


SUMMER 2019

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



Mark Herman in Concert & Annual Picnic
Sunday, July 28
Kevin King's Organ Studio
2851 Creston Road, Walnut Creek
12:00 Noon - Bring Your Own Lunch and Socialize
1:00 pm - Concert

About Mark - Born in 1987, Mark Herman is one of America's busiest young theatre organists, performing over 30 concerts and silent film presentations each year across the US and abroad. In 2012, he was named the American Theatre Organ Society's Organist of the Year and is the youngest person ever to receive the prestigious honor. Previously, he was overall winner of the Society's Young Theatre Organist Competition in 2004. NorCal last hosted Mark in April 2017 in a thrilling concert at Berkeley Community Theatre. Mark was a featured artist at the 2019 ATOS national convention in Rochester where he played the 4/28 Wurlitzer at Shea's Buffalo.

Mark studied theatre organ with the late John Ferguson of Indianapolis, who was recognized worldwide for his skills teaching the art of the theatre organ. His classical piano studies were with Christine Freeman of Fort Wayne, Indiana. He earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theatre Arts/Management from DePaul University in Chicago.

Mark has been featured on several episodes of American Public Media's *Pipedreams* program, and has performed for countless conventions of the American Theatre Organ Society, American Guild of Organists, and Organ Historical Society. On the international stage, he has toured in Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

He currently resides in Los Angeles, where he is President and Tonal Director of the Los Angeles Organ Company, the Allen Organ dealer for the Greater Los Angeles Area. He is in demand as a voicing specialist and tonal consultant for Allen Organs and is proud to be an Allen Artist, showcasing new Allen Organs in the US and beyond.

About Kevin's Studio - If you have never visited Kevin's backyard organ studio, you have missed a musical and visual treat! Much of this fine Wurlitzer installation is from the former Bella Roma restaurant in Martinez. Kevin, ably assisted by NorCal member Curt Wood, has added to it and restored every bit of it to factory-fresh condition. Kevin is the tonal director for our Wurlitzer at Berkeley Community Theatre so this is a "must hear" instrument.



Kevin King's Studio

RICHARD HILLS CONCERT REVIEW

Due to the tight deadline for this issue of the Windsheet, our review of Richard's concert on July 7 will appear in the next issue.

CHAIRMAN'S WIND LINE

As your faithful editor writes this, Chairman Rudy and Mrs. Frey are enjoying the ATOS national convention in Rochester, New York. As a special benefit to Rudy, this area is his "old stomping grounds." We hope he will have a few words to share about the convention for the next Windsheet!

OPEN CONSOLE SCHEDULE

Chris Nichols will host open console sessions at Berkeley Community Theatre on the following Sundays from 1:00 to 5:00 pm:

July 14, August 11, September 22

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.

CLOSING CHORD

NorCal member Chris Nichols has advised us that Richard Reutlinger passed away Saturday, June 29. Richard had been hosting yet another wonderful event at his home and did not feel well. He went upstairs to lie down and said to keep the event going. Later on when someone went to check on him, he had died.

Your editor has many fond memories of ragtime concerts in Richard's home, which is a high-ceilinged Victorian just down the hill from Alamo Park. His basement is filled with automated musical instruments including the largest model built by American Fotoplayer. Every room in the house is totally furnished in period.

OTHER VENUES

Grand Lake Theatre - 3/17 Wurlitzer. 3200 Grand Avenue, Oakland. Intermission music played by Gordon Pratt (Fridays) & Bob Reichert (Saturdays); Bill Coale Relief Organist. (510) 452-3556.
www.renaissancerialto.com

Paramount Theatre - 4/26 Wurlitzer. 2025 Broadway, Oakland. Public tours on first and third Saturdays of the month at 10:00 am, excluding holidays and holiday weekends.

No reservations are necessary for these tours. Tours begin promptly at 10:00 am at the Box Office entrance on 21st Street near Broadway. The tour lasts about two hours and provides a full and informative view of the Theatre. Cameras are allowed. Admission is \$5.00 per person. Children must be at least 10 years

old and adult chaperones are required. Please note that some areas of the tour are not wheelchair accessible.

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

California Theatre, San Jose (Fox Theatre) - 4/21 Wurlitzer. 345 South First Street. The 2/10 Style 216 Wurlitzer lobby organ played before all scheduled performance.
<http://sanjosetheaters.org/theaters/california-theatre/>

California Theatre, Pittsburg - 3/10 Robert Morton. 351 Railroad Avenue, Pittsburg. The 3-manual console is now playing. <http://www.pittsburgcaliforniatheatre.com/>

Palace of the Legion of Honor - 4/63 E. M. Skinner. Lincoln Park, San Francisco Presidio. Concerts reinstated, Saturdays only See legionofhonor.famsf.org and scroll to visit/upcoming events.

MEMBERS LOBBY ONLINE

For NorCal members only, there is a link near the bottom of our website home page to take you to our "Members' Lobby." A password is required to enter the lobby. Members who need the password should contact Neal Wood. His e-mail and phone number are at the bottom of this page.

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 Neal Wood at: woodshed523@icloud.com.

ABOUT NORCAL THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

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 to:**

Mr. Neal R. Wood
NorCal TOS Membership Chair
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woodshed523@icloud.com
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.

HOW OFTEN DO WE PUBLISH THE WINDSHEET?

We publish whenever we have an event scheduled rather than on a set schedule.

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 at the address shown below.

**NORCAL THEATRE ORGAN
SOCIETY CONTACTS:**

Please see the NorCal website at norcaltos.org for current & recent past Windsheets in [.pdf](#) format, an up-to-date Calendar of Events, and a list of organ parts available.

You may reach NorCal directly at NorcalTOS@outlook.com.

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