
The WINDSHEET



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
February 2011

DAVID PECKHAM NORCAL CONCERT Sunday, February 20, 2011 2:30 PM

NorCal is pleased to have one of our Chapter's favorite artists, **David Peckham**, play for us this month. This is his 4th appearance at the BCT, but add one more for his NorCal concert at the *Castro Theatre* in 1994.

You may have heard his CD *'Live From Berkeley'* which was a release of one of his earlier BCT concerts.

David is one of Theatre Organ's most versatile enthusiasts, and is well known not only in this country, but throughout the world, and has played extensively in the United Kingdom and Australia.

Born into a family that owned a Theatre organ and other musical instruments, he began studying the piano when he was eight, and the organ at age eleven.

However, his formal musical training was in Classical Organ, under **Dr. David Craighead** of the **Eastman School of Music**. But listening to concerts and recordings got him interested in Theatre Organ, and with occasional coaching with **Dennis James** and **Don Kinner** he developed a style of his own and has been touring the world as a Theatre Organ artist since 1980.

His style is not easily pigeonholed as he constantly searches for new music to play as well as finding old forgotten melodies. He



Don Ravey photo

has been called "The Tiger of Ticonderoga" because of the way he handles a console, so watching the lightning speed of his fingers will be something to see on our projection screen.

When not on tour, David lives in Elmira, New York with his wife and three children, and works at his family pipe organ repair shop, *L. A. Peckham and Son Pipe Organ Service*. Also as organist for the *Clemens Center* in Elmira he accompanies Silent Films, and plays before shows there.

Remember, we are back to our normal starting time of 2:30 PM. Let's give David a warm welcome!

Welcome to NEW MEMBERS

- Mr. Alex Colias**
San Jose, CA
- Ms. Lois A. Gail**
St. Petersburg, FL
- Mr. Darius Gangei**
Berkeley, CA
- Mr. Joel T. Hochstatter**
Redwood City, CA
- Mr. Tim Kellogg**
Cupertino, CA
- Mr. and Mrs. Bill Millard**
Sacramento, CA
- Ms. Sheila Pearce**
Piedmont, CA
- Ms. Linda Wessitsh**
Sacramento, CA

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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.

Review of David Hegarty's Concert on January 23, 2011

— Don Ravey

Those members attending NorCal's annual business meeting and concert were treated to a free full concert with all the trimmings. Well known local artist **David Hegarty** presented a varied program, emphasizing movie soundtrack music.

David has a rich background in classical and popular organ performance and it was quite evident in his well received program.

While many selections would be familiar to most movie goers as well as music lovers, David slipped in a few less well known numbers, too.

We were treated to very sensitive and satisfying registration choices. Our Wurlitzer roared when appropriate, but was alternately soft and gentle, and somber, when those moods were appropriate. This is quite an achievement for an artist who doesn't regularly play this large scale instrument of ours. And percussions were used to great effect when their presence added to the musical experience.

We learned a bit about musical greats such as **John Gart**, who practically invented the "soap opera Hammond" sound, and whose arranging and performing techniques were influential in David's own musical development, as was **Angela Morley** (*née* **Wally Stott**, but that's another story), a prolific composer and arranger, originally from England, who worked closely with Canadian composer **Robert Farnon** and with **John Williams**.

We enjoyed medleys from stage musicals *Show Boat* (**Jerome Kern**, 1926) and *The King And I* (**Richard Rodgers**, 1951) and from **Irving Berlin**. Also there were singles from movies, including famous themes by such legends as **Bronislaw Kaper**, **Max Steiner**, **Dimitri Tiomkin**, **Frederick Loewe**, and **Steve Allen**.

I certainly enjoyed the concert, and from talking to others, I think that everyone else did, as well.

PLAYLIST

Up console:

Hooray For Hollywood
— Dick Whiting (1937)

First half:

Tara's Theme
from *Gone With The Wind*
— **Max Steiner** (1939)

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Alleghany Moon

— **Al Hoffman / Dick Manning** (1956)

Around The World

— **Harold Adamson / Victor Young** (1956)

In A Monastery Garden

— **Albert Ketélbey** (1915)

The King And I medley

— **Richard Rodgers** (1951)

Getting To Know You, I Whistle A Happy Tune, Hello Young Lovers, March of the Royal Siamese Children

Devotion (theme from King's Row)

— **Erich Korngold** (1946)

Intermission

Second half:

Up console:

This Could Be The Start Of Something

— **Steve Allen** (1956)

Irving Berlin medley:

— **Irving Berlin**

Isn't This A Lovely Day (1935),

Always (1925),

Puttin' On The Ritz (1930)

Madame X (1981)

Snow Ride(1950?)

— **Angela Morley**

Show Boat medley:(1926)

— **Jerome Kern**

Make Believe, Bill, Nobody Else But Me, Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man, Why Do I Love You, O' Man River

I Could Have Danced All Night

(from *My Fair Lady* – 1956)

— **Frederick Loewe**

San Francisco

— **Bronislaw Kaper / Walter Jurman** (1936)

Encore:

High And Mighty theme (1954)

— **Dimitri Tiomkin**



NORCAL WEBSITE

We now have copies of the current and recent past *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 Events online, and under the Recordings page is the new CD by **Jonas Nordwall**.

Be sure to visit our website!

norcaltos.org

Windsheet

EDITOR'S
Jan La Fetra



Congratulations to our newly elected (or re-elected) Board Members **Fay Cooley**, **Tom Madsen**, and **Neal Wood**. The Board and various Committee members work hard both at concerts and between concerts to make NorCal TOS a great organization.

Nobody works harder, longer, or more often than our Crew Members headed by **Bill Schlotter**. They work tirelessly to keep the organ in *TOP* shape and deserve our continuing thanks.

But there is other work to be done for a concert. At the Annual Membership meeting we could see just a bit of what goes on after a concert – disconnecting and 'wrapping' the console, undoing fixtures, lights and other apparatus, and putting everything away.

But there is a lot you didn't see. Have you ever wondered where the CDs and Records that are for sale are stored? And what about the huge A-Frame signs showing where to come in, and other such things? Many of these and other things are stored high up on the mezzanine where the diaphones and extra organ pipes live.



Mezzanine
35 ft above
stage)

60+ Counterweighted
Flylines to raise
and lower batters
for supporting light
borders, curtains,
and scenery from
Grid 65 ft above

Line from electric
mule on stage to
sheave (pulley) at
Grid, then down to
tray (below)

Art Woodworth
holding line from
Electric Mule that
raises tray

February 2011

It is quite an operation to get so much up there. Everything is neatly placed in huge open crates and pulled by a line up and over a railing onto the mezzanine. It takes at least two trips to get things put away (and of course, everything had to come down before the concert).

Many of those that help are members of the Crew, but others come just help. ALL deserve an extra 'Thank You' from concert goers for the unseen but necessary work that goes into putting on a concert.

Finally, I can't leave unsaid my sadness that **Jack Gildar** died. He was one of NorCal most dedicated attendees at concerts, often bringing friends with him. While always friendly, in a quiet sort of way, he nevertheless with his motorcycle was one of our most colorful characters. He will be missed.

DINNER after Annual Meeting

— Frank La Fetra

Following NorCal's concert and Annual Business Meeting, 28 of us repaired to *Caffe Venezia* for camaraderie, food, and drink. Our arrangements were for four tables, each seating 7 or 8. As we arrived we sat at the table of our choosing be it round or rectangular.



Pops Concert at Ironstone Saturday, April 16th at 12:30 PM

The **Sierra and NorCal chapters** and **Ironstone Vineyards** present a buffet lunch and concert at *Ironstone Vineyards* in Murphys. The concert will feature **Chris Gorsuch** at the *Mighty Morton*. Tickets cost \$39. Last year's event sold out early, so don't wait until the last minute to get your tickets.

This is the second year where a single concert will be performed instead of at two venues many miles apart. Reaction last year was very positive about this change which cuts so much travel time and makes a pleasant one day outing.

Tickets can be ordered through **Neal Wood**, 415-867-7082 or by email at nealwood@pacbell.net.

CHAIRMAN'S WINDLINE



INCOMING
Bill Coale



OUTGOING
Neal Wood

From OUTGOING Chair

What a wonderful concert by **David Hegarty**. I was gratified by the number of members who came to the chapter meeting. And congratulations to **Rudy Frey**, our new addition to the roll of Honorary members.

I want to make you aware of an agreement which we have made with our Sierra Chapter friends regarding our 'members only' status with Berkeley High School. NorCal will offer a one-time Associate type membership for surrounding ATOS chapters that would run for a period of one year for \$10. When they expire, membership dues would revert to the regular NorCal rate for members.

I'm looking forward to the rest of our concert season. **David Peckham** will be offering a something a little different. Enough teasers for now. See you there.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for the support you have given to me and the NorCal Chapter. With great joy I would like to introduce you to **Bill Coale**, our new Chairman for NorCal. He is

a gentleman with exceptional talent in both music and the education field. I shall remain in the role of Membership Secretary and look forward to supporting NorCal in that role. Thanks again, and now I pass the baton to Bill.....

— Neal Wood

From INCOMING Chair

Thanks Neal, for your outstanding service as Chairman of NorCal these last four years. I am humbled to be chosen as your successor, and I am so glad to be supported by such a capable board! NorCal is facing some challenges in the coming year, and I will do my best to look out for our interests, as well as dealing with the potential disruptions that may result from upcoming constructions projects at the Berkeley Community Theatre. Best of all, members of the NorCal board have a strong record of service, and a broad range of talents and seemingly boundless energy that they selflessly devote to our fine organization. I'd like to thank the board for their support, and also thank the entire membership of NorCal for their patience during this concert season. Let's not let these challenges diminish the fantastic instrument that we so proudly own, as well as the incredibly talented artists that we are able to bring in to provide wonderful theatre organ music for us all to enjoy! Here's to a successful 2011 for NorCal TOS!

— Bill

ELECTION RESULTS NEW OFFICERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS —

Don Ravey retired after serving his maximum of two three-year terms; thanks Don for your service.

Elected for three-year terms were:

Tom Madsen for 1st term; welcome Tom.

Fay Cooley for her 2nd term

Neal Wood for his 1st term after filling out **Tom Mathieson's** term vacated because Tom moved to Texas.

NEW OFFICERS elected at February 9, 2011 Board of Directors Meeting:

Chairperson **Bill Coale**, welcome Bill.

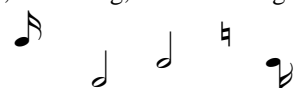
Vice-Chairperson **Judson Owens**

Secretary **Art Woodworth**

Treasurer **Frank La Fetra**

Welcome all —

New, Returning, or Continuing



🎵 *A FINAL NOTE* 🎵

Jack Gildar

d. January 14, 2011

Sadly, this long time NorCal Member died at his home in Vacaville of smoke inhalation from a fire caused by an electrical malfunction. Jack was a retired U S Air Force Major.

**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

- SUNDAYS**
- February 27**
- March 20**
- April 10**
- May 22**

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, February 18th – 7:30 PM
**AN EVENING OF COMEDY SHORTS
OF THE 1920's**

Dave Moreno at the Castro Theatre pipe organ

with special guest host & vintage vocalist:
Matias Bombal

Tickets: \$12 per person.....reservations
(209) 369-4184
Harmony Wynelands

NorCal presents –



Open Console at BCT
Sundays—February 27, March 20,
April 10, May 22
(see column to left)
norcaltos.org

NorCal presents –



Friday, March 18th -- 7:30 PM
**AN EVENING WITH HARRY
LANGDON**

Harmony Wynelands

9291 Harney Ln., Lodi, CA 95240
silent comedy star of the 1920's

Dave Moreno at the Castro Theatre pipe organ

with special guest host & vintage vocalist:
REBECCA KANE

Tickets: \$12 per-person
Reservation: (209) 369-4184

DONATIONS

We thank for their generous donations —

Bert Atwood

FM Global for a matching grant to
Bert Atwood's



Bob Hope Theatre

42 East Main St. Stockton, CA
Classic Film Series

Tom Thompson on the *Mighty Morton*
6:30 PM

Classic Films at 7 PM

\$8 – Adults; \$4 – Youth (12 or younger)
209/337-4673

Check website for film dates
www.bobhopetheatre.com

NorCal & Sierra Chapters present—

Saturday, April 16, 2011
Pops Concert at Ironstone
(old Morton Madness)

Chris Gorsuch

Kautz Ironstone Winery
12:30 PM Buffet Lunch
(See article Page Three)

NorCal presents –



norcaltos.org

**May 15th San Diego Chapter's own Chris
Gorsuch** plays the chapter's *Mighty
Wurlitzer*

tossd.org

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.