


JULY 2016

Newsletter of the NorCal Theatre Organ Society
www.norcaltos.org (510) 644-2707
P. O Box 625, Berkeley, CA 94701-0625

Berkeley Community Theatre
1930 Allston Way, Between Milvia Street &
Martin Luther King, Jr. Way



David Gray in Concert

Berkeley Community Theatre

2:30 pm, Sunday July 17

Enter through Stage Door at 1930 Allston Way

David Gray was born in Glasgow, Scotland in 1990 and first showed an interest in music at the age of four. He first taught himself how to play the piano by ear, and his first lessons followed a year later. At the age of 13 he began attending Saint Mary's specialist music school in Edinburgh with a principal focus on piano, but also started studying classical organ in St Mary's Episcopal cathedral with Simon Nieminski. It was around this time he had his first encounter with theatre organ, and the first instrument he ever played was a 3/8 Compton organ in Glasgow. With the help of Duncan Sinclair from the Scottish Cinema Organ Society he began to learn to play the instrument, and in 2005 won the ATOS Young Theatre Organist of the Year competition. This led to great acclaim internationally for his skills as a theatre organist. He has made many appearances in the UK, and was the recipient of the Ian Sutherland Award from the Cinema Organ Society and the Dean Herrick Memorial Cup from the ATOS London chapter.

Towards the end of his high school studies, he chose to stop playing and studying classical organ as there simply was not enough time to do everything. However, he kept the theatre organ going as it is just too much fun and enjoyment to ever let go of! Since 2008 David is a graduate of the Royal Academy of Music in London. His teacher is renowned pianist Hamish Milne. In time

between lessons and exams he remains as active as possible on the theatre organ scene. from ATOS Atlanta 2013 Conference website

David is the ATOS Organist of the Year" for 2015!

THIS WILL BE A NORCAL "MEMBERS ONLY" CONCERT.

Members' Admission: \$15.00 on the day of the concert. Members can order their tickets in advance of concert day from Treasurer Neal Wood for \$12.00. (See bottom of last page to contact Neal.)

Concert Special: Join NorCal for \$20.00 and you and your guest will attend the concert as our guest! You will be joining at the "Friend" Level and your year-long membership includes your "partner," if any.

Picnic & Jerry Nagano in Concert

Kevin King's Organ Studio

Sunday August 14

Picnic 12:30 pm – Concert 2:00 pm

2851 Creston Road

Walnut Creek

Due to space available in the studio, this will be a "Members Only" concert.

Privileged to be present at many of George Wright's famous series of Pasadena organ concerts, Jerry re-arranged his musical goals: the future would have to include the Theater Organ.

Friendships were made which led to instruction with Gaylord Carter, Gordon Kibbee, and much later with Tom Hazleton. Due to his exceptional abilities at the keyboard, Jerry has given concerts throughout the country and was named resident organist at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium playing on the former Foort/BBC Moller organ.

For nine years he was featured artist at the famed Ye Olde Pizza Joynt in Hayward, home of the "Wurlitzer in the pizza parlor" concept. He regularly plays intermissions at the Stanford Theater in Palo Alto where classic Hollywood is screened nightly. He also plays the lobby Wurlitzer before many of the shows and events at the California Theatre in San Jose.



Jerry Nagano – Our artist for August 14th

JOHN LAUTER CONCERT APRIL 3

At NorCal's last stage door concert at the Berkeley Community Theatre, our guest artist was John Lauter. John is a Detroit native, and has been presenting theatre organ concerts for over 20 years. He made his public debut at the Redford theatre at age 16. John played for NorCal a number of years ago at the Castro Theatre. It was great to have him back again.

John opened the first half of the program with "I hear music" which set the tone for the afternoon. The arrangement was in a bouncy jazzy style which John does so well. Some highlights were "Spring is Here" featuring the legendary lush sounds of our Wurlitzer; appropriate for a nice April day. More of the unique sounds of the instrument were heard in Robert Farnum's "How Beautiful the Night." Later, "Makin' Whoopee" got us tapping our feet and mentally swinging our hips to a subtle bump-and-grind version of this great piece.

John has an ear for the style of organist legend Buddy Cole. He has taken selections and arranged them in Buddy's style. This was featured in a very Cole-flavored version of "Here's That Rainy Day." The first half of the concert ended with a great medley from the classic Broadway show *Hello Dolly*.

Part two started off quietly with concert flute celeste and harmonic flute guiding us into a very latin "Frenesi." John Lauter was strongly influenced by John Seng. His style was featured in a great up-tempo arrangement of "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square." The closing number was another Robert Farnum piece, "Derby Day" which painted a galloping musical picture of a sunny day at the race track. John returned for an encore of "Brass-Man's Holiday," a great finger buster that finished of a wonderful concert. It was our pleasure and privilege to have John Lauter visit with us again and gift us with his musicianship.

-Kevin King

John's play list:

"I Hear Music"
 "Some People"
 "Spring is Here"
 "Walk Between the Raindrops"
 "How Beautiful is the Night"
 "Makin' Whoopee"
 "Darn that Dream"
 "With a Friend Like Me"
 "Here's that Rainy Day"
 "Thou Swell"

Hello, Dolly Medley

"Put on Your Sunday Clothes"
 "It Only Takes a Moment"
 "Dancing"
 "Hello, Dolly"
 "Before the Parade Passes By"

INTERMISSION

"Frentise"
 "Raiders' March"
 "But Beautiful"
 "I Could Have Danced All Night"
 "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square"
 "Mojave"
 "If We Were In Love"
 "How About You"
 "I Have Dreamed"
 "Pick Yourself Up"
 "Derby Day"

ENCORE

"Brassman's Holiday"

NEW/RETURNING MEMBERS

NorCal welcomes the following the following returning member:
 John C. Onia of Sunnyvale, CA

CHAIRMAN'S WIND LINE

Dear NorCal Members,

I'm looking forward with great anticipation to David Gray's upcoming concert at Berkeley Community Theatre, and I know that anyone who has had the pleasure of hearing him perform will feel the same. I first heard David in April when he played in concert at Harmony Wynelands, presented by Sierra Chapter, and I can hardly think of any program that I've enjoyed more. David has a lively, energetic style of playing that instantly made me a fan, and if you have not yet heard him perform, you are in for a real treat.

Best wishes to everyone planning to attend the upcoming ATOS convention in Cleveland. With many beautiful venues and great organs, I'm sure it will be an experience to remember.

All the best,

Tom Madsen

OPEN CONSOLE SCHEDULE

Chris Nichols will host open console sessions at Berkeley Community Theatre on the following upcoming Sundays: **July 10th**, **August 7th**, and **September 11th**. These sessions run from 1:00 to 5:00 pm. Enter through the stage door at 1930 Allston Way, Berkeley. These events are a very social open house for NorCal members (both players and listeners) and their guests. Most of those playing are amateurs but some are definitely professionals. Chamber tours are available. Here is a chance for you to play (and/or see and hear up close) one of the best (and biggest) Wurlitzers in the world! Please be sure to call the NorCal answering machine the day of the event at 510-644-2707 to make certain that the event is still on.

HOW OFTEN DO WE PUBLISH THE WINDSHEET?

We publish whenever we have an event scheduled rather than on a set schedule. We plan to send out a post card reminder for Jerry Nagano's concert at Kevin King's studio.

REMINDER – AUDIENCE MEMBERS CAN BE HEARD TOO!

We have received a complaint about a couple sitting at the rear of the audience during John Lauter's concert who not only spoke almost continuously but also received one or more cell phone calls – all this while John was playing!

MORTON PIPE ORGAN PROJECT - CALIFORNIA THEATRE, PITTSBURG

The project's crew reports that the instrument is up and beginning to play! However, they have run out of funds. This entire project has been operating totally on donations. It is a tax deductible 501(c)(3) project. If you would like to donate, make checks payable to PCSI and be sure to include a notation that the check is for the "Morton Organ Project." Send your donation to:

Pacific Community Services, Inc.
329 Railroad Avenue
Pittsburg, CA 94565
(925) 439-1056

Further information is available from Tom LaFleur at (925) 383-1610. He is Executive Vice President of PCSI. Also, if you would like a tour of the theatre and the Morton Organ Project, call Tom LaFleur at the above number for an appointment.

OTHER COMING EVENTS

July 3-8 (Sunday through Friday). ATOS National Convention, Cleveland, Ohio

OTHER VENUES

Grand Lake Theatre - 3/18 Wurlitzer. 3200 Grand Avenue, Oakland. Intermission music played by Warren Lubich or Gordon Pratt (Fridays) & Bob Reichert (Saturdays). (510) 452-3556.

Paramount Theatre - 4/26 Wurlitzer. 2025 Broadway, Oakland. Public tours on first and third Saturdays of the month at 10:00 am. (510) 465-6400. They will be posting their Movie

Classics 2016 Summer Schedule soon. Live Mighty Wurlitzer organ serenade begins at 7:30PM. Curtain rises at 8:00PM. Feature film begins at 8:30PM. www.paramounttheatre.com

Stanford Theatre - 3/21 Wurlitzer. 221 University Avenue, Palo Alto. See their **Silent Film Schedule**. The organ is played before and between films by **Bill Taylor, David Hegarty**, or **Jerry Nagano**. (650) 324-3700. stanfordtheatre.org

Palace of the Legion of Honor - 4/63 E. M. Skinner. Lincoln Park, San Francisco Presidio. Saturdays and Sundays, 4:00 to 5:00 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.

Visalia Fox Theatre - 4/22 Wurlitzer. 300 West Main Street, Visalia. (599) 625-1369.

MEMBERS LOBBY ONLINE

For NorCal members only, there is now a link near the bottom of our website home page to take you to our "Members' Lobby." A password is required in order to view any of the Members' Lobby. Members who need the password should contact Neal Wood. His email and phone number are at the bottom of the last page.

GET YOUR WINDSHEET BY E-MAIL!

Would you like to receive your copy of the Windsheet by email? It will be in full color; it will be wrinkle and tear-free; it will arrive sooner; and you will save NorCal the cost of postage and envelopes. If so, please contact our Membership Chair, Neal Wood nealwood@pacbell.net.

60 YEARS OF THEATRE ORGAN JOURNALS AVAILABLE TO A GOOD HOME!

Complete set of Theatre Organ Journals, 1955-2015, bound in Theatre Organ binders, available free to anyone interested in the complete set. (Book case not included.) Contact Rudy Frey at RudyFrey@sbcglobel.net.

NORCAL RECORDINGS FOR SALE



See the NorCal web site for recordings of our Wurlitzer. They will all be on sale at our next concert or may be ordered from our Treasurer, Neal Wood at nealwood@pacbell.net.

NorCal Theatre Organ Society is a Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS). 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 or nealwood@pacbell.net
P.O. Box 625, Berkeley, CA 94701-0625

Dues are \$20 for NorCal TOS only. For an additional \$50 you may also join National ATOS (\$70 total) per year for full voting memberships in both NorCal and ATOS as well as your subscription to *Theatre Organ* magazine, the six times a year glossy journal of ATOS. Spouse and children living at home may be included in both NorCal and ATOS memberships. We hope you will join us to help preserve and enjoy these great instruments.

NORCAL THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY CONTACTS:

NorCal Web Site: Current & recent past Windsheets in .pdf format, up-to-date Calendar of Events on line, and list of the CD's available: norcaltos.org

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