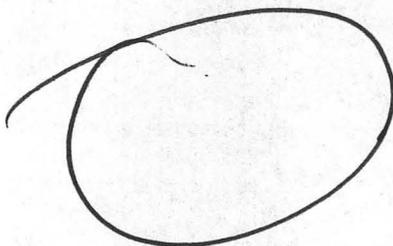


OBERG, PAUL (DR.)

Theatre organist who broadcast from the Wurlitzer pipe organ in the studios of Radio Station WCCO in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Now head of the music department of the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

OBITUARY. GEORGE L. ABELL

Played the Estey pipe organ at the Modern Theatre (Mayflower) in Boston, Massachusetts in 1910 until the advent of sound pictures. Also played the organ at the R.K.O. Theatre in Boston, Massachusetts and the Quincy Theatre in Boston.



OGDEN, MELVIN

Organist on the staff of the Howard Theatre in Atlanta, Georgia  
in 1926.

O'HARA, JAMES

Organist of Loew's State Theatre in Boston, Massachusetts.

## FEBRUARY 15, 1991 PERFORMANCE AT THE RTOS 4-MANUAL, 22-RANK WURLITZER

RTOS is pleased to present Tony O'Brien for his debut performance at the console of our Mighty Wurlitzer. New to Rochester theater organ audiences, Tony O'Brien's multi-faceted musical abilities, innovative spirit and high-energy performances have won him high acclaim from audiences throughout the theater organ scene. His artistry embraces both the popular and classical repertoires. He combines his dynamic keyboard approach with a keen sense of showmanship to give his audiences an exhilarating musical experience.

Beginning his formal training at the age of seven, Tony became an accomplished church organist by the time he was ten! His organ teachers include the late Dr. Frederick L. Marriott and the incomparable and internationally-famed theater organist, Hector Olivera.

Tony O'Brien has entertained many theater organ groups in the United States and Canada. He has made a recent invitational tour "down-under" for the Theatre Organ Society of Australia. He has also performed for the American Guild of Organists (AGO), the International Brotherhood of Magicians, the Dearborn Ford Museum Edison Institute "Great Escape Weekends" and the National Showcase of Performing Arts for Young People.

Currently, he is one of the staff organists at the 4/36 Wurlitzer at Detroit's "fabulous" Fox Theatre. Tony recently appeared with the Allen Park Symphony Orchestra to accompany the original 1925 Lon Chaney silent-film version of the "Phantom of the Opera", a performance which was greeted with rave reviews.

The white and gold console of our Mighty Wurlitzer 4/22 once more rises to stage level in the glitter of the spotlight. RTOS and Rochester welcomes the young man seated on its bench---Mr. Tony O'Brien!

**As a Courtesy to All**--Please do not take flash pictures during this concert. Tape recording of RTOS events is NEVER permitted in the theater's seating area. Taping of this concert by RTOS members is permitted in the Top Balcony Foyer, using the facilities provided.



### **The Rochester Theater Organ Society, Incorporated**

The Society is dedicated to the preservation of theater organs and the presentation of music on theater pipe organs. RTOS preserves and produces musical events on two fine theater organs: this Auditorium Center 4-manual, 22-rank Wurlitzer and the RMSC Eisenhart Auditorium 3-manual, 11-rank Wurlitzer. This Society and its two Wurlitzers have a world-wide reputation for excellence.

RTOS membership is available to all. Membership information is available in the Main Lobby, or by writing to RTOS, PO Box 17114, Rochester, NY 14617. The telephone number is (716) 544-6595. You will find that the \$20 annual RTOS Membership Card is your affordable Passport to many enjoyable evenings featuring great family entertainment.

### **WALT STRONY RETURNS ON FRIDAY, MARCH 15**

*The ever-popular Walt Strony returns to Rochester audiences for his fourth performance on Friday, March 15 at 8:15 PM. This Chicago-born organist currently resides in Phoenix.*

*Free to RTOS members, all others may purchase tickets at the Auditorium Center Box Office on the evening of the concert for \$5.50 each.*

OLDALE, WILL

I have been trying to gather as many facts as I can to give you for your column...and all I have is :

1. He was a theatre organist in the grand old days of the BIG theatres...and he played MANY of them in NEW YORK.
2. He was a personal friend of dear JESSE CRAWFORD... and he related to us in class...the many many visits that he made to JESSE'S New York Apartment.
3. He taught organ in Sarasota....and produced CHORDS in a NUTSHELL there.
4. He taught many of the " CRAWFORD style " in his teaching studio in St Petersburg Florida.
5. He died about 2 years ago.....WILL OLDALE is a man to be remembered!

HAPPY EASTER FROM US BOTH .....

*Captain John and Anna Rappelen*

PS: Mary DUNN of Paramount Organ Society sent me your EXCELLENT tape " The Beloved Old Songs & Light Classics" I particularly enjoy listening to Londonderry Air... Lay my head...and " My Heart at Thy Sweet Voice "... because THOSE and others definitely show you have THAT CRAWFORD touch ! The whole tape is just WONDERFUL !

OLDALE, WILL

OLIVERA, HECTOR (JULIO)

Born February 16, 1946 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Olivera's musical career began at the age of three with his father as teacher. His first engagement came two years later when he replaced his father as organist of the Church of the Immaculate. The following year he gave his first recital (at the age of 6). In 1952 Olivera started serious study of the organ as well as harmony, counterpoint, and fugue at the Buenos Aires Conservatory. It was here that he began to develop the art of improvisation. When only nine years of age the Buenos Aires Symphony performed a Suite which he had composed for oboe and string orchestra. Several years later the same work was played at the Presidential House in a concert celebrating the Sesquicentennial of the National Revolution of May. At age 12 Olivera became the youngest student to enter the University

OLIVERA, HECTOR (JULIO)

2.

of Buenos Aires where he furthered his organ studies. After receiving his degree he headed the organ department at the University for one year. Up to this time Olivera had performed more than 300 concerts in Argentina and Brazil, as well as appearing many times on radio and television. In 1964 he was offered a scholarship by the Julliard School of Music in the United States, where he came to study organ and music history with Dr. Vernon de Tar.

Since that time Olivera has won the National Competition on Improvisation sponsored by the American Guild of Organists. He gave a concert at Carnegie Hall which attracted by far the largest audience ever to attend an organ recital in their history and ended with a two-minute standing ovation, he performed for the Pope during his visit to the Vatican Pavilion at the World's Fair and has given

OLIVERA, HECTOR (JULIO)

3.

concerts at such renowned churches as St. Thomas and the Cathedral of St. John The Divine in New York City. He has made television appearances in this country and abroad. He has appeared at Heinz Hall in Pittsburgh.

He was practically unknown to the theatre organ world until he gave what is described as "an electrifying performance" at the 1972 ATOS National Convention which earned him four standing ovations. Since that time Olivera has been giving <sup>approximately</sup> 100 organ concerts per year. He has recorded several long playing theatre organ discs including one on the Wurlitzer organ of the Rochester Theatre Organ Society, "Pieces of Dreams" and another entitled, "Hector." Olivera appears nightly at Conley's Motor Inn in

OLIVERA, HECTOR (JULIO)

4.

Pittsburgh. He has designed and built a 3 manual/11 rank pipe organ in his mobile home. Perhaps the only mobile home in the world with a 3 manual pipe organ in it. In his spare time his hobby is building harpsichords.

OF OLIVERA  
(PHOTOGRAPH/IN ALPHABETICAL FILE FOR USE IN BOOK)

O'NEIL, MISS

Organist of Loew's Kameo Theatre in New York City in 1927.

OSBORN, EDDIE (Edward F.)

Born December 1915 in Chicago, Illinois. His parents wanted him to become a violinist and started him on private lessons with composer-arranger Victor Yong. Osborn soon showed more interest in the organ. By the time he was 17 years of age he was playing the organ in churches and had organized his own small orchestra. Although he was a major in Business Administration at Michigan State University, his interest in music particularly in the organ was what made him well known on the campus. During those college years he was featured on the Varsity Show sponsored by Pontiac Motors over the old NBC-Blue network. He was later selected by 32 radio editors as one of the outstanding acts of the series. After his college years Osborn went into the Navy as an aviation cadet and was selected to join the celebrated

OSBORN, EDDIE (Edward F.)

2.

"Fighting 8" in the Pacific. Osborn recalls that some of his most memorable moments at the organ were spent aboard aircraft carriers. After his release from the Navy he joined the Naval Reserve as a Lieutenant Commander and was featured on the Chicago Theatre stage as the "Flying, Fighting Minstrel." He also appeared professionally in Chicago clubs, special events, on television, in Chicago's Union Station where he played the organ during Christmas week. He served for a time as organist of the Oriental Theatre in Chicago and was also organist at the RKO Paramount Theatre in Cincinnati, Ohio. In February 1956 he joined the Baldwin Piano and Organ Company in Cincinnati as head of the Home Organ Division. Today he is General Manager of that Division.

Osborn has recorded several long playing record albums of organ music. he is past president of the National Association of Electronic Organ Manufacturers, who recently appointed him to serve on the Board of the American Music Conference as a Trustee.

Osborn died in Cincinnati, Ohio in December, 1983.

OSBORN, EVELYN

Organist of the Embassy Theatre in Fort Wayne, Indiana (4 manual/15 rank  
Page) in the early 1940's.

OSBORNE, EDDIE

Osborne began studying piano and organ in his younger years although his parents wanted him to study the violin. No doubt he could have been a success on either instrument, but the organ has really become his first love. He recorded a number of long playing discs including a record on the 2 manual/6 rank Wurlitzer in the Hub Skating Rink in Chicago, Illinois (the organ made famous by organist Leon Berry) and a recording on the Replica studio's 4 manual/32 rank Wurlitzer in Des Plaines, Illinois. Osborne has been featured in theatre organ concerts across the country and on television and in clubs playing electronic organs. He is presently affiliated with the Baldwin Organ Company in Cincinnati, Ohio.

OWEN, ELWYN

Organist of the Garden Theatre in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1927.