program
 - David L. Junchen Technical Scholarship Program
 - Hobbyist Division of the Theatre Organist Competition
- We have an Archives/Library.

We have honored members by appointing them to the Hall of Fame.

We have elected Honorary Members based on their achievements. We honor Organists of the Year for their dedication. We honor an Organ Technician each year for his work. We have established an Endowment Program.

We encourage annual conventions by chapters so that members can meet with other members from around the world and enjoy hearing the instruments they are preserving.

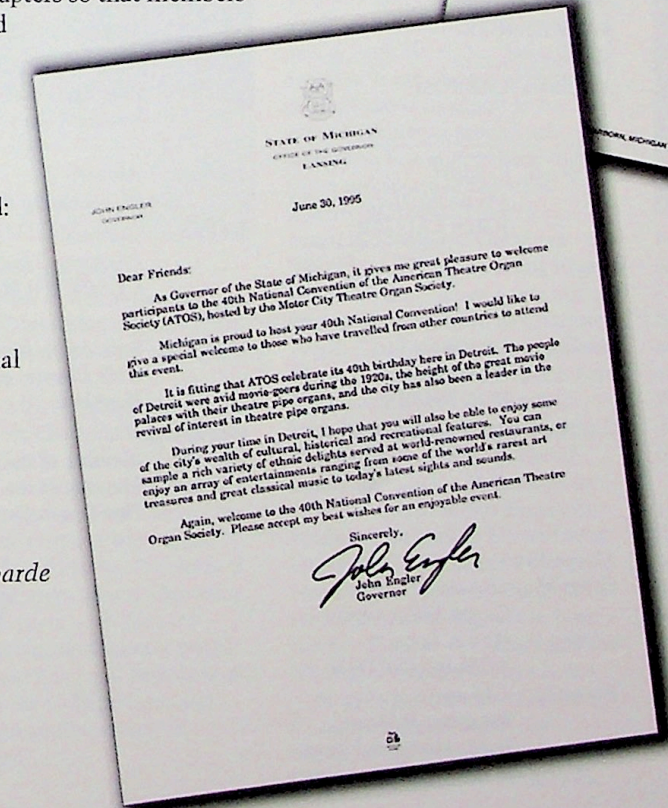
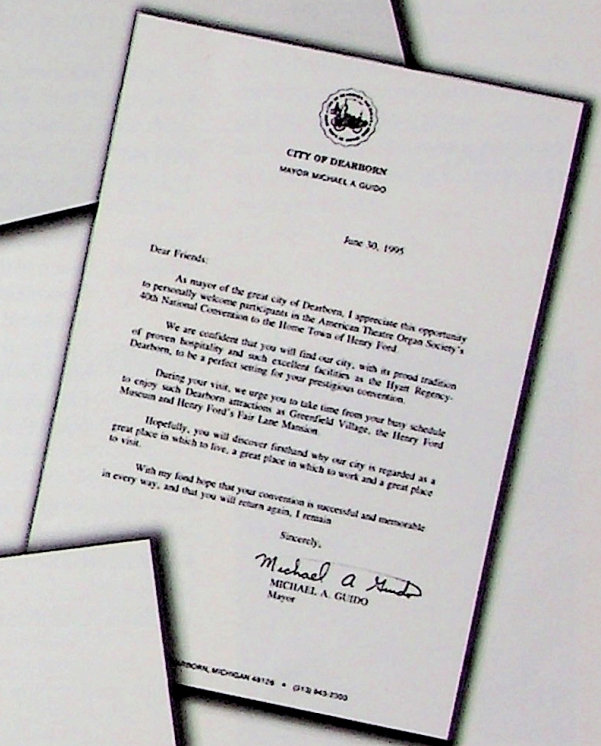
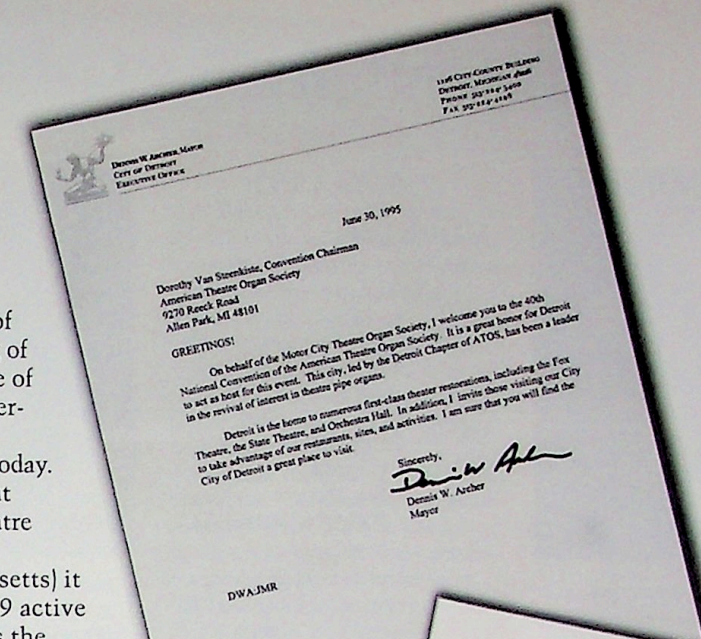
We report chapter activities in the Journal so that chapters know what other chapters are doing.

The following groups have been formed:

- The Electronic Theatre Organ Group (Etones)
- Home Pipe Organ Owners Group
- Computer Network Group

We have provided ATOE/ATOS national journals down through the years to keep everyone informed:

- *The Tibia*
- *Theatre Organ*
- *Theatre Organ* alternating with *the Bombarde*
- *Theatre Organ* combined with *Bombarde*
- *Theatre Organ*
- *International News*
- *Pipes and Personalities*



Convention '95 ❖ Calendar of Events

DATE	MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
FRIDAY JUNE 30		1:00 pm Registration Opens <i>Hyatt Regency</i>	6:00 pm No-Host Cocktail Party 8:00 pm Pre-Glow Concert <i>Senate Theater</i> LYN LARSON
SATURDAY JULY 1	7:00 am Registration 9:30 am Concert <i>Fox Theatre</i> JONAS NORDWALL	11:30 am (Option) Theatre Tour (must be able to walk) 3:00 pm Concert <i>Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church</i> SCOTT FOPPIANO 5:00 pm Meeting of Young Theatre Organ Enthusiasts (YTOE)	8:00 pm Concert <i>Redford Theatre</i> TONY O'BRIEN 10:30 pm <i>Redford Theatre</i> Optional Jam Session
SUNDAY JULY 2	8:00 am Church Services 9:00 am Chapter Representa- tives Meeting 9:00 am Home Tours 10:00 am Allen Miller Workshop: Technical Matters— Keyboard Rebuilding 10:00 am Lee Erwin Workshop: Silent Film Scoring 10:00 am President's Open Forum	2:00 pm Concert <i>Redford Theatre</i> RUSSELL HOLMES and Cameos of Winners of 1995 YTOE Competition KYLIE MALLET SEAN HENDERSON RICHARD HILLS	7:30 pm Concert <i>Church of Today</i> STEVE SCHLESING PIERRE FRACALANZA
MONDAY JULY 3	Concerts <i>Flint Institute of Arts Dort Music Center</i> BARRY BAKER <i>Baldwin Theatre</i> MELISSA AMBROSE	Home Tour Seminars 3:30 pm Computer Network Group 4:00 pm Marketing Concerts 4:30 pm Devtronix Control System User's Group	7:30 pm Concert <i>Senate Theater</i> SIMON GLEDHILL 10:00 pm Silent Film Presentation <i>Redford Theatre</i> LEE ERWIN
TUESDAY JULY 4	10:30 am Concert <i>Michigan Theater</i> JOHN LAUTER	1:30 pm Annual Membership Meeting 2:45 pm Concert <i>Michigan Theater</i> CLARK WILSON	6:30 pm No-Host Cocktail Party 7:30 pm Banquet 9:30 pm Lobby Concert LANCE LUCE MIKE PRZBYLSKI
WEDNESDAY JULY 5	10:30 am Concert <i>Fox Theatre</i> RON RHODE 9:15 am Roll Player in Fox Lobby	1:00 pm President's Meeting with Charter and Life Members Workshops 2:00 pm Meeting of the Etones 3:30 pm Meeting of the Home Pipe Organ Group	8:00 pm Concert <i>Senate Theater</i> WALT STRONGY Chamber Tour 10:15 pm Visiting Artists Jam Session
THURSDAY JULY 6	After-Glows Event #1 8:30 am <i>Grand Ledge Opera House, Lansing</i> TOM HAZLETON Event #2 7:45 am Breakfast at Henry Ford's Home and Tour of the Carail Museum	Event #3 DETROIT EDISON FOUNDATION 8:00 pm	SPONSORED BY THE DETROIT EDISON FOUNDATION <i>Redford Theatre</i> DENNIS JAMES Silent Film Celebrating 100th Anniversary of Buster Keaton's Birth

THE ARTISTS OF MUSIC LIVE IN '95

MELISSA AMBROSE (EIDSON) *Baldwin Theatre*

Popular theatre organist Melissa Ambrose, winner of the local theatre organist competition at the Redford Theatre, went on to win the National Competition of the American Theatre Organ Society in 1987. In 1986, Melissa won the American Guild of Organists' Competition for which she received a college scholarship.

Melissa's dynamic personality is in great demand for her well-rounded theatre organ programs, pleasing her audiences with new arrangements of music.

With a Bachelor of Arts degree in organ performance, Melissa is continuing her education toward a Master's degree at the University of Michigan under the tutelage of Marilyn Mason.



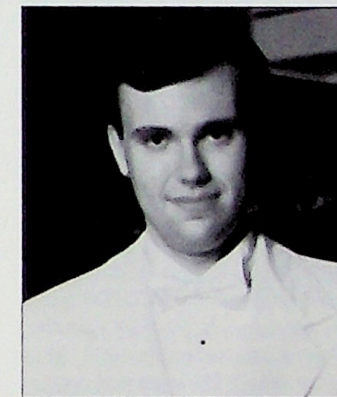
Melissa is currently the organist and Associate Director of Music at the First Congregational Church in Royal Oak.

Melissa and her husband Chris are the proud parents of a new baby girl—Brice Louise—born May 15th at 2:20 p.m. — 5 lbs, 12 oz., 20" long. Congratulations to the new family.

BARRY BAKER *Flint Institute of Arts Dort Music Center*

Barry Baker began his career in music with formal piano instruction and became the organist and pianist at his church. A year later Barry performed his theatre organ debut for the American Theatre Organ Society on the Wurlitzer pipe organ in the Emery Theatre, Cincinnati, Ohio. The response to this gifted youngster was tremendous, and he was invited to play for theatre's classic movie series. Shortly thereafter Barry began his seven-year association with the Springdale Music Palace restaurant, contributing countless performances on their huge "Mighty Wurlitzer," and eventually rising to the senior position of House Organist. Currently Barry is heard entertaining diners on the large 4/31 Wurlitzer pipe organ at Cincinnati's Shady Nook restaurant, a popular and well known gathering spot for theatre organ buffs.

Despite his youth, Barry is already a seasoned veteran of the concert stage. In 1989 he was named National Winner of the ATOS Young Theatre Organist Competition and subsequently was a featured solo artist



at both 1989 and 1990 National Conventions, as well as the 1993 Regional Convention in Minneapolis. He is in great demand for performing around the country.

In 1992 Barry completed studies at Southern Ohio College, attaining a degree in Audio and Video Production. His ongoing music education includes extensive classical piano training with noted teacher David Hobbs, Professor of Music at Eastern Illinois University, and three years with Richard Morris, acclaimed concert pianist department head and Professor of Music at the College Conservatory of Music—University of Cincinnati.

LEE ERWIN

Historic Redford Theatre

Lee Erwin played the theatre organ for movies at the very end of the silent film era when he was a student at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. After graduating, Lee went to Paris to study with organist Andre Marchal and he also studied composition with Nadia Boulanger.

When he returned to the United States, Lee was a featured organist at radio station WLW in Cincinnati for ten years. He was organist, composer and music arranger at CBS radio and television in NYC for 22 years.

In 1967, Lee launched a new career as organist and composer of music for silent films. Since then he has composed and recorded the music for more than 70 films.

In recent years Mr. Erwin has

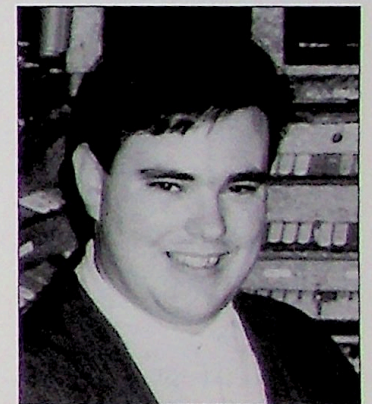


played concerts, and the musical accompaniment for films in theatres, college and high school auditoriums, museums and churches all over America, Canada, Europe and Australia. His music on film is used on TV, and in theatres all over the world.

SCOTT F. FOPPIANO *Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church*

Scott F. Foppiano was born in Memphis, Tennessee in 1965. He developed a keen interest in music at a very early age, and began formal piano training in the second grade. Soon thereafter he took an interest in the organ and started playing the instrument in his church. While in junior high school he first experienced the sight and sound of the 1928 mighty Wurlitzer Theatre pipe organ in Memphis' Orpheum Theatre and began learning how to play it as well. When Scott turned 18, his family moved to Charlotte, North Carolina and he entered the North Carolina School of the Arts. His teachers have included: John Hooker, John and Margaret Mueller, Robert Stigall, David Lowry and Donna Robertson. In 1990 he moved to Birmingham, Michigan and began his tenure as Organist and Director of Music at Northbrook Presbyterian Church. He became staff organist at both the Fox Theatre in Detroit and the Michigan Theater in Ann Arbor.

In 1994 he moved to Danbury, Connecticut and began his tenure as the Organist and Director of Music at the historic



First Congregational Church where Charles Ives once served as organist. Scott began a series of concerts and recitals in collaboration with the congregation's 300th anniversary celebration. The series, entitled "Music At First Church," is to remain a regular tradition.

He is a member of the AGO where he has held a position on the Board of Directors. He has been invited to be the guest recitalist for the annual organ recognition festival on the 469-rank organ at the John Wanamaker store in Philadelphia. He has made two recordings on both theatre and classical organ genres and has additional releases pending.

PIERRE FRACALANZA
Church Of Today

Pierre Fracalanza has been entertaining in the Detroit area for sixteen years. A native of Port Huron, Michigan, Pierre began his piano and organ studies with his father, Professor Romeo Fracalanza. Pierre attended the renowned Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, where he studied music performance.

As a well-known society pianist, Pierre has appeared at restaurants and cocktail lounges all over the metro area.

Pierre has entertained for many civic and private organizations, including the National Governor's Conference in Traverse City, the Governor's Residence in Lansing and the Detroit Institute of Arts.

Pierre is former staff organist at Theater Organ Pizza and Pipes in Pontiac, Michigan. He has performed for organ clubs throughout Michigan and Ohio. He is a former Pianist and Associate Music Director for the Church of Today,



a television ministry based in Warren, Michigan.

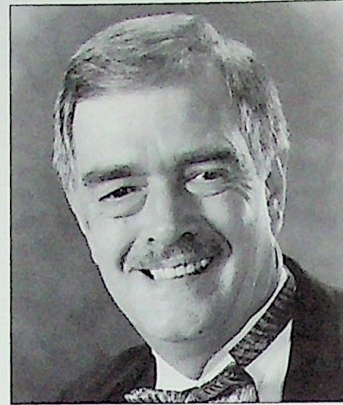
Currently, Pierre is Music Director and Organist at St. James Roman Catholic Church in Novi. He also is Product Specialist at Hammell Music in Livonia where he regularly demonstrates new and exciting musical products. He combines his musical expertise with his knowledge of computers to present a multimedia show involving the Yamaha Disklavier Player Piano.

THOMAS HAZLETON
Grand Ledge Opera House

Thomas Hazleton is considered to be one of the few concert organists to be equally at home at the classic and orchestral organs.

Hazleton attended San Francisco State University, and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He was a student and assistant to the famed Richard Purvis at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco. He was the last staff organist at the San Francisco Paramount Theatre. At the Menlo Park Presbyterian Church of Menlo Park, California, he was Organist and Associate Director of Music for over 13 years. Mr. Hazleton was formerly Professor of Organ at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California.

The ATOS named Hazleton Organist of the Year in 1986. As a concert organist, Hazleton schedules a great number of concerts each year. His concerts have



taken him around the world where he has performed on most major pipe and electronic organs.

As a leading organ designer and tonal consultant, his specifications have appeared on many of the world's finest organs.

Thomas Hazleton is on the staff of the Allen Organ Company of Macungie, Pennsylvania, and lives in the Lehigh Valley with his wife and two sons.

DENNIS JAMES
Redford Theatre

Dennis James is dedicated to furthering public interest in the theatre pipe organ and to the continuation of the theatrical traditions of organ performance. From the time he began concertizing while still in his teens, Dennis has been at the top of his profession. He has played virtually everywhere pipe organs are to be found, from the fabulous movie palaces throughout the United States to the most prestigious concert halls and theatres in Europe. His performances have been heard in a castle in Toronto and an outdoor amphitheatre in Honolulu, from New York to Los Angeles and Chicago to Atlanta.

Dennis James was named "Organist of the Year" by the American Theatre Organ Society celebrating a career filled with outstanding contributions to the



preservation and presentation of theatre pipe organ entertainment. His recent international organ performance schedule has included Vienna, Austria, Sydney, Perth, Melbourne, Adelaide, and Ballarat, Australia, Paraparamu, Tauranga and Auckland, New Zealand, plus London, Manchester, St. Albans and Northampton, England and Sarrebourg, Reze and Niort, France.

LYN LARSEN
Senate Theater

California born, Lyn Larsen began piano lessons at the age of three and by seven he was tackling the organ. He made his theatre organ debut in 1964. He has rededicated many restored instruments, including the Chicago Theatre and Shea's Buffalo Theatre.

Some of Lyn's notable appearances include Hollywood Bowl, Radio City Music Hall, London's Royal Albert Hall, and an appearance with late Pierre Cochereau, of Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris.

In addition to his concert schedule, which has included tours in England, Europe and Australia, Lyn has made numerous recordings. Some of his early recordings are now rare collector items. His recently published work as a composer and arranger is *The Lyn Larsen Theatre Organ Collection*.

Lyn also provides consultation



for tonal design and organ layout of theatre organs. He was named Organist of the Year by ATOS in 1984.

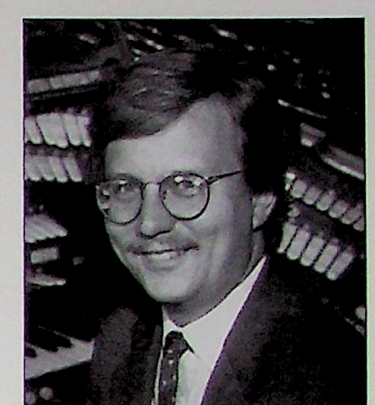
Lyn now makes his home in Arizona, where he enjoys many activities besides a busy concert schedule. Some of these include his position as organist of his church in Phoenix and his interest in stained glass and oil painting.

JOHN LAUTER
Michigan Theater

A native of Detroit, John began lessons at the age of 14. Private teachers have been Betty Mason, Fr. Jim Miller and Gary Reseigh. John made his theatre organ debut at the Redford Theatre in 1975, playing before movie showings, beginning a tradition that continues today. He has also played at the Royal Oak Theatre, the Punch 'n Judy Theatre, the Michigan Theatre in Lansing, the Temple Theatre in Saginaw and the Detroit Theater Organ Society.

For two years, John performed at the console of the Pizza and Pipes restaurant in Pontiac, Michigan. Since 1986 John has been the principal staff organist at the Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor, playing for the popular film series and a number of live variety shows, as well as accompanying the Silent Film series.

John has appeared all over the country in concert. He has been



closely associated with the Fox Theatre in Detroit since the 1988 restoration, performing on the 3/12 Moeller in the lobby and also the 4/36 Wurlitzer in the theater.

John has released a cassette recording on the Roger Mumberue 3/39 Hybrid home installation. John is also interested in Classic and Antique auto restoration, films and movie palace history, architecture and preservation, and music of all descriptions.

SIMON GLEDHILL
Senate Theater

Simon was born in Halifax, West Yorkshire, in 1965 and showed a keen interest in music from an early age. At age ten he started to play a small electronic organ and studied with Michael Woodhead who also gave him extensive lessons in classical organ and piano.

Simon's first experience of the theatre organ was hearing Ernest Broadbent play the Mighty Wurlitzer at Blackpool's famous Tower Ballroom. He began making weekly practice visits. In 1983, when he was sixteen, he entered and won the Northern Young Theatre Organist of the Year competition. Nigel Ogden, presenter of BBC Radio 2's *The Organist Entertains*, was in the audience and invited him to make some recordings for the program on the BBC theatre organ.

Concert offers quickly started to arrive in response to the resulting broadcasts and Simon has since performed at all the major theatre organ venues in Britain, as



well as touring in Germany, Holland, Australia and the USA.

Simon has made several highly successful commercial recordings, including the premier recording of the immaculate 4/21 Castro Theatre Wurlitzer in San Francisco, "California, Here I Come!", which has won great acclaim, not only in theatre organ circles but also in the general musical press.

A busy "hobby", indeed, for a musician whose full-time career is in the equally hectic world of city banking!

RUSSELL HOLMES
Historic Redford Theatre

Russell is the Over-All Winner of the 1994 Young Theatre Organist Competition.

Russell, 21 years old, is currently studying Business and Finance at Derby University in England. Most of his spare time, however, is devoted to music and he played his first theatre pipe organ at age 13. Russell is the first young organist to win all three divisions of the ATOS Competition. In 1989 he won the Junior Division and in 1990 the Intermediate Division and on both occasions he was invited over to America to play at the Annual Convention. Two cassette recordings made on an Allen 4600 digital theatre organ, are enjoying considerable acclaim in the U.K. and are being broadcast frequently nationwide on BBC Radio. In 1994, while on a tour, Russell



was able to perform four concerts in the United States. As a church organist, during school breaks Russell also enjoys playing cocktail piano. This year, during his University break, Russell was booked to play several concerts in the United States, including a prestigious engagement at the Kirk of Dunedin in Florida.

TONY O'BRIEN

Redford Theatre

Tony O'Brien is a dynamic musician with a spirited approach to the keyboard. His artistry embraces both classic and popular repertoires attracting a widely diverse audience.

He began serious studies in classical piano and organ at the age of seven and was already an accomplished church organist by the time he was ten. At fifteen he made his formal public debut before an audience of fifteen-hundred people at the Redford Theatre. After graduating from high school two years later, he was invited to tour through New England and the Islands. On Martha's Vineyard, he performed at the Historic Union Chapel when Dr. Harold Heermans, National Dean of The American Guild of Organists wrote: "Tony will make his mark—he has the equipment both technical and musical."

Tony was subsequently awarded a full music scholarship to Wayne State University, studying organ performance with Ray Ferguson. He also studied organ and the art of improvisation with the late



Dr. Frederick L. Marriott and internationally acclaimed organist Hector Olivera.

In 1985, Tony was invited to give four concerts at the National Showcase of Performing Arts for Young People, and has since concertized throughout the United States, Canada and Australia. His most recent performances were with the Lawton Oklahoma Philharmonic and at the famous Chautauqua Institution in New York. After his coast to coast tour of Australia, Tony was praised for his improvisational skill, possessing "An uncommon and remarkable gift in that idiom" (Keyboard World)

RON RHODE

Fox Theatre

Ron Rhode has travelled far in his twenty year career as a theatre organist. He has received "Top Rating 10/10" from CD Review Magazine on two of his recordings. He was awarded "Theatre Organist Of The Year—1989" by the American Theatre Organ Society. He has played virtually every major theatre organ installation in the world.

Ron is a native of Illinois, where he began his musical career on the piano. He quickly advanced to classical pipe organ, and in 1968 held his first job on theatre pipe organ playing for roller skating. In 1973, Ron moved to Phoenix, Arizona, to start a long association with the Organ Stop Pizza restaurants. In 1975 Ron moved to the Mesa location where he held the Featured Organist post and played for pizza patrons until November, 1986. In July, 1988, Ron again joined the staff as Associate Organist.

Since leaving the pizza parlor,



Ron has completed a Bachelor of Education degree in Early Childhood Education at Arizona State University. He teaches second grade for Mesa Public Schools, Mesa, Arizona.

Although Ron is held to the classroom through the week, he still finds time to maintain an active concert and recording career. He continues to perform professionally across the United States, Canada, England and Australia. He has fourteen recordings available.

STEVE SCHLESING

Church of Today

Steve Schlesing joins us today from Royal Oak, Michigan and brings with him a long and diversified background as an artist of the pipe organ. Steve started his musical training at the early age of seven. He studied the organ at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut and has coached with Lyn Larsen, noted theatre organist. Steve was the winner of the First Annual Liberace Talent Search Contest, and performed with Liberace on stage and television.

He continues his studies today as a scholarship recipient at Wayne State University in Detroit where he's pursuing a course of study in Church Music with Professor Ray Ferguson.

Steve came to Michigan in 1984 to become staff organist at Theatre Organ Pizza and Pipes Restaurant.

WALTER STRONY

Senate Theater

Walter Strony is one of America's premier concert organists. He made his public debut in 1974 at the age of 18 and quickly established himself in both theatre and classical organ circles.

Mr. Strony has performed thousands of concerts and silent film accompaniments from coast to coast in the United States and in Japan, Australia, England and Canada. In addition, he has performed at many conventions of the American Theatre Organ Society and the American Guild of Organists. In 1991 and again in 1993, he was awarded the honored title of "Organist of the Year" by the American Theatre Organ Society.

In addition to his fine reputation as a concert organist, Walt is well known for his many recordings, and for his book *The Secrets*

CLARK WILSON

Michigan Theater

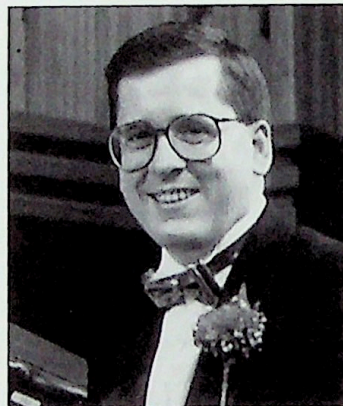
A native of Ohio, Clark Wilson began his musical training at age 9. While growing up he accompanied numerous stage musicals and was organist at several churches. At this time he was listed in "Who's Who in the Midwest" and "Men of Achievement".

After several years with the Schantz Organ Company as a reed voicer and tonal finisher Clark's professional theatre organ

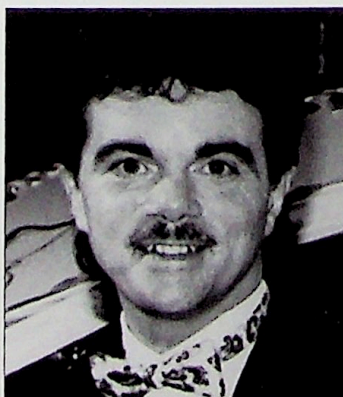


He was then appointed organist at Tiger Stadium and entertained baseball fans for three seasons.

Presently, Steve is in his eleventh year as Music Director and Organist at the Church of Today in Warren, Michigan. In addition to his busy church and school schedule he's a staff organist at the Fox Theatre in Detroit.



of Theatre Organ Registration, which has become the standard reference book on this subject. He regularly leads workshops on the art of playing the theatre organ, and consults on the tonal design of pipe and digital instruments. In Phoenix he serves as organist and choir director at Augustana Lutheran Church.



career began with his appointment to the featured organist position at Pipe Organ Pizza in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He has since been on the organ staffs at the Paramount Music Palace in Indianapolis, Indiana, Pipes and Pizza in Lansing, Illinois, and is currently associated with Organ Stop Pizza in Mesa, Arizona.

His recording credits include five albums. He has given all-transcription recitals for the AGO, played for the 1990 OHS convention and performed at the National and

Regional conventions of the ATOS. He just recently returned from playing for the National Theatre Organ Convention in South Australia. He also staffs for the Summer Movie Series at the famed Ohio Theatre in Columbus, Ohio.

In addition to a busy concert schedule, Clark heads his own pipe organ business and is increasingly in demand as a tonal consultant and finisher of both theatre and classical pipe organs. He was voted Technician of the Year for 1993 by the ATOS.

LANCE LUCE

Performance in Lobby of Hyatt Regency Hotel

In 1979, at only 19 years of age, Lance was chosen head staff organist for the re-opening of the famed Radio City Music Hall Entertainment Center. He was featured in Ripley's "Believe It Or Not" for this accomplishment. During his year in New York, Lance performed at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall Cinema, participated in studio recording sessions, and had his arranging talents requisitioned by two publishing firms. Prior to this engagement, in 1978, Lance won first place honors in the Senior Yamaha National Electone Organ Festival—United States Championship.

In 1984 he was the overseas guest artist for the twelfth national convention of the Theater Organ Society of Australia in Melbourne. Lance has since completed a return engagement "Down Under", with performances from coast-to-coast.



He toured England in 1988 with exceptional success. His concerts are met with praise as well as critical acclaim from people of all ages.

From 1983 until 1991 he was the featured organist at the famous "Organ Grinder" in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, playing for over 2 million patrons in eight years.

Now living in his native Michigan, he concentrates on his concerts, recordings, church work, and represents Rodgers Organs.

MIKE PRZYBYLSKI

In concert with Lance Luce in lobby of Hyatt Regency

You are listening to the nimble fingers of Mike Przybylski at the piano as he plays his well-known boogie-woogie stylings in duet with Lance Luce. Mike has appeared at the Woodbridge Tavern in Detroit, Charlie's Crab in Troy and the famous Dakota Inn Rathskeller in Detroit on John R. where they still feature sing-alongs.



JOHN STEELE

Keyboard Artist During Banquet at Hyatt Regency

John Steele started playing the organ at age 16. Formerly of Ohio, he studied with George N. Tucker, Dr. Ralph Harris and Reginald Foort. During the following years, John has concertized all over the country, including New York at the Paramount, Radio City, the Richman Mosque, Wilmington, Delaware and Canada. John appeared as featured organist at the John Deere Estate and also was the featured organist at Cap'n's Galley Pizza and Pipes, where he played the former Buddy Cole Organ in Campbell, California.

John has been involved with rebuilding theatre pipe organs all over the country and is currently rebuilding a four-manual Kimball. John also plays his "Kurzwel", a digital piano with strings and over one-hundred sounds.

SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMERS

KEN DOUBLE

Master Of Ceremonies

Play-by-play broadcaster, talk-show host, theater organist, publicist, promoter, and even a stockbroker, Ken Double has worn enough hats to keep a haberdasher in business.

A native Chicagoan, Ken moved to Indianapolis in 1971 to attend Butler University. After graduation he embarked upon a broadcast career that included WBAT Radio in Marion, Indiana, and an anchor spot on WRTV, the ABC affiliate in Indianapolis. Ken has announced for Purdue University basketball, the IHL's Indianapolis Ice, the Indiana Pacers basketball, and has been the "Voice of the Atlanta Knights" of the IHL.

Comfortable as he is at a microphone, he proves to be equally at home at the theatre



pipe organ console. Ken began organ lessons at age 8, discovered the theatre pipe organ at age 14, and since playing his first public concert in 1978 has been active on the concert circuit.

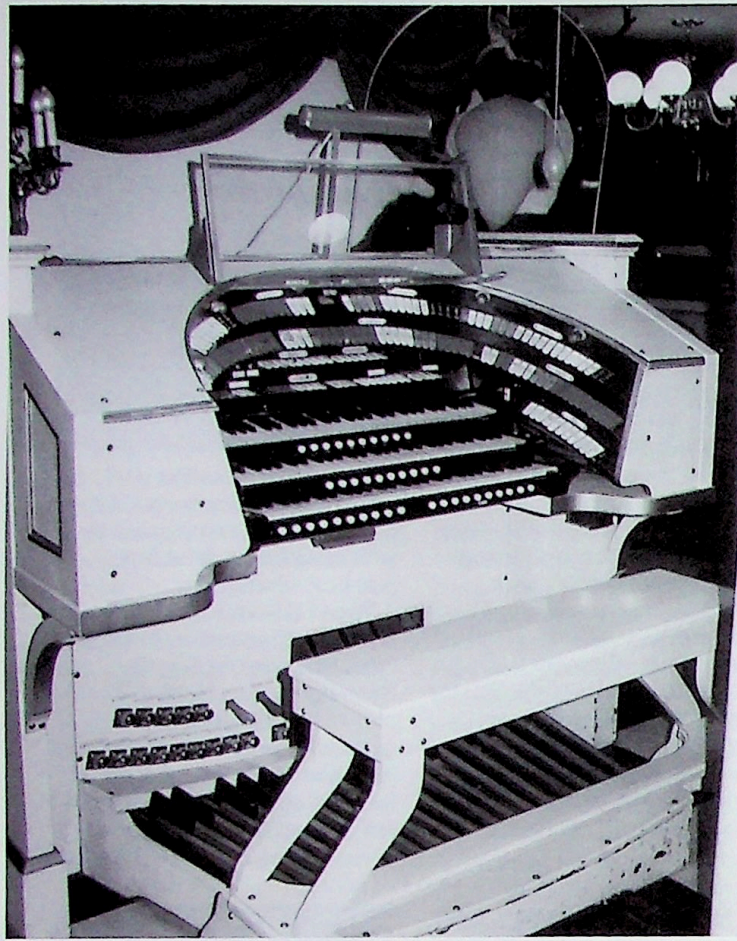
Ken is closely associated with the Long Center for the Performing Arts in Lafayette, Indiana, where he performs regularly.

LAURIE MEEKER

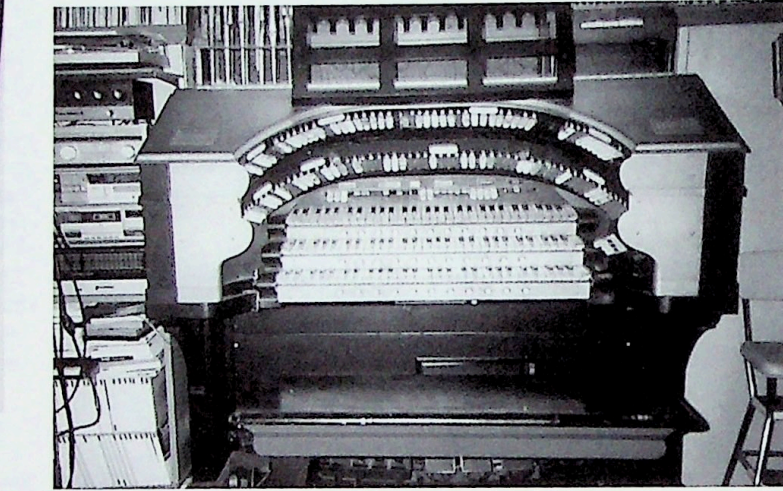
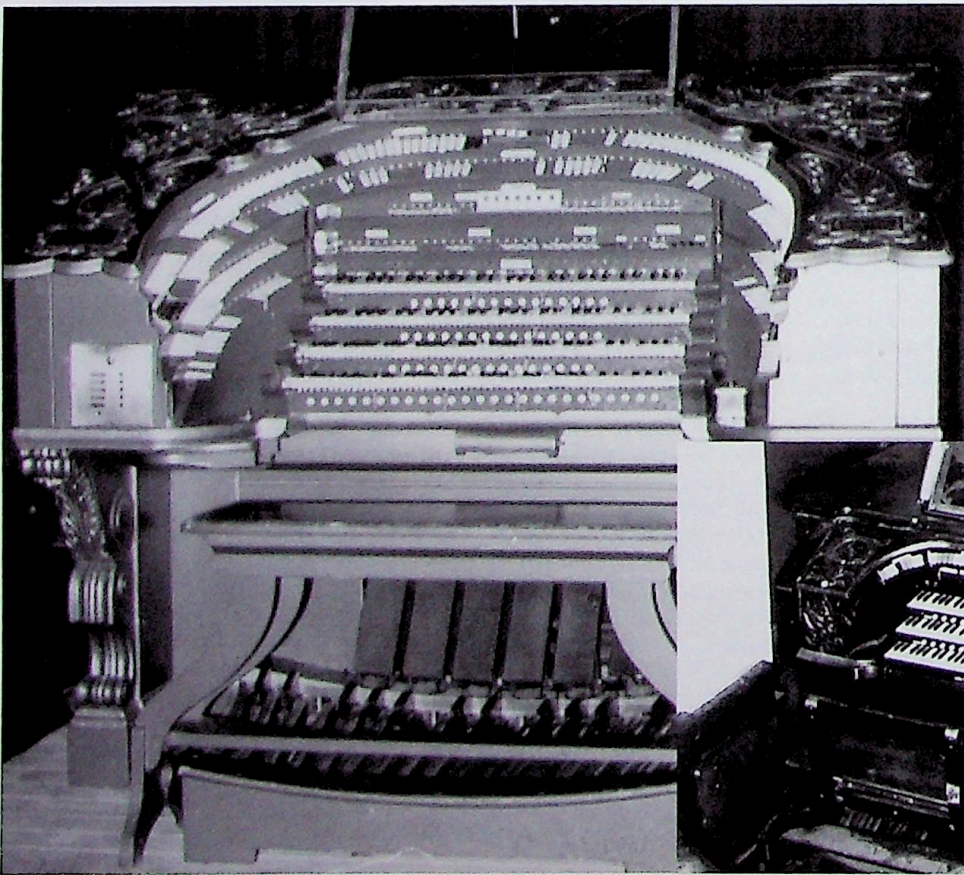
Church of Today

Laurie Meeker is one of the busiest actress/singers in the Detroit Metropolitan Area, and has appeared in numerous musical theatre and opera productions nationally and internationally.

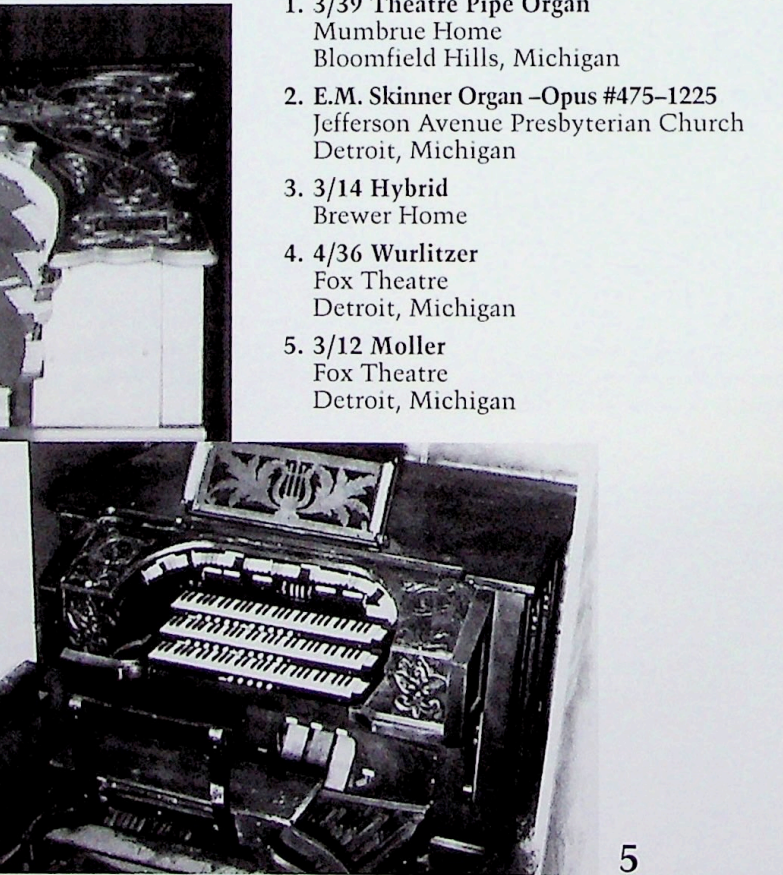




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3



5

1. 3/39 Theatre Pipe Organ
Mumbrue Home
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan
2. E.M. Skinner Organ - Opus #475-1225
Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church
Detroit, Michigan
3. 3/14 Hybrid
Brewer Home
4. 4/36 Wurlitzer
Fox Theatre
Detroit, Michigan
5. 3/12 Moller
Fox Theatre
Detroit, Michigan

Section	Instrument	Location
1. MUMBRUE RESIDENCE	10	English Foot Horn
	10	English Horn
	10	Trumpet
	10	Oboloid
	10	Wood Diapason
	10	Diapason
	10	Trumpet
	10	English Foot Horn
	10	English Horn
	10	Trumpet
2. FOX LOBBY MOLLER ORGAN	10	English Foot Horn
	10	English Horn
	10	Trumpet
	10	Oboloid
	10	Wood Diapason
	10	Diapason
	10	Trumpet
	10	English Foot Horn
	10	English Horn
	10	Trumpet
3. BREWER 3-18 Hybrid	10	English Foot Horn
	10	English Horn
	10	Trumpet
	10	Oboloid
	10	Wood Diapason
	10	Diapason
	10	Trumpet
	10	English Foot Horn
	10	English Horn
	10	Trumpet
4. FOX THEATRE WURLITZER	10	English Foot Horn
	10	English Horn
	10	Trumpet
	10	Oboloid
	10	Wood Diapason
	10	Diapason
	10	Trumpet
	10	English Foot Horn
	10	English Horn
	10	Trumpet
5. E.M. SKINNER ORGAN - Opus #475-1225	10	English Foot Horn
	10	English Horn
	10	Trumpet
	10	Oboloid
	10	Wood Diapason
	10	Diapason
	10	Trumpet
	10	English Foot Horn
	10	English Horn
	10	Trumpet

1. MUMBRUE RESIDENCE

Table listing musical instruments and specifications for MUMBRUE RESIDENCE, including Pedal, Diapason, GREAT, ACCOMP, BACKRAIL, SOLO, and 2ND TOUCH sections.

4. FOX THEATRE WURLITZER

Table listing musical instruments and specifications for FOX THEATRE WURLITZER, including FOUNDATION CHAMBER, ORCHESTRAL CHAMBER, PERCUSSION CHAMBER, DIAPHONE CHAMBER, MAIN CHAMBER, SOLO CHAMBER, UPPER CHAMBER, and LOWER CHAMBER sections.

2. JEFFERSON AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Table listing musical instruments and specifications for JEFFERSON AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, including GREAT, CHOIR, SOLO, SWELL, COUPLERS, ECHO, PEDAL, and GREAT 2nd TOUCH sections.

3. BREWER 3-18 Hybrid

Table listing musical instruments and specifications for BREWER 3-18 Hybrid, including PEDAL, GREAT, ACCOMPANIMENT, GREAT 2nd TOUCH, SOLO, and TREMULANTS sections.

5. FOX LOBBY MOLLER ORGAN

Table listing musical instruments and specifications for FOX LOBBY MOLLER ORGAN, including UPPER CHAMBER, GENERAL, and LOWER CHAMBER sections.

6. ... BARTON

Table listing musical instruments and specifications for ... BARTON, including SOLO, GREAT 2nd TOUCH, SOLO, and TREMULANTS sections.

7. CHURCH OF ...

Table listing musical instruments and specifications for CHURCH OF ..., including PEDAL, SOLO, GREAT 2nd TOUCH, SOLO, and TREMULANTS sections.

8. GRAND LEDGE OPERA HOUSE

Table listing musical instruments and specifications for GRAND LEDGE OPERA HOUSE, including PEDAL, SOLO, GREAT 2nd TOUCH, SOLO, and TREMULANTS sections.

12. MICHIGAN THEATRE

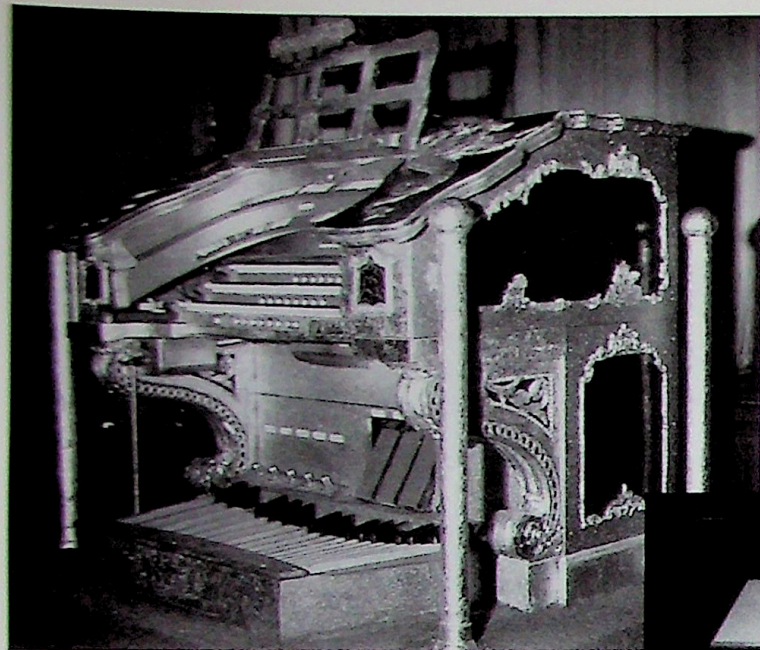
Table listing musical instruments and specifications for MICHIGAN THEATRE, including PEDAL, SOLO, GREAT 2nd TOUCH, SOLO, and TREMULANTS sections.

11. DORT INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

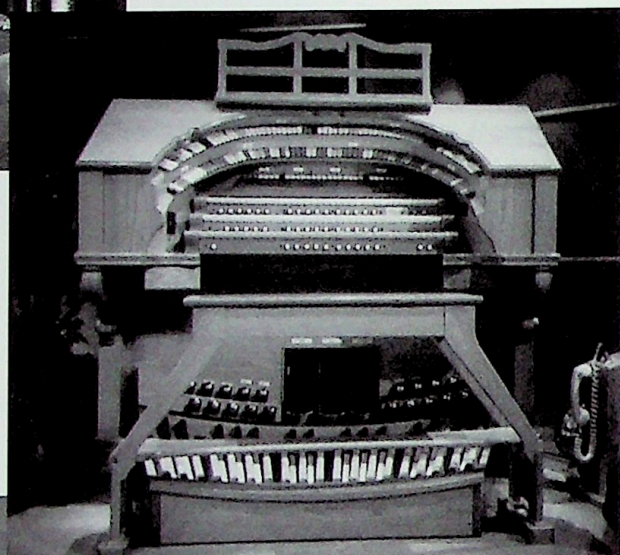
Table listing musical instruments and specifications for DORT INSTITUTE OF MUSIC, including PEDAL, SOLO, GREAT 2nd TOUCH, SOLO, and TREMULANTS sections.

10. DORT ... Wurlitzer special Opus 1952

Table listing musical instruments and specifications for DORT ... Wurlitzer special Opus 1952, including PEDAL, SOLO, GREAT 2nd TOUCH, SOLO, and TREMULANTS sections.



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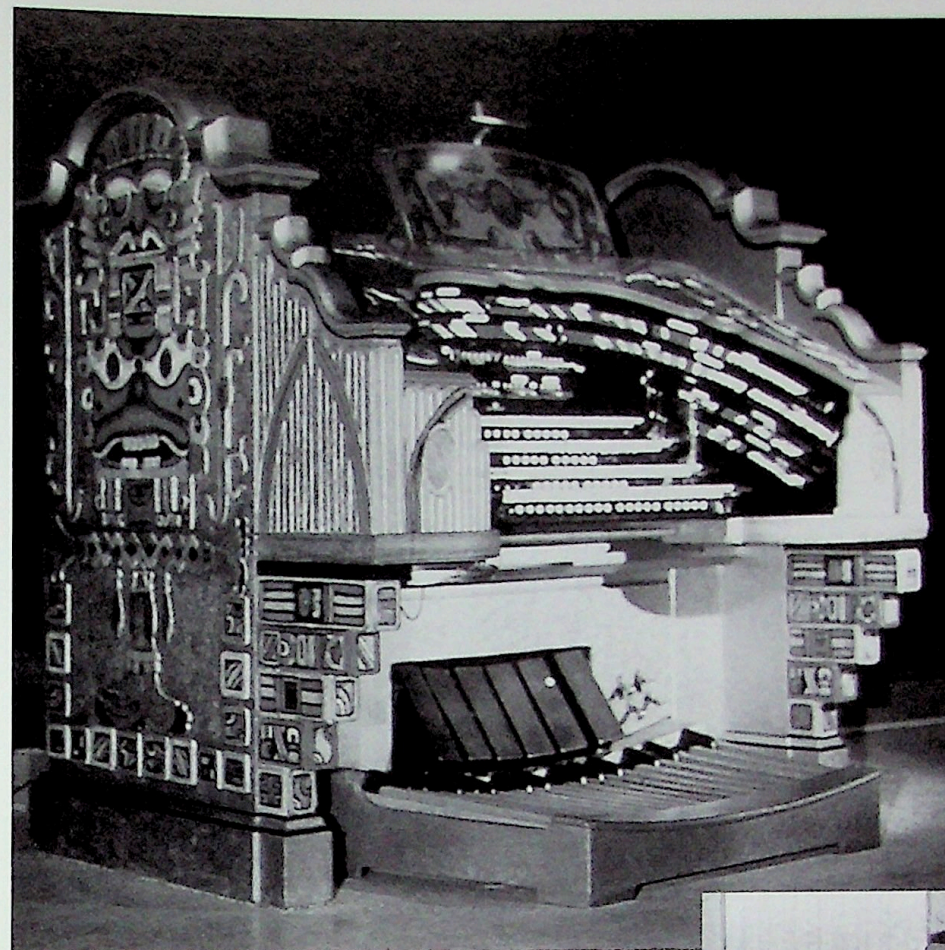


6. Redford Barton
Redford Theatre
Detroit, Michigan

7. Allen Custom Theatre Organ (1991)
Church of Today

8. 3/20 Barton
Grand Ledge Opera House
Grand Ledge, Michigan

9. Wurlitzer 2 manuals — 8 Ranks
Baldwin Theatre
(PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE
AT TIME OF PRINTING)



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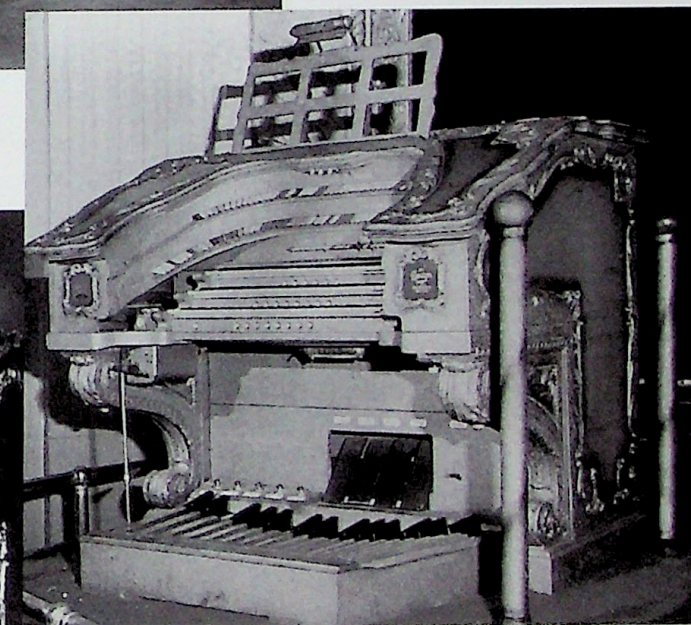
10. 3/34 Wurlitzer
Senate Theater
Ann Arbor, Michigan

11. Barton 3-11
Flint Institute of Music
Dort Music Center, Flint

12. 3/13 Barton
Michigan Theatre
Ann Arbor, Michigan



11

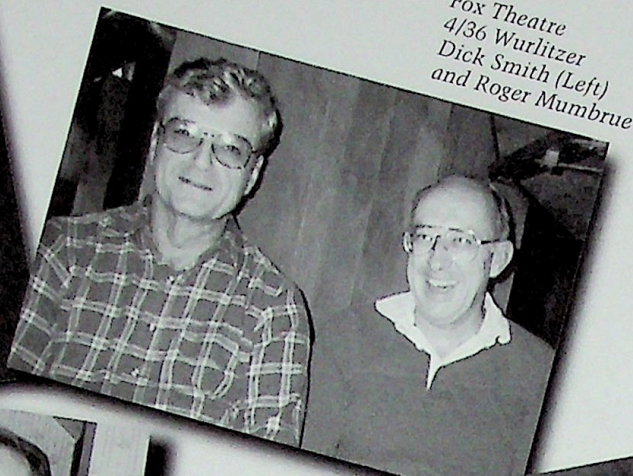


12

MUSIC LIVE IN '95 TECHNICIANS



Redford Theatre
3/10 Barton Theatre Organ
(Left to Right) David Ambory,
Marty Martin, Tom Hurst



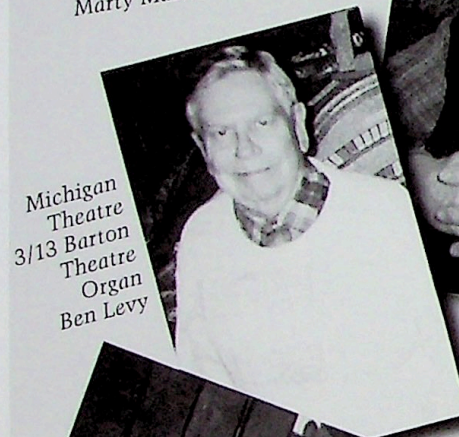
Fox Theatre
4/36 Wurlitzer
Dick Smith (Left)
and Roger Mumbrue



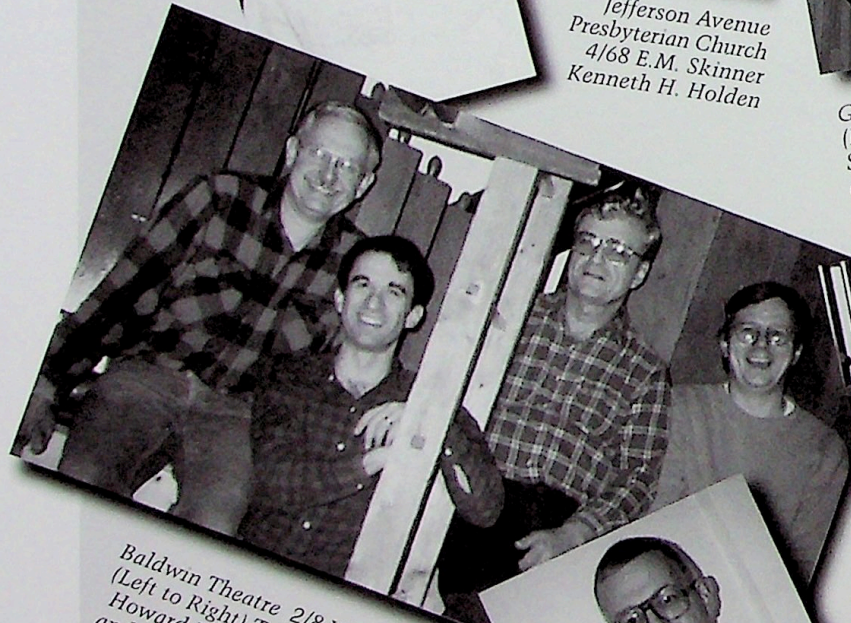
Jefferson Avenue
Presbyterian Church
4/68 E.M. Skinner
Kenneth H. Holden



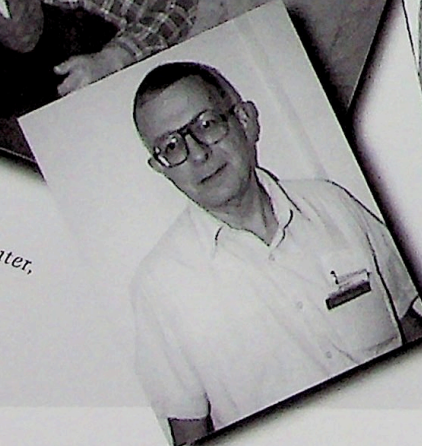
Grand Ledge Opera House 3/20 Barton/Hybrid
(Left to Right) Bill Worthy, Pat Rider, Floyd Young,
Scott Smith, Roger Stone, Bob Preston, George Gephart,
and others not pictured



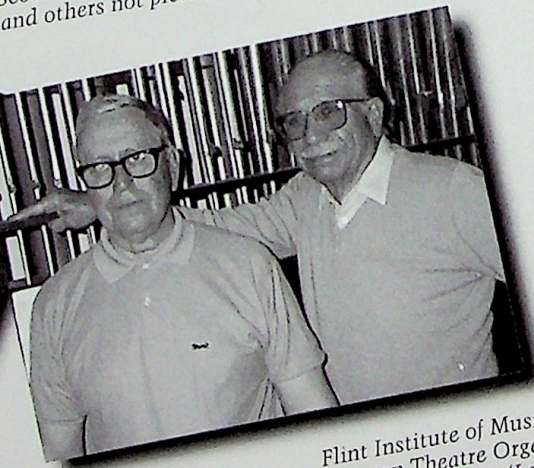
Michigan
Theatre
3/13 Barton
Theatre
Organ
Ben Levy



Baldwin Theatre 2/8 Wurlitzer
(Left to Right) Tom Hornung,
Howard Baron, Dick Smith, John Lauter,
and Gregg Bellamy (not pictured)



Senate Theatre
4/34 Wurlitzer,
opus 1953.
Dave Brewer



Flint Institute of Music
3/11 Barton Theatre Organ
Norman Lawless (Left)
and Harold Dingel

SITES OF THE 40TH ANNUAL ATOS CONVENTION

Baldwin Theatre

On July 3, 1995, Stagecrafters will realize one more dream: the complete restoration of the organ in the Baldwin Theatre when the American Theatre Organ Society visits.

For the past several years, Stagecrafters member Howard Baron has been working with organ restorer John Lauter, principle organist at the Michigan Theater in Ann Arbor and members of the Motor City Theatre Organ Society, to reinstall a "rescued" theatre organ into the vacant organ chambers of the Baldwin. The theatre's original organ was removed in 1941.

An eight-rank, two-manual theatre organ was donated by Mert Harris in 1986. Mr. Harris was a retired Royal Oak city employee and was one of the original electricians at the Baldwin.

The donated organ came from a theatre on Detroit's east side and had been shuffled between various homes and churches around the area before it found a home with Stagecrafters.

So far, seven years have been spent "releathering" the organ's 1,100 tiny leather bellows. Almost all of the 60-year-old leather had deteriorated and had to be replaced.

A three-horsepower blower was placed in the attic above the stage, and a chimney sweep was called in to clean the ducts between the blower and the chambers.

Hundreds of wires have also been run between the console, the chambers and the organ's "brain" in the basement, allowing components of the organ to communicate.

Now that the organ is nearing working order, the console will be wheeled into a position between the first row of the audience and the orchestra pit while it's played, and returned to the lobby when not in use.

At some later date, there will be a final phase of restoration when a pit will be dug to house the console on a hydraulic lift. It will then be raised between the audience and the orchestra when used, and stored beneath the floor. *The Baldwin's Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ will be the only such instrument of its kind in an open-to-the-public location in Oakland County.*

Church of Today

The Unity Church was founded by Jack Boland. A new sanctuary was built in 1991. Their Sunday services are broadcast throughout the country. It is an active congregation with many outreach programs into the community.

The Allen organ combines the resources of a thirty-five rank theatre organ with a twenty-five rank classical organ specially designed for the Church of Today by Lyn Larsen. The sound comes through twenty-eight audio channels which is further divided into seventy-nine speaker cabinets.

Flint Institute of Music

The beautiful Barton organ was formerly in the Capitol Theatre, having been installed there in 1928. The Flint Capitol Theatre Organ Club was formed in 1967 with meetings taking place on Saturday nights after the last evening show, and in 1970, club members began work on the restoration of the organ which had deteriorated over the years.

On October 2, 1976, the Capitol Theatre closed its doors and the club was instrumental in getting the Butterfield Theatres to donate the organ to the Flint Institute of Music, thus keeping it for use in the local community.

Organ club members and several other interested parties dismantled and moved the organ to FIM in November, 1976. They spent the next 14 months making the full eleven ranks completely operable.

In January, 1979, the club purchased a player piano and made the adjustments to connect it to the organ. It is painted to match the Barton and can now be played either with the organ or by itself. The club has recently purchased and connected orchestra bells to the organ.

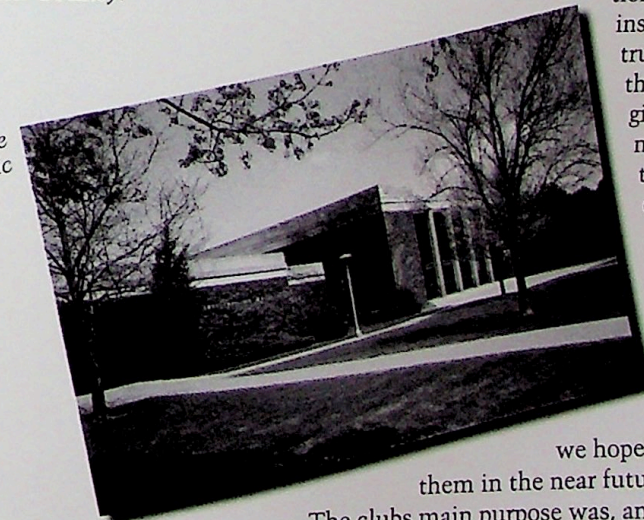
Members of the Flint Theatre Organ Club, as it is now named have given countless hours of their time in the restora-

tion and improvement of the instrument. This is especially true of a small group known as the "work crew," who weekly give their time and skills to its maintenance. At the present time the work crew consists of two people. Norm Lawless, who is a charter member of the club, and Harold Dingel. Norm and Harold have worked together for the last 15 years. We have two members who have volunteered their help, and

we hope to be able to use and train them in the near future.

The club's main purpose was, and is, to promote, encourage, and maintain interest in restoration and playing, or listening to, the theatre pipe organ.

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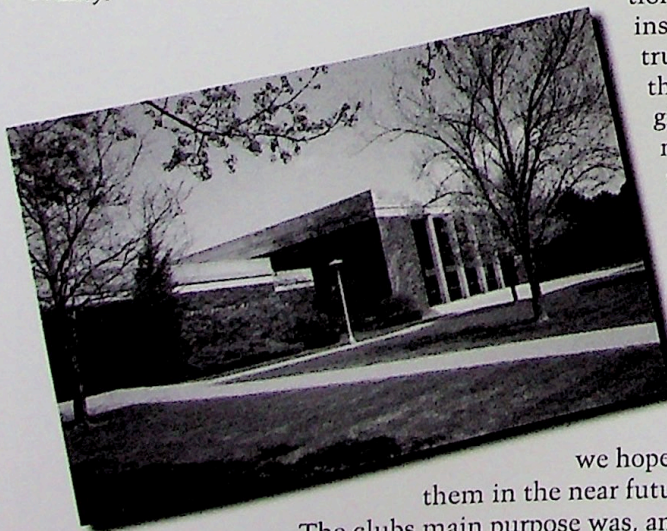
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them in the near future.

Fox Theatre

As the largest movie theatre in the nation, Detroit's Fox Theatre provided generations of Detroiters with countless memories. The Fox, which celebrated its 60th year in 1988, has been restored to reclaim its reputation as one of the most elegant of all performing arts and historical attractions in the country.

In July of 1987, Michael Ilitch, Chairman of the Board and President of Little Caesar's International, Inc. and President of Olympia Arenas, Inc., purchased the Fox Theatre and its adjoining office building. The multi-million dollar renovation project has renewed not only the Fox, but also the surrounding office building which will house the new headquarters for Little Caesar's International, Inc.

William Fox, founder of the movie production company which carries his name, built five Fox theatres throughout the United States. He began construction of the Detroit Fox in March, 1927, for a spectacular grand opening on September 21, 1928, after only an 18-month construction period. Carrying a price tag of over six million dollars, the Detroit Fox was a model for an identical theatre in St. Louis built almost simultaneously. Fox maintained control of his string of movie houses until the onset of the Great Depression which sent him \$91,000,000 into debt.

One of the world's leading movie house architects, C. Howard Crane, designed the theatre for William Fox. He developed a style respectfully known as "Picture Palace Gothic," reflected by such gems as the State Theatre (formerly the Palms) and the Grand Circus Theatre, both of which demonstrate Crane's unique style of mixing movie glitz with old-world elegance. Crane not only created many opulent movie houses but also showed a practical side in the design of Detroit's Olympia Stadium, a 16,000-seat arena.

The Detroit Fox, called a "Temple of Amusement" in early newspaper accounts, was considered the most beautiful of Crane's 52 area theatres. The sumptuous interior of the Fox was described by Ben Hall as "Siamese-Byzantine" which is a conglomeration of Far Eastern Egyptian, Babylonian and Indian themes from various eras. William Fox called this style the "Eve Leo Style," a tribute to his wife who traveled around the globe assembling furniture, artifacts and paintings to lavishly appoint the theatre. Some of her original treasures are displayed in "Peacock Alley," a hallway located directly above the main lobby.

The jeweled Grand Lobby of the Fox was designed to resemble an ancient Indian temple. Rows of massive "marble" columns are reminiscent of the rock-cut Buddhist monastery halls in India between 200 B.C. and 200 A.D. The lobby floor is made of terrazzo and trimmed in brass, bearing a star-burst pattern in the center. This beautiful floor, however, was covered upon the theatre's opening with a colorful wool rug. It was the largest wool rug ever produced by an American manufacturer at the time, weighing 5,000 pounds and covering 3,600 square feet

of floor space. Because it was completely covered, the Grand Lobby floor is in excellent condition.

Among its many beautiful treasures, The Fox in Detroit is proud to have the second largest Wurlitzer organ ever built. It is one of only five that were specially built for the Fox theatres. It contains almost 3,000 pipes and requires seven chambers to house them. At an original cost of over \$100,000, this massive instrument took over four months to install and is still in operation today. The music of this fabulous organ accompanied many of the films shown at the Fox.

Fox Theatre patrons were also entertained by the music of yet another organ, a Moller pipe organ, located on the second level overlooking the Grand Lobby. This organ was used to entertain patrons while they waited for the main attraction to begin. The enormous pipes displayed in the Grand Lobby are not for instrumental use but as beautiful ornamentation to emphasize the existence of the lobby's organ.

One of the most exquisite features of the Fox is a 13-foot diameter, two-ton chandelier. It is enhanced by more than 1,240 pieces of jeweled glass and lit with over 210 light bulbs. The chandelier's enormous size enabled Mrs. Fox to actually stand inside it.

Detroit's Fox Theatre was also one of the first entertainment centers in the world to be fully air-conditioned and offers two passenger elevators to the upper levels.

Its many state-of-the-art comfort features and lavish interior set the mood for generations to come, from the opening night feature film *Street Angel*, starring Janet Gaynor and Charles Farrell, to the Motown reviews during the holiday season in the 60s. The Fox was one of the first theatres in the nation to be equipped with talking pictures.

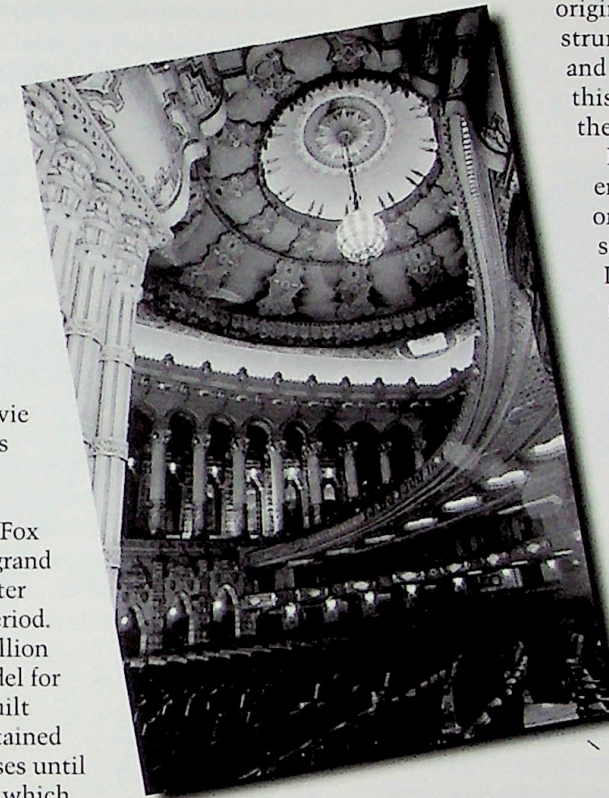
In the late 1920s and 30s, a mere 35 cents would allow a guest of the Fox to spend an afternoon or evening listening to live organ or orchestra music, watch *Movie Tone News* or a talkie, and delight in the splendor and enchantment of this fabulous entertainment showplace.

During the Great Depression of the 30s, the Fox Theatre provided an exotic make-believe escape from the hard and dreary times. From the late 30s through the end of World War II, the Fox hosted top bands and performers such as Glenn Miller, Count Basie, Benny Goodman, Cab Calloway and Ella Fitzgerald, Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, Guy Lombardo, Frank Sinatra and numerous others, in addition to the finest first-run films.

As the times and tastes of music changed, so did the Fox by bringing Detroit audiences the "King of Rock'n'Roll," Elvis Presley, and the original Pretenders. In the late 50s and 60s, Diana Ross and Stevie Wonder were discovered in a local Motown talent show at the Fox. In the late 60s and early 70s The Fox turned to action and horror movies while the 80s featured "new wave" entertainment.

The Fox closed its doors in late 1987 to begin a year-long renovation program, and on November 19, 1988 it reopened.

(Copy courtesy Fox Theatre.)



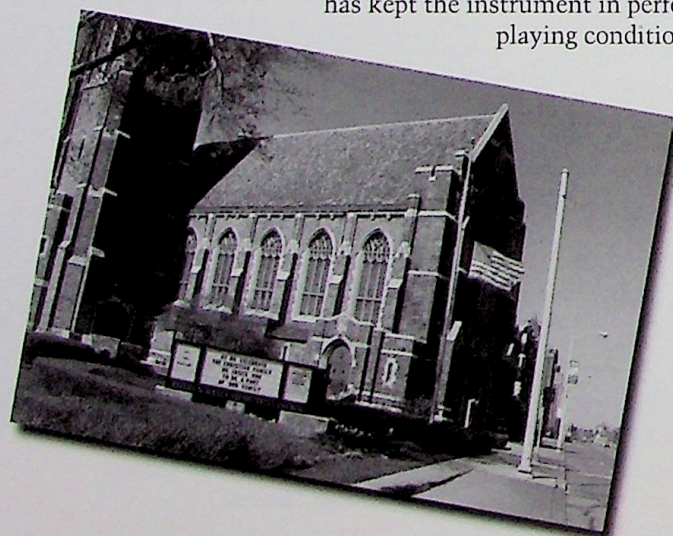
Grand Ledge Opera House

The historic Grand Ledge Opera House was built in 1884 as Michigan's first roller skating venue, when Grand Ledge was the second most popular tourist spot in the state. Over the coming one-hundred-plus years, the building served as an opera house, public auditorium, movie theatre and spent most of its life as a furniture store. By the 1980's, it was just another abandoned building on a crumbling foundation, when the owners donated it to the city, who created the Opera House Authority, a collaboration of the chamber of commerce and the historic society. The recently restored building is now home to numerous diverse activities, including weddings, receptions, dinners, concerts, and even exercise classes.



Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church

The Skinner Organ at Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church in Detroit is the third pipe organ that the congregation has owned. The church was founded in 1854, erected its first building in 1855, and received a large W. B. D. Simmons organ from Boston. The second church was erected on the same site in 1892 and was equipped with a three-manual organ by Frank Roosevelt. Guilmant played it in 1893. Ernest M. Skinner provided an instrument of four manuals and 68 ranks for a new building resulting from the congregation's merge with Bethany Presbyterian Church in 1924. Palmer Christian, professor of organ at The University of Michigan, played the opening recital on April 8, 1926. The organ was a gift in memory of the automobile magnate Horace E. Dodge and was given by his children Horace and Delphine. Its original cost was in excess of \$50,000. The organ has remained intact for more than fifty years. The church has had only four organists since the first decade of the 20th century: Dr. Alle D. Zuidema, Robert Hawksley, James Hammann, and now Barry Turley. Curatorial and restoration work carried out by Kenneth and Dorothy Holden has kept the instrument in perfect playing condition.



Michigan Theater

Ann Arbor is the home of the University of Michigan, founded in 1817. In January, 1928, the stately Michigan Theater opened its doors. Romanesque architecture was chosen to reflect the dignified aura of the university. The theatre opened with a movie, stage acts and an orchestra in the pit. This format continued for the next twelve years.

The Michigan has survived the years quite gracefully. The house suffered the usual modernization efforts; the Barton organ slept quietly in the orchestra pit. In the 1960s, volunteers from the Motor City Theatre Organ Society woke up the Barton and began refurbishing efforts. Organ concerts and programs soon became part of the activities at the Michigan. The group of Motor City Chapter members that cared for the organ began a tradition of Second Sunday programs, featuring a mini-concert by a local artist, open console, refreshments and socializing.

In 1978, dark clouds formed. Butterfield Theatres had decided not to renew their 50-year lease on the theatre. Butterfield owned the nearby State Theatre, a 1940s C. Howard Crane house, which they "quadded," giving them all the capacity they needed.

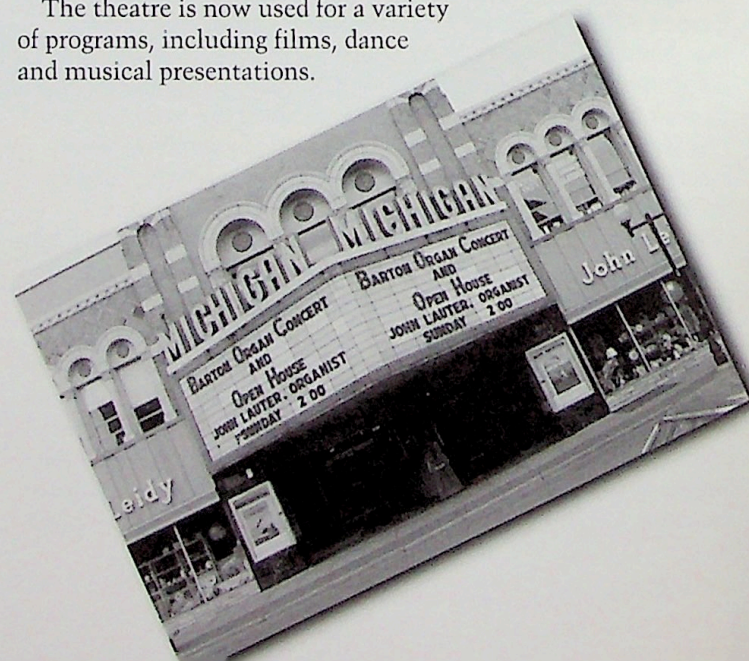
A group of Michigan Theater enthusiasts, many of them organ buffs, began searching for a way to save the building from becoming a shopping mall—an almost certain fate, as it was situated on prime Ann Arbor real estate.

Studies found that in spite of the many university-owned halls, auditoriums and theatres, there was still a great need in the area for a non university-controlled facility. Repeated attempts to acquire the property were thwarted by rocky economic conditions. Finally, the city council voted to provide funds for the purchase of the Michigan Theatre through a bond issue, and subsequently, the City of Ann Arbor agreed to buy it.

Through the cooperative efforts of two architectural firms, adaptive restoration included the pouring of additional concrete for the auditorium floor for improved sight lines and the addition of a cross aisle. Carpeting was woven in the same pattern as the original, a fragment of which was found in an emergency exit stairwell. The seats were removed, reupholstered and reinstalled, and the heating system converted from steam to hot water for cost efficiency.

The Michigan Theater is now operated by the Michigan Theater Foundation, a nonprofit organization whose goal is to preserve and utilize the building. The interior is being restored to its original elegance and, once again, the movie palace sparkles and glitters.

The theatre is now used for a variety of programs, including films, dance and musical presentations.



Redford Theatre

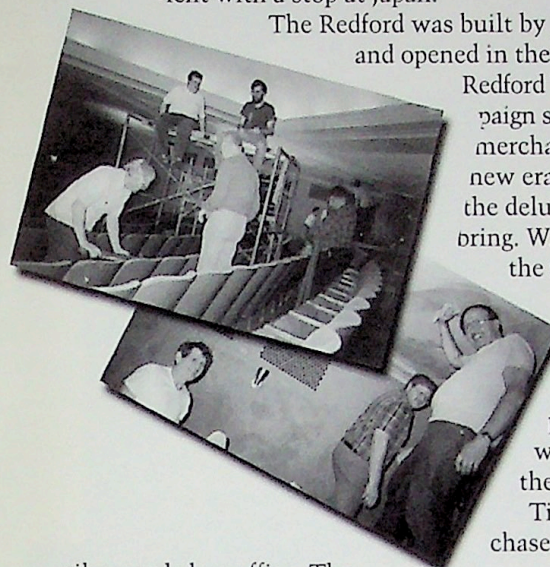
By the year 1928, the Detroit area was entering the final phase of theatre building. On January 27, 1928 the most novel design and approach to theatre architecture was opened in the small, suburban Detroit community of Redford.

Billed as "America's most unique suburban playhouse," attending shows at the Redford was like taking a trip to the Orient with a stop at Japan.

The Redford was built by John F. Kunsky and opened in the midst of "Greater Redford Week"—a campaign set up by the area merchants to usher in the new era of prosperity that the deluxe theatre would bring.

With 1900 seats and the finest in Kunsky-Balaban and Katz-Publix stage presentations, several thousand persons per week were expected in the area.

Tickets were purchased at a bronze and



tile pagoda box office. The color scheme in the lobby was burnished gold with richly decorative plaster moldings. Attraction boards were of bronze with decorative Japanese designs. The grand foyer rose an impressive three stories. Above the staircases on either side of this hall were hung Japanese tapestries. Ornate brass light fixtures cast a golden glow across the richly-carpeted room.

The opening night audiences soon forgot about the bitter cold when they walked into the auditorium, which appeared to be a Japanese garden with clouds floating lazily overhead and stars mysteriously blinking. Huge "pagodas" were situated on either side of the auditorium and on the ends of each were garlands with greenery, flowers and statuary. Japanese figures flanked the organ chambers.

By the early 1970s, the Redford Theatre was only marginally profitable as a movie house. Community Theatres, which owned the theatre, asked Motor City Theatre Organ Society if the group was interested in the facility. In 1976 the group negotiated to buy the theatre, thereby assuring a permanent home for the Barton organ and MCTOS.

Work on the building since that time has been nonstop. Members arranged for the donation and installation of 70mm, 6-channel stereo movie projection equipment.

Restoration of the grand foyer has involved thousands of volunteer hours in recreating the original hand-painted stenciling and wood-graining on the walls and ceiling. Two chandeliers from the lobby of Detroit's Oriental Theatre were donated and have been restored, incorporating motifs from fragments of the original Redford fixtures. Careful tending of the finances has allowed the purchase of a new grand drape, carpeting, and resurfaced parking lot.

The Redford Theatre has served as an anchor for the community around it, as it faces the challenges of an aging urban area.

Senate Theater

In the fall of 1982, the magnificent Fisher Building, constructed in the New Center District of Detroit by the brothers of automotive fame, was finally completed. In addition to luxurious offices and shops, the building contained one of the finest and most unusual motion picture palaces in the country. On November 11, 1928, the Fisher Theater was introduced to a glittery opening night audience which was overwhelmed by the Mayan-Incan Indian architecture, tropical fish swimming in pools in the lobby and live brilliant-hued South American birds in the lounge rooms. The 3,500-seat theater featured elaborate stage presentations, a 60-piece symphony orchestra, and a 4-manual, 34-rank, one-of-a-kind Wurlitzer pipe organ.

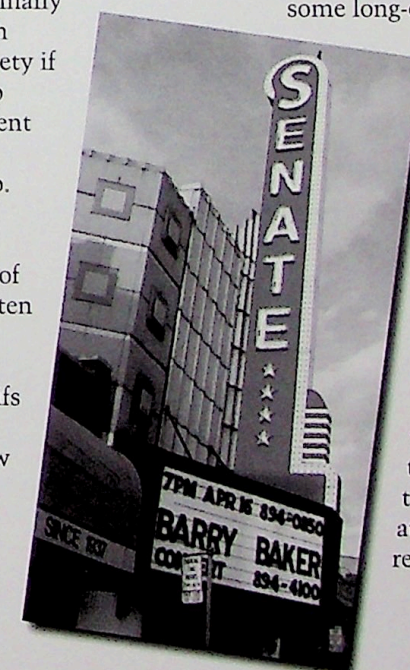
Opus 1953 may have been unique among Wurlitzer's products. In addition to a console case that was equally as elaborate as its surroundings, it contained such interesting manual voices as a Cor Anglais, Quintadena and Quintadena Celeste, Dulciana and Unda Maris chorus, and an independent, 32-note, 16' wooden Open Diapason in the pedal division. Additionally, the stoprail layout departed radically from conventional Wurlitzer specifications, with stops appearing first by manual, then by chamber, then by pitch, and finally by voice within that chamber.

In 1961, the Fisher Brothers remodeled the theater into one of America's finest legitimate playhouses. Anxious to preserve the organ as it was during its halcyon days, the Fisher Brothers sold the instrument to George Orbits, who was to become instrumental in conceiving the Detroit Theater Organ Club. The new group leased the old Iris Theater on Grand Boulevard in Detroit, and installed the 32-ton, 2,297-pipe monster in the rear of the arena-style theater. Late in 1962, club members realized they had outgrown the Iris, and voted to assess themselves sufficient funds to purchase and refurbish the defunct 1,400-seat Senate Theater at 6424 Michigan Avenue, on Detroit's near-west side. Club members spent all of 1963 restoring the Senate and re-installing the organ. The first concert in the new facility was held in April, 1964 with Ashley Miller at the console.

The four main chambers of the organ are located on the stage of the theater and face the audience. The percussions and pedal Open Diapason are installed in two main chambers on either side of the auditorium, which formerly housed the pipes from some long-departed instrument. The organ, now owned by the club, is maintained by skilled members, and visiting artists continue to marvel at its mechanical and sonic condition. It is regarded as one of the finest private theater organ installations in the world.

Monthly concerts featuring local and international artists are offered to members and their guests. Occasional programs are open to the public.

The Detroit Theater Organ Club, which has used the "er" spelling of theater since its inception, continues to be one of the largest and oldest theater organ clubs in the country and remains as the only one of its kind.



DETROIT: THE MOTOR CITY

It is fitting that the American Theatre Organ Society will have its 40th annual convention in Detroit, Michigan, June 30 - July 6, 1995. The 1920s were the hey-day of the great movie palaces with their theatre pipe organs, and Detroit was America's fastest growing city during that same decade. After a hard day at work building cars for America, Detroit's burgeoning population was "movie mad" and supported large numbers of downtown and neighborhood movie houses from the teens through the 1950's.

The city has been a leader, too, in the revival of interest in theatre pipe organs as championed by ATOS. Detroit is the home of the Motor City Theatre Organ Society, one of the largest ATOS Chapters, and the Detroit Theater Organ Society, a unique group formed in the 1960s to preserve a massive 4/34 Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ.

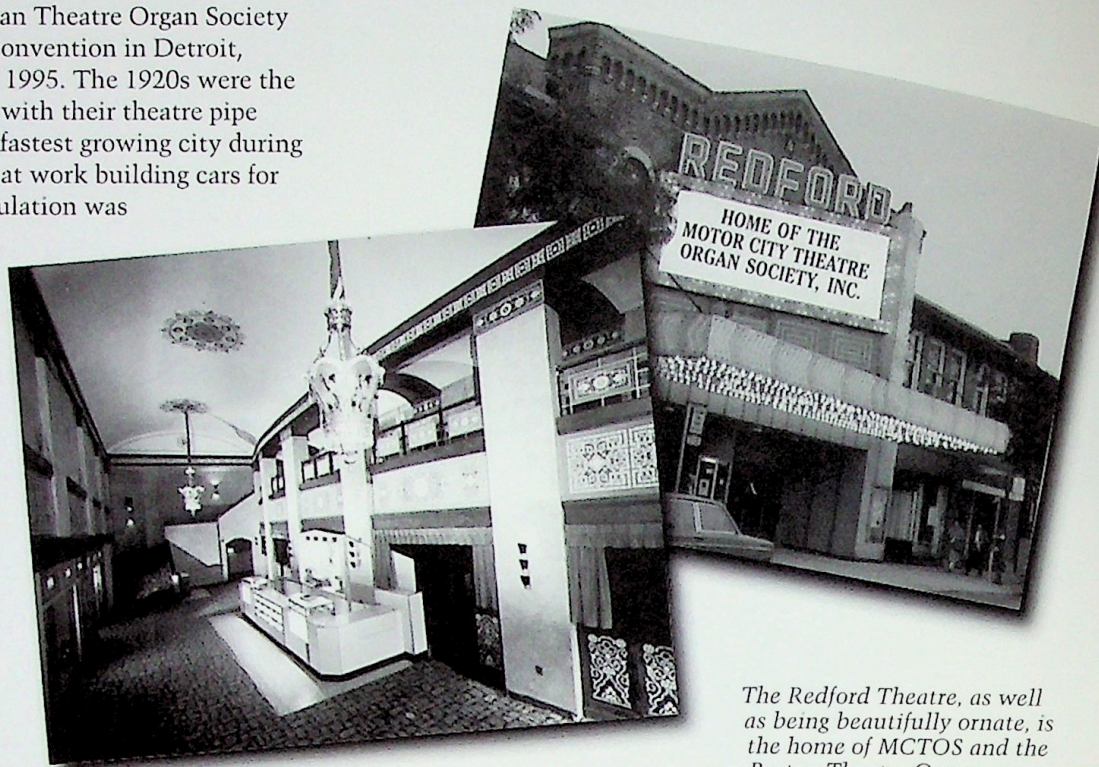
"Music Live in '95!" is the fifth ATOS convention hosted by Motor City Theatre Organ Society — previous conventions took place in Detroit in 1967, 1974, 1982 and 1989.

Motor City Theatre Organ Society was organized in October, 1964. It was granted the right to share the state of Michigan with the Wolverine Chapter. Through the decades, MCTOS has been involved in the maintenance and restoration — and sometimes the removal — of several theatre pipe organs in the metro-Detroit area. The Chapter restored, enlarged and maintained the Barton organ in the Royal Oak Theatre for many years. The group sponsored concerts and a popular "Fourth Sunday" program. The organ was purchased and donated to the chapter, by a generous benefactor. When the theatre underwent a major transition to a "rock concert hall," the organ was removed by the chapter and sold to a local enthusiast for home installation.

A similar story and a similar fate occurred at the Punch and Judy Theatre, in suburban Grosse Pointe. The 2/6 Wurlitzer pipe organ was restored, maintained, and eventually removed and shepherded to a home installation by MCTOS.

A happier tale took place at the Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Members of the Motor City chapter restored and maintained the Barton organ, and were key members of the Michigan Theatre Foundation, a group which owns, preserves and operates the theatre.

In 1996, MCTOS will celebrate 20 years of ownership and operation of The Redford Theatre. The purchase and operation of a theatre, in order to preserve the pipe organ in its original setting, was unique in the country when MCTOS undertook it. Even today, the chapter accomplishes "more with less" in this area, since the vast majority of the funds used to purchase, restore and operate the theatre over the past two decades have been the result of operations and member donations, rather than major sponsors or supporters.

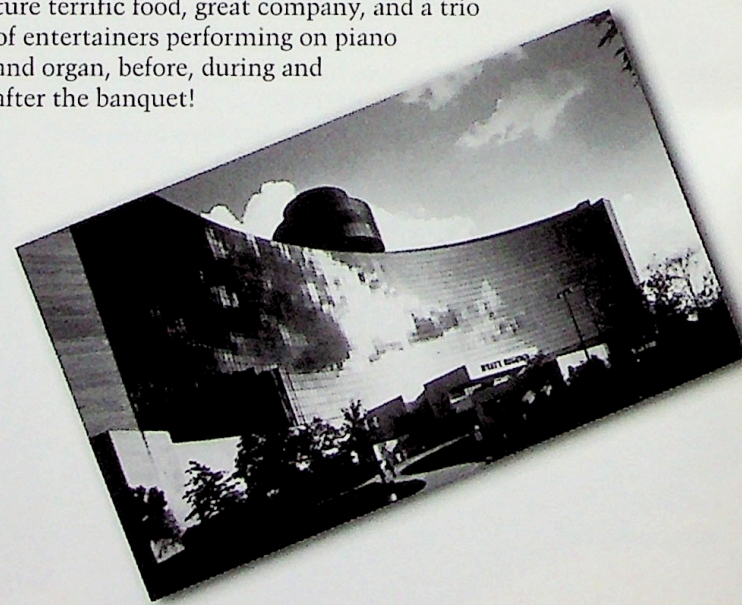


The Redford Theatre, as well as being beautifully ornate, is the home of MCTOS and the Barton Theatre Organ.

The Hyatt Regency, Dearborn

Convention Headquarters for "Music Live in '95!" is the Hyatt Regency Dearborn. The hotel complex is conveniently located for all of our events, and features unlimited free parking for guests. The hotel has complete amenities and facilities, and is adjacent to Fairlane Town Center, a major shopping mall with more than 200 shops, stores and restaurants. The hotel is also close to Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village.

The Banquet at the Hyatt Regency will carry a special "Happy 40th Birthday, ATOS" theme. In keeping with this significant celebration, this gala event will feature terrific food, great company, and a trio of entertainers performing on piano and organ, before, during and after the banquet!



Scenes from the Redford Theatre...

HOME OF THE
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ORGAN SOCIETY, INC.



MORE CONVENTION EXCITEMENT!

"Pre-Glow"

Theatre Organist Lyn Larsen at the console of The Detroit Theater Organ Society's Mighty Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ at the Senate Theater
The 4/34 Wurlitzer pipe organ installed in the Senate Theater is one of the pampered pets of theater organ. Originally installed in the movie theater located in Detroit's Art Deco gem, the Fisher Building, the organ case is lavishly decorated in a unique polychromed Mayan motif, which coordinated with the theater decor. When the theater was gutted and converted to a legitimate theater in the early 60s, the Wurlitzer was removed. The instrument has been lovingly maintained by members of The Detroit Theater Organ Society, who have a 30-year tradition of organ programs, featuring the country's best artists on this magnificent instrument.

Afterglow #1

Breakfast at Fair Lane the historic Henry Ford home and a tour of Kuhn Enterprise's Carail Museum collected by Linda and Dick Kuhn, of Lionel Trains

Something different and distinctly "Motor City!" A two-part Afterglow to the home of an auto baron of the past for breakfast and a tour of his estate, and the opportunity to visit the private collection of an "auto and train collection baron" of the present!

Henry and Clara Ford's estate, Fair Lane, was designed by Henry Van Tine and completed in 1915. The original estate was more than two thousand acres, and features included demonstration farming operations, a power plant, a laboratory and a mechanical garage (remember, Ford had built the Model T himself in a workshop on Mack Avenue), a greenhouse, orchards and extensive gardens. The home features extravagantly carved woodwork set in an Early English Renaissance style.

Dick and Linda Kuhn have created a unique "collector's dream" at their Carail Museum. It features 50 classic cars, 5000 model train items, 70 pedal cars, toys, bikes, art and sculpture. This private museum is only open by special arrangement, making this an extra-special treat!



Kylie Mallett - Senior Winner
Australia/Felix Chapter

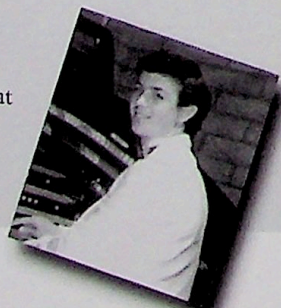
At 21 year's of age, Kylie has obtained her Associate Diploma (Practical) with the Australian Guild of Music and Speech on Theatre — the first person in Australia to take this examination on Theatre Pipe Organ.

Kylie has been learning electronic organ for nearly 9 years and playing theatre pipe organ for 7 years. She is a relief organist for several churches near her home.

Kylie continues to do charity work giving concerts to full houses and raising large amounts of money for them. In addition to teaching ten students on piano and electronic keyboard/organ Kylie works five days a week with the Adelaide Entertainment Centre. She is also a regular organist at the Capri Theatre Wurlitzer playing for film sessions and various concerts.

Sean Henderson - Intermediate Winner
Valley of the Sun Chapter

Sean is 16 years old and was born in New Zealand. He started learning electronic organ at age six. He gave his first public theatre organ concert at age nine and has performed in New Zealand, Australia, and the U.S.A.



Afterglow #2

Theatre Organist Tom Hazelton at the console of the Grand Ledge Opera House 3/20 Barton "hybrid" Theatre Pipe Organ
An out-state trip to see and hear a new installation and a great organist. Theatre pipe organs remain an "endangered species." So it's great to see a new installation of ambitious-proportions as part of a vital theatre arts endeavor. The trip to the Grand Ledge Opera House will include lunch followed by a concert by Tom Hazelton.

Afterglow #3

Theatre Organist Dennis James at the console of the Barton Organ in the Redford Theatre with a concert and silent film "Steamboat Bill, Jr." starring Buster Keaton

To provide final closure on "Music Live in '95!", this will be a program to bring us back to our roots, and at the same time, remind us of our vital present and future. The main use of the theatre pipe organ, of course, was to provide suitable accompaniment to silent films. "Steamboat Bill, Jr." stars Buster Keaton, one of the great comedians of the era. 1995 marks the centenary of Keaton's birth.

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FOUNDATION

YTOE COMPETITION

He has studied classical organ for two years and piano for three. His first formal coaching on the theatre organ was in 1992 from Walter Strony, who has since become his friend and mentor.

Sean was sponsored by the Valley of the Sun Chapter and was generously offered by Mr. William P. Brown the use of his 5/30 Wurlitzer for his recording.

He is currently living in Phoenix AZ., attending Washington High School, and continuing his studies with Walter Strony.

Richard Hills - Junior Winner
London and South of England Chapter

Richard Hills became interested in the Theatre Organ at the age of seven when he saw English Organist Robert Wolfe at the 3/19 Wurlitzer in the Thursford Collection Norfolk England. Richard then made the Theatre Organ his only love, and his interests broadened to include the American "greats" such as Jesse Crawford and George Wright.

In 1990, Richard started studying theatre organ with JOHN NORRIS, and, at the age of 12, won the London and South East England Chapter's Young Theatre Organist of the Year competition. He has been awarded an Organ Scholarship at King's School in Rochester (England) and plays in Rochester Cathedral every week.

Richard has attained many distinctions in his music examinations including Grade VII in both classical Pipe Organ and Piano.

Richard is kept busy playing church and theatre organs throughout England, Scotland and Wales. He has also had the privilege of playing the Organ at both Canterbury Cathedral and London's Westminster Abbey.



My 40 best memories from the 40th anniversary ATOS Convention

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Best program | 21. Best blooper |
| 2. Best theatre | 22. Best new friend over 40 |
| 3. Best male organist | 23. Best new friend under 40 |
| 4. Best female organist | 24. Best date |
| 5. Best young organist | 25. Best bus driver |
| 6. Best jam session organist | 26. Best bus captain |
| 7. Best classical number | 27. Best emcee |
| 8. Best pop number | 28. Best seminar |
| 9. Best home organ installation | 29. Best workshop |
| 10. Best church installation | 30. Best display |
| 11. Best theatre installation | 31. Best banquet entree |
| 12. Best Wurlitzer | 32. Best scheduled event |
| 13. Best Hybrid | 33. Best event on my own time |
| 14. Best Barton | 34. Best convention story to tell in mixed company |
| 15. Best electronic organ | 35. Best X-rated convention story |
| 16. Best organ overall | 36. Best souvenir |
| 17. Best meal | 37. Best disaster story |
| 18. Best restaurant in hotel | 38. Best "almost didn't make it" story |
| 19. Best restaurant on our own | 39. Best afterglow |
| 20. Best shopping expedition | 40. Best Chapter host (<i>hint: MCTOS</i>) |

