
The WINDSHEET



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

www.theatreorgans.com/norcal

November, December 2008 - January 2009



A FINAL NOTE

Dear friends:
I received a telephone call this evening [December 13th] from **Steve Levin**'s brother-in-law informing me Steve passed away peacefully tonight at 7:30 PM.

His sister Lois, Harold and dear friends were at his bedside giving him love and support throughout the evening. The family feels it appropriate to celebrate Steve's life sometime after their return from Port Townsend.

Respectfully, Ed [*Stout*]

Steve Levin was a founding member of the *Theatre Historical Society of America*, past president, and past editor of THSA's quarterly journal, *Marquee*. Born and raised in San Francisco, he was the son and grandson of Bay Area theatre operators and an acknowledged authority on San Francisco theatres.

NORCAL CONCERT, MEMBERS ANNUAL MEETING, & DINNER JANUARY 25, 2009

Sunday, January 25th at 2:00 PM at the **Berkeley Community Theatre** is a date and time you should reserve. **Note—This event starts at 2:00 PM, not our usual 2:30 PM.** Not only will there be a *free concert* by our own talented 'PW' **Bowen**, but, as members of NorCal TOS, your participation in the business decisions of our association is vital. We will formally elect new Directors to serve on the Board and conduct any other business that may be brought forward.

Guests are welcome, but only *Active Members* can vote. Everyone can enjoy the concert and dinner.

As if that weren't enough incentive, we will continue a several year old tradition of having a *no host dinner* at *Henry's Restaurant* in the **Durant Hotel** on the street of that name, just 3 blocks South and 6 blocks East of the Berkeley Community Theatre. Meals are of excellent quality and reasonably priced. These after-meeting dinners have been very popular in the past. (*See more information on Page Three.*)

YOUNG ORGANIST YOUTH CAMP

NorCal will contribute to the **2009 ATOS Youth Camp**. The contributions from NorCal members will be *matched* up to a total of \$1,500 by NorCal TOS and forwarded to the Youth Camp organizers, to pay for the expenses of transportation and housing of the selected young talent. This means that if NorCal members contribute \$1,500, we will send a check for \$3,000!

Let's support our beloved musical form and a young person who also appreciates it. Send your contribution in the form of a check made out to *NorCal TOS* and marked "*Youth Camp Donation*" to NorCal TOS, PO Box 625, Berkeley, CA 94701-0625.

NEW MEMBER

We welcome:
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Joseph
from San Leandro

NorCal Theatre Organ Society (NorCal TOS) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. Federal Employer Identification Number 23-741594-7 □ State Charitable Trust No. CT 45966 □ State Organization Number D-072 6636 NT20S M12

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

JONAS NORDWALL CONCERT NOVEMBER 2, 2008

What a great start to NorCal's 2008-2009 concert season! **Jonas Nordwall** never disappoints his audience, but I truthfully thought that this was the most exciting concert I've seen Jonas perform. As can be seen from the Playlist below, Jonas transcended the usual categories of music we hear at theatre organ concerts. Yes, there were show tunes (*from Sound of Music to Jumbo*). Yes, there was blues (*12-bar blues style*). Yes, there was classical (*Saint-Saëns, Mendelssohn, Grieg transcriptions*). Yes there was jazz. Yes, there was nostalgic music (*Ellington, Jesse Crawford*). Yes, there was ragtime (*can you say 'Scott Joplin'?*). Yes, there were novelties (*Jingle Bells à la George Wright*, featuring our tuned sleigh bells!). And that was just the beginning!

Jonas knows our NorCal Wurlitzer, having graced us with several concerts, over the years. It shows, in his deft use of its distinctive voices, to create just the right emotional impact for every phrase.

Jonas made a brief announcement about the Young Organists Workshop and Youth Camp that he, **Donna Parker, Jelani Eddington, Clark Wilson, and Jeff Weiler** devote so much of their time and effort to.

To top it off, this was the première of our new keyboard video projection system, thanks to the engineering skills and hard work of **Frank La Fetra**. The system worked flawlessly and added a new layer of enjoyment to the concert, permitting the clear visibility of the artist's fingers on the manuals, projected on a 10-foot wide screen at the right edge of the stage.

PLAYLIST

Console Up:

Raiders of the Lost Ark

♪ John Williams

First Half:

Frankie and Johnnie

♪ Jerome Moross

Fireside Fantasies

Suite: A Cheerful Fire,

Grandfather's Wooden Leg,

The Kettle Boils

♪ Joseph Clokey

Euphon Sounds

♪ Scott Joplin

Medley from Sound of Music:

including *The Sound of Music, My Favorite Things, Edelweiss, Do Re Mi, and Climb*

Ev'ry Mountain

♪ Richard Rodgers

Freedom

from Sacred Concerts

♪ Duke Ellington

Danse Macabre

♪ Camille Saint-Saëns

Second Half:

Jingle Bells

(à la George Wright)

Little Girl Blue

from Jumbo

♪ Richard Rodgers

Hora Stoccato

♪ Grigoras Dinicu

(arr. by **Charles Magnante, Tony Mottola and George Wright**)

Romanza

♪ Edvard Grieg

The Toy Trumpet

♪ Raymond Scott

Political Medley:

Baby Elephant Walk (Rep.),

Donkey Serenade (Dem.), Over the

Rainbow (everybody else)

Stars Are the Windows of Heaven

♪ Jimmy Steiger & Tommie Malie

(arr. by *Jesse Crawford*)

1st movement (Allegro) of the 4th

Symphony ("The Italian Symphony")

♪ Felix Mendelssohn

Encore:

Down By the River Side

♪ John Rogers Thomas

OVERSIGHT DEPARTMENT

In our last issue, when listing some of the organists who played at the now closed **Bella Roma**, we neglected to mention a popular artist known as *Jump-N-Jack*, who is actually none other than our own **Robert Reichert**. Robert may be the only one who has made CD recordings on the *Bella Roma* organ, one that he calls *A Burlesque Parody*, and another he calls *A Rock Parody*, they are available from him. Robert is usually at our Record Table at concerts and sometimes substitutes at the Grand Lake.

DONATIONS

NorCal gratefully acknowledges generous donations from:

John Elliott of San Francisco

Chris Nichols of San Francisco

Art Woodworth of Kensington, CA

Bert Atwood of Kelseyville, CA

**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 date is:

Sunday, February 22, 2009

Open Consoles are informal and our genial host, **Chris Nichols**, ensures that any NorCal member feels comfortable. He 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 theater is available. If there will be Open Console, enter via the backstage door at 1930 Allston Way.

KEYBOARD VIDEO

NorCal has inaugurated a live video of our artist's fingering (always hidden by the Artist's back). There are some 'kinks' to 'iron out'; reception of this has been generally favorable. A photo of Jonas Nordwall by Don Ravey is below:



S.F. SILENT FILM FESTIVAL

The San Francisco Silent Film Festival is pleased to announce the lineup for our **4th Annual Winter Event**, which will take place at the *Castro Theatre*, on **Saturday, February 14, 2009 – Valentine's Day!** With four programs ranging from the romantic to the horrific, this Winter Event will be our biggest and most diverse yet! We hope to see you on Valentine's Day, 2009!

Winter Event Lineup:

Buster Keaton's *Our Hospitality* (1923)

and ***The Kiss of Mary Pickford*** (1927)

F.W. Murnau's *Sunrise* (1927)

Paul Leni's *The Cat & the Canary* (1927)

For ticketing and other information about the Winter Event, please go to:

silentfilm.org

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MORE on ANNUAL MEETING and (no host) DINNER

Henry's at the Durant Hotel has welcomed us back for another of NorCal's now annual no-host dinners following the concert and Annual Corporate Meeting.

Henry's Dinner Menu is at the right. We will each order as much or as little we want to. The Bar will be open on a Cash basis for those who wish Beer, Wine, or Spirits.

The food and non-bar drink will be paid on one check with an 18% tip and 8.75% Berkeley Sales Tax added by Henry's. (Since, the tip is part of the bill, sales tax is by law applied to the tip as well).

Jan and I will circulate through the group with a calculator; ask what you ate and add Tip and Tax. We will make change for you to the closest dollar. In the final accounting, any excess will go to the servers; any short-fall will be paid by NorCal.

Call Neal Wood, (phone and email on bottom of Page One) to tell us you are coming.

—Frank La Fetra

CINEQUEST

Cinequest Film Festival 19 will be held in San Jose, CA from February 25 through March 8, 2009. San Jose's beautiful California Theater hosts a number of the films.

Past years have included Silent Film classics accompanied by the 4/21 Wurlitzer. This year might even include 'walk-in' music from the 2/10 Wurlitzer in the Lobby.

All details are not yet available but will be before February 25. Go to:

cinequest.com

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. Requests should be sent to the Secretary, whose email address and telephone number are published at the bottom of Page One of every issue of the Windsheet.

Dinner Menu

Snacks

9-spiced roasted nuts 5.

A variety of assorted olives with crumbled feta cheese and chili flakes 7.

Marinated farm beets with honeyed marble rye bread, mascarpone and Himalayan salts 7.

Jar of pickled vegetables, Mediterranean flavors 5.

Ludwig Avenue Farms doviled duck eggs, sweet paprika and crumbs 6.

S+G spiced lemongrass-garlic frites with aromatic mayo 6.

Intros

House cured salmon toasts with Niman Ranch bacon, herbed sour cream, frisee and preserved lemon oil 11.

Coconut battered Monterey Bay calamari with coconut-lime sauce 10.

Crisp vegetable salad of palm hearts, snowpeas, sprouts, cucumbers, bell peppers and Asian greens with soy and sherry vinaigrette 9.

Turmeric and ginger mushrooms roasted in herb butter, country bread 8.

Sweet fried plantains, herbed sour cream 6.

Simple salad of organic greens with red wine and balsamic vinaigrette 6.

Today's soup with crusty bread cup 4, bowl 6.

Features

Angry mac and cheese, sambal olek with tomato and scallions 10.

Spaetzle with sweet California corn, braised rabbit, tarragon, Dijon, Hobbs bacon and Austrian Gruyere 17.

"Fat" Noodles, mixed organic mushrooms, fall herbs in a light lemon sauce 15.

Pasture raised jerk chicken, sweet plantains, and seasonal vegetables 18.

Charred Antilles spiced pork chop, whipped potatoes, pan juices 20.

Grilled Niman top sirloin frites with Manischewitz wine butter 24.

Sandwiches & Salads

Warm pressed Cuban sandwich of cumin-garlic roasted pork, smoked ham, emmentaler cheese, pickles and American mustard 12.

Grilled chicken breast club, guacamole, Niman Ranch bacon, tomato and tarragon-lemon aioli 14.

Grilled grass fed Estancia hamburger with grilled onions and tomato 12.
Add blue, emmentaler or white cheddar 1.
Add bacon, sautéed mushrooms, or avocado 2.

(All sandwiches include choice of small green salad or fries.)

Henry's salad of chopped romaine, kalamata olives, roasted red peppers, cucumbers, golden raisins and crumbled Greek feta with yogurt and oregano dressing small 7, big 12.

Grilled salmon salad, spinach and arugula, beets, hazelnuts, goat's cheese, and Dijon mustard vinaigrette 17.

Steak Salad Niçoise, tomatoes, black olives, new potatoes, green beans, hard-cooked farm egg, and balsamic vinaigrette 16.

Sides

Seasonal vegetables 5.

Whipped potatoes 5.

Desserts

Scharffenberger chocolate espresso pudding, crushed nuts, salt flakes, and brandied chantilly 7.

Sticky toffee cake with toffee sauce and vanilla bean ice cream 7.

Mixed berry and stonefruit crumble with vanilla gelato 7.

Darker and stormier float. Ginger beer, Averna and vanilla ice cream 10.

Fresh fruit granita of the day 5.



CHAIRMAN'S WINDLINE



Happy belated Holiday greetings to all of you. Hope you had a wonderful holiday. I am glad that 2008 is now behind us, and we can look forward to new adventures in 2009.

Our next event is the annual member concert and board meeting on **January 25th (2:00 PM)**. This year the theatre should be nice and warm, now that it has heat. But bring a sweater, just in case. I am looking forward to your participation in determining the direction of our chapter. Also, plan on another cozy *no host* dinner at Henry's in the Durant hotel.

Neal

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday-Sunday, January 16, 17, 18, 2009—

LATOS presents Wurlitzer Weekend.

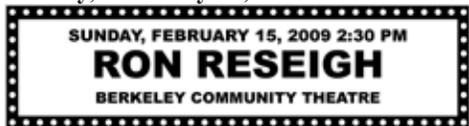
Bob Salisbury, Chris Gorsuch, Rob Richards, Jelani Eddington, Rus Peck, Ron Rhode — Details at LATOS web site:

latos.org/event_ww_2009.htm

Sunday, January 25, 2009 — NorCal Members Annual Business Meeting, concert by **P-W Bowen, & Dinner** (See articles on Pages One & Three)

Saturday, February 14, 2009 — S.F. Silent Film Festival – Annual Winter Event (See article on Page Two)

Sunday, February 15, 2009



February 25 through March 8, 2009 — Cinequest (See Article on Page Three)

Sunday, March 15, 2009

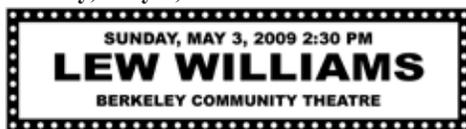


Saturday, April 18, 2009 — MORTON

MADNESS — Keep the date open.

Details will be announced later about this traditional visit to two Robert Morton organs at two wineries in the Central Valley.

Sunday, May 3, 2009



Sunday, June 14, 2009 — Members' free

Concert at Grace Baptist Church, San Jose

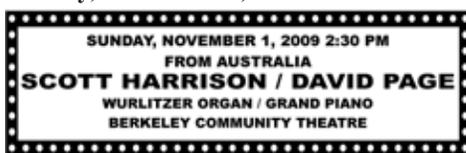
Sunday, August 23, 2009 — Members' picnic

at the *Grass Valley* home of **Ron Bingaman**

Sunday, September 20, 2009



Sunday, November 1, 2009



NorCal WEBSITE

We now have copies of the current and two previous *Windsheets* on our web site – and in color! They are in .pdf format, which requires that your computer has a copy of the *free* Adobe Acrobat Reader.

We also have an up-to-date Calendar of Events online. Be sure to visit it.

TheatreOrgans.com/norcal/

EDITOR'S RAVINGS



–Don Ravey

Our intrepid **Bill Schlotter** has already lined up an exciting concert schedule for next year! It's going to be a great pleasure to welcome back **John Giacchi**, from Australia, on *September 20, 2009*. John's last appearance in Berkeley was in 2002.

On a different note (*you'll pardon the expression*), how many of you were aware that one of the most extensive collections of popular and light-classical *sheet music* in the country is located right here in Oakland? The *Paramount Theatre Music Library* (**Jean Cunningham**, Librarian) consists of ten distinct collections, with a total of approximately 100,000 entries dating from the 1850s to 1980. The major source of early music is the **Walter J. Rudolph Library** collected by Rudolph during his fifty years as a vaudeville orchestra leader in San Francisco. You can learn more details about this library and contact information for the Librarian at the web site:

people.ischool.berkeley.edu/~mkduggan/paramount.html



SANTA CRUZ BAND ORGAN

Our member **Tom Delay** received word that the Santa Cruz Boardwalk Carousel's original *Ruth Band Organ* was just returned from Ohio where it was refurbished and given an amazing new façade. Word is that The *Ruth* should be tuned up and playing in time for the *Clam Chowder Festival* in February 2009. The web says that the festival is Saturday, February 21, 2009. More info at:

www.beachboardwalk.com/clamchowder

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.