

# The WINDSHEET



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 Newsletter of the NORCAL THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY  
 PO Box 625, Berkeley, CA 94701-0625 510/644-2707

BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATRE  
 Allston Way betw'n Milvia St & MLK, Jr Way

www.norcaltos.org  
 June 2011

## 'PW' PAUL-WESLEY BOWEN

June 12, 2011 — 2 PM — Grace Baptist Church  
 484 E. San Fernando St.(at 10<sup>th</sup>) San Jose



and well received, so we hope many NorCal members will come to San Jose to hear him.

A native Californian, 'PW' spent many years in Minnesota with the Dutch organ manufacturing firm, Eminent Organ Company. He is equally at home with both Theatre Organs and Classical Organs as those of you who have heard him at both the BCT and Grace Baptist Church in the past will testify.

The installation of the Double Diapasons is the just the start of a program to have the organ playing as it was originally in San Jose's Liberty Theatre. The plan is to have 20 ranks and all its percussion and traps playing in the next four years. It will be interesting to follow the progress of this undertaking.

## IMPENDING CLOSURE OF BCT

As many of you know, the BCT will be closed for upgrading to American Disability Act (ADA) standards and for major rewiring to the building, starting in late June and lasting to late November – or even later.

That means planning for the 2011-2012 Season is extremely difficult and your Board is working to on several ideas. If you have suggestions, contact **Chairman Bill Coale** or **Program Chair Gordon Pratt**. (Their contact information is at the bottom of Page 1.)

It is expected that ALL access will be denied, at least at times, so **Work Parties** and **Open Console** events probably will not be possible after the scheduled June 19<sup>th</sup> Open Console.

Future Windsheets will keep you informed of the progress, but for more details and date of any Work Party or Open Console able to be held, watch our NorCal Website or check with the NorCal voice mail, (510) 644-2707. [norcaltos.org](http://norcaltos.org)

NorCal members are invited to hear and see the newly installed 16' Double Diapasons in Grace Baptist Church's 3/13 Robert Morton Organ. Our own 'PW' Bowen will play for us Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> starting at 2 PM. His concert will be followed by an Open Console period, so come prepared to play if you wish to.

'PW' as he likes to be called, is well known for his active hand registrations and the variety of styles in his playing. His programs are always enjoyable

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When emailing, include ATOS or NorCal in the subject line. Otherwise, if you are unknown to the recipient's computer, its SPAM filter may divert your mail.

Concert Review  
**JONAS NORDWALL**  
**AT BCT**  
 MAY 15, 2011

— Don Ravey

We are always privileged to enjoy a **Jonas Nordwall** concert. This was at least his seventh concert for us (probably more, my records go back only to 1998) and his work has always drawn raves. His Christmas music CD, recorded on our Wurlitzer, was just released. He is a master of all styles of organ music, from the liturgical to the classical, to the pops and standards, to show tunes and novelty pieces.

Jonas began his visit with us by saying that theatre pipe organs need not be limited to playing the genre of music used to accompany silent films, and that his concert would include more modern compositions, as well as some from long ago. He certainly did that, as you may see from the dates in the playlist below.

After a boisterous *Hey, Look Me Over* rendition to bring the console up from the orchestra pit, Jonas presented a real *knuckle buster* novelty tune by the famed accordionist, **Charles Magnante**, then slowed down the pace (perhaps so the keys could cool off!) with the familiar *Skaters' Waltz* by **Waldteufel**. Then a **Richard Purvis** arrangement of some hymns, known as *Gwalchmai*, which I had to ask Jonas later to explain—it's the name of a Welsh town. This was followed by some **Hoagy Carmichael**, which Jonas played in the style of the late **Don Simmons**, the long-time resident organist at the Portland Skating Rink. Then a cowboy song from a 1948 **Roy Rogers** movie, a French *cantique* by **Gabriel Fauré**, an old standard Dixieland blues number, and even **Charles-Marie Widor**, before Intermission.

The second half began with an absolutely dazzling transcription of **Aram Khatchaturian's** famous *Sabre Dance*, then the tempo slowed as we heard two love themes written by **Maurice Jarre**, the first from the movie *Doctor Zhivago*, the second from *Lawrence of Arabia*. Then an up-to-date version of the song made popular by **Barry Manilow**, *I Write the Songs*, written by former member of the Beach Boys, **Bruce Johnston**. Next an exotic standard by **Duke Ellington**, *Caravan*. Also a lovely song I wasn't

familiar with, *The Rose*, as sung by **Bette Midler**, and finally a shortened version of **Percy Faith's** *Swedish Rhapsody*, based on folk tunes by **Hugo Altven** (fitting for someone named **Jonas Nordwall** to play!).

A standing ovation brought Jonas back to play a well known Latin number, the name of which I can't remember. Even after asking Jonas!

**PLAYLIST**

*UP CONSOLE:*

**Hey, Look Me Over** from *Wildcat* (1960)  
 — *Cy Coleman*

*FIRST HALF:*

**Flying Saucers**

— *Charles Magnante* (1956)

**Skaters Waltz**

— *Emil Waldteufel* (1882)

**Gwalchmai**

— *George Thalben-Ball*  
 (arr. by **Richard Purvis**)

**Up A Lazy River**

— *Hoagy Carmichael* (1931)

**A Gay Ranchero**

— *J. Espinosa* (1948)

**Cantique de Jean Racine**

(The Song of Jean Racine)

— *Gabriel Fauré*

**South**

— *P. Barbarin, R. Bauduc, P. Boutelje*

**If I Had You**

— *Shapiro, Campbell, & Connely* (1928)

**Allegro with Variations**

from *Symphony No. 5 for Organ*

— *Charles-Marie Widor* (1879)

*INTERMISSION*

*UP CONSOLE:*

**Sabre Dance**

— *Aram Khatchaturian* (1954)

*SECOND HALF:*

*Love themes medley:*

**Dr. Zhivago** (1965)

**Lawrence of Arabia** (1990)

— *Maurice Jarre*

**I Write the Songs**

— *Bruce Johnston* (1975)

**Caravan**

— *Duke Ellington* (1937)

**The Rose**

— *Amanda McBroom* (1977)

**Swedish Rhapsody**

— *Percy Faith* (1954)

(based on folk themes by **Hugo Altven**)

EDITOR'S

Jan La Fetra



I suspect many of you did not know who **Darius Gangei** was or how much he has done for NorCal until **Bill Schlotter** presented Darius with his award at Intermission. Do note the article on page Three - Darius is one of a kind, and will be sorely missed. But he has a great future ahead of him and we wish him well.

We also wish **Dr. Richard Ice** well after his fall that injured a leg as he was leaving after the concert.

But kudos go to the NorCal members who quietly, competently, and appropriately came to his aid. Some stayed with him, others called 911, crew members had the stage door open for the ambulance, and guided the paramedics around the obstacles on the stage and lowered the lift so the gurney could easily reach Dr. Ice.

Fortunately, Dr. Ice was not in a lot of pain and was able to direct the people helping him, and gave us the location of his car so that, at his request, a couple of NorCal members were able to drive his car home and explain the circumstances.

Although he required an operation, he is doing well and will be home about the time you read this. We continue to wish him the very best.

JAN

[Update—Jan spoke with **Dr. Ice** in the hospital. He expressed gratitude for everyone's help. **Bill Schlotter** phoned him just before our publication deadline. **Dr. Ice** expects to be at home June 3<sup>rd</sup>. He is up with a walker. —Publ.]

🎵 *A FINAL NOTE* 🎵

**William Simmons Swain**

1923 - February 25, 2011

He collected, digitally restored and retouched many old photos of The San Francisco Fox Theater. A portion of the photo collection is on display at the Whitcomb Hotel in San Francisco.

[historigraphics.com/fox/swain](http://historigraphics.com/fox/swain)

No one should come in the Stage Door except the Stage Crew or others with business there.

# DARIUS GANGEI

Darius Gangei has been Student Stage Manager for Berkeley Community Theatre and the adjacent Little Theatre for the 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 school years after working his way up to that position during the previous two years.

He has been an invaluable help to NorCal during concert set-up the day before the concert, and both during and after the concert on the concert date. We regularly see him at other times when we are performing organ maintenance.

Darius has been diligent, resourceful, and very organized. He organizes and manages student stage crews, always mindful of safety concerns that include vertical ladders, platforms, heavy objects, the fire curtain, stage lighting instruments, and the motorized orchestra lift. He arrives early and is the last to leave.

In the fall, Darius will begin his studies at the **California Institute of the Arts**, commonly referred to as **CalArts**, in *Valencia (Los Angeles County)*. While we will miss his assistance and cheerful disposition we hope to see him when at home as he is a member of NorCal.

**CalArts** is an interesting institution created by **Walt Disney** in the early 1960s to be an interdisciplinary 'CalTech of the arts'. Incorporated in 1961, it is the first degree-granting institution of higher learning in the United States created specifically for students of both the visual and the performing arts.

According to Wikipedia, "CalArts provides a collaborative environment for all sorts of artists. Students are free to develop their own work (over which they retain control and copyright) in a workshop atmosphere, as respected members of a community of artists in which authority is constantly tested and where teaching works through persuasion rather than coercion."

Looks like quite a place and exactly where Darius belongs! — Art Woodworth



## CHAIRMAN'S WINDLINE



Well, it seems to be the time of transitions right now. As a retired school superintendent, I love to see the excitement of students (especially seniors) as the year winds down and leads to a change of pace, at least for a few weeks.

This analogy seems to hold for NorCalTOS as well! We just finished our 2010-2011 concert season with a fine performance by the ever-popular **Jonas Nordwall**.

In addition to closing our season, we also celebrated the talented service performed by our student stage manager **Darius Gangei** by acknowledging his hard work on our behalf, and presenting him with a plaque in recognition of those efforts.

Darius has been a tremendous asset to NorCalTOS, and he will be sorely missed! His expertise and dedication helped us to improve the BCT as well as ensure that our performances came off without a hitch.

Whether it was doing sound work, lighting work, or floor cleaning (yes...floor cleaning...after we discovered that a fire extinguisher had been discharged in the theatre lobby prior to a concert, only to be discovered just before the program, with little time to react!).

We wish Darius well in his college studies, although it is difficult to see him go!

As the school year comes to a close, we also find ourselves dealing with another transition...caused by two major construction projects that will occur during the next school year in the Berkeley Community Theatre.

ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accommodations require significant work inside the theater, and bids were approved for the complete rewiring of the BCT as well. Given the magnitude of these projects, combined with our prior experience of work completion timelines, provide unique challenges that we must address during the upcoming concert season. I plan to meet soon with school officials to gather additional information, and once we have a better idea of where things stand in terms of construction schedules, the NorCalTOS Board of Directors will have a much better idea of how to proceed with next year's

activities. In light of all this, we may have to drop one or more concerts from the schedule, and/or schedule concerts at different venues.

You can help us by letting us know your feelings about:

- 1) would you attend NorCal concerts that might be held at different venues?
- 2) what venues would you like us to investigate using?
- 3) what types of activities do you enjoy that might be scheduled during the next concert season?

We'd also appreciate any other comments or suggestions that you might have. We appreciate your input!

Here's to the close of one tremendous concert season, with the hopes of making things work well for NorCal TOS during the upcoming concert season!

*Bill F*

## OPEN CONSOLE Hosted by Chris Nichols



This is an opportunity for NorCal members to try their hand at playing the chapter's Wurlitzer at the Berkeley Community Theatre. When the theatre is available, these sessions run from 1:00 to 5:00 PM. The next scheduled dates are

**Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup>**

*There will be no further scheduled Open Console dates this year. See Important Note on Page 1*

Open Consoles are informal and our genial host, **Chris Nichols**, ensures that every NorCal member feels comfortable. Chris lends help and support to anyone who needs it. Depending on how many members are present, each has one or more 15-minute sessions at the console, in rotation.

**Important:** Call the NorCal voice mail at (510) 644-2707 on *that* Sunday morning to confirm that the theatre is available. If there will be Open Console, enter via the backstage door at 1930 Allston Way.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM  
Bob Hope Theatre Stockton  
Organ Concert before Bob Hope's movie  
'The Paleface'.  
BobHopeTheatre.com

June 29<sup>th</sup> to July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
**ATOS National convention**  
Providence, Rhode Island  
Read All About It at:  
www.atos.org

Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM  
Sierra Chapter Silent Film Presentation  
Paul Quarino at the Mighty Wurlitzer  
Grant Union High School  
SierraChapterATOS.org

NorCal Presents—  
Open Console at the BCT (see Pg 3)  
Sundays – May 22<sup>nd</sup>, June 19<sup>th</sup>  
norcaltos.org

Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM  
'PW' Bowen at Grace Baptist Church's  
3/13 Robert Morton (See Page 1)  
484 E. San Fernando St. (at 10<sup>th</sup>) San Jose, CA  
norcaltos.org

Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM  
*Piano and Pipes Ragtime Trio*  
Chris & Jack Bradshaw, Piano duo  
with Bill Coale, Theatre Organ  
Wendell Jacob's home in Davis, CA  
Call his number 530/753-3916 for  
reservations & directions  
Donations accepted jointly for the Sierra  
Chapter ATOS SCHOLARSHIP FUND and the  
WEST COAST RAGTIME YOUTH PROGRAM

## OTHER VENUES

Castro Theatre, 4/22 Wurlitzer, 429 Castro  
St. SF, CA. Intermission music played  
daily by David Hegarty, Warren Lubich,  
Mark Putterbaugh or Harry Garland.  
(425) 621-6120. CastroTheatre.com

Grand Lake Theatre, 3/18 Wurlitzer, 3200  
Grand Ave., Oakland, CA. Intermission  
music: Warren Lubich or Gordon Pratt  
(Fridays) & Kevin King (Saturdays).  
(510) 452-3556.

Los Angeles - www.latos.org

Orange County - www.octos.org

Palace of the Legion of Honor, 4/63 E.M.  
Skinner, Lincoln Park, San Francisco  
Presidio. Saturdays and Sundays from 4:00  
to 4:45 PM. Free after museum admission.  
David Hegarty plays an *Organ Pops  
Concert* on the first full weekend of each  
month, other artists play classical concerts  
other weekends. (415) 750-3600.  
LegionOfHonor.org

Paramount Theatre, 4/26 Wurlitzer, 2025  
Broadway, Oakland, CA.  
Movie Classics many Fridays at 8 PM  
Public tours usually first and third  
Saturdays of the month at 10 AM.  
check first (510 465-6400) or  
www.paramounttheatre.com

San Diego - www.tossd.org

Santa Barbara TOS  
http://members.cox.net/sbtos

Sierra - sierrachapterATOS.org

Stanford Theatre, 3/21 Wurlitzer, 221  
University Ave., Palo Alto, CA. The  
organ is played before and between films.  
(650) 324-3700. StanfordTheatre.org

## BITS AND PIECES

**P**lan on a NorCal Summer Picnic.  
At this point no date or place is set,  
but your Board recognizes the importance of  
having a social event occasionally where we  
can get to know each other better.

Some have asked about Jim Riggs, and  
we are happy to report that Jim has recovered  
well and is back making music. And a tip of  
the hat to Tom DeLay for this good news.

## DONATIONS

Thank you for your help in furthering our  
goals.

Frank & Jan La Fetra  
Organ Stop, Inc. (Wayne & Cheryl)

## NorCal BOARD MINUTES

Every NorCal member is entitled to  
request copies of the Minutes of  
meetings of the NorCal Board of  
Directors, which meets 6 times a  
year. Approved copies of the Minutes  
are made available on our Website in  
the *Members Lobby*, or by sending  
a request to the Secretary, whose  
email address and phone number are  
published at the bottom of Page One.

## MEMBERSHIP BADGES

Have you admired the blue membership  
badges that many NorCal members wear  
to concerts? They are available for \$13  
shipped to the member's address.

The badges are now totally engraved (no  
silk screening to rub off). Send your check  
and exactly how your name is to appear on  
the badge to:

Bill Schlotter  
6203 Elderberry Dr.  
Oakland, CA 94611-1621

NORCAL THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY, Inc.

*A Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society*

ATOS is dedicated to promoting the tradition of the theatre pipe organ and public understanding and appreciation of the instrument and its music, and shall aid in any way possible the preservation of theatre organs through rehabilitation of instruments and fostering the arts of playing, building, voicing and maintenance. If you would like to join us, please call or write:

Mr. Neal R. Wood at (415)861-7082 <nealwood@pacbell.net> , PO Box 625, Berkeley, CA 94701-0625.

Dues are \$20 for NorCal TOS only and an additional \$40 for National ATOS (\$60 total) per year for full voting membership and subscription to *Theatre Organ* the six times a year glossy journal of ATOS. Spouse and children living at home may be included in your membership. We hope you will join us to help preserve and enjoy these great instruments.