

# ATOS Atlanta

Official Newsletter of The Atlanta Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society



## KAMINSKI Plays the HAMMO-RAMA Cannon Chapel at Emory University Saturday March 16th at 3:00



MATTHEW KAMINSKI is a rare breed. He's a jazz musician who performs for a crowd of 40,000 people at least 81 times a year. That's because Kaminski is the Atlanta Braves (Major League Baseball) organist and plays all their home games.

A popular figure in the baseball world, he's known for entertaining the crowds with funny musical asides when a player from the opposing team is announced. NBC Sports online wrote that "The Braves Organist is the Coolest Guy in the World."

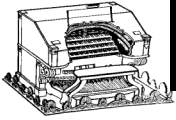
In addition to playing for the Braves, he also plays for roughly 20 college baseball games a year. Matthew has been featured in The Atlanta Journal Constitution, Fox 5's "Good Morning Atlanta" and "Good Day Extra," NPR's Weekend Edition, the BBC, and has received positive "on air" reviews from Braves announcers Don Sutton (Hall of Fame pitcher), Chip Carey, Joe Simpson, and Jim Powell.

Kaminski studied the Hammond B3 with Ike Stubblefield, Tony Monaco,

and Scott Giddens.

Kaminski is a very busy performing and recording artist. He's released three studio CDs on Tony Monaco's Chicken Coup Records, *Taking My Time* in 2010 and *Swingin on the New Hammond* in 2014, as well as a self-released digital album in 2013 of music from the ballpark called Stadium Organ Sounds. His newest Chicken Coup release, *Live at Churchill Grounds*, captures his bluesy, swinging Hammond B3 organ style and serious jazz chops.





A LETTER FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

THANKS, KUDOS, AND HAMMO-RAMA IS UP NEXT!

Atlanta Chapter, American Theatre Organ Society P.O. Box 426 Marietta, Georgia 30061-0426 404-725-1155 www.atosatlanta.org www.facebook.com/ATOSAtlanta ACATOS is recognized as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501.c.3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

- Chapter President - Ken Double Vice President - Randy Elkins Treasurer - Rick McGee Secretary - Bill Thompson Newsletter Editor - Ted Barnett Chapter Correspondent - Larry Davis Board members: John Alford John Tanner Eddie Hulsey, Jr. Larry Davis Randy Hendry Lee Lanier Strand Project – Ron Carter Page Project – Jack Sandow



Oh, how I wish I could have been there. The feedback to me was simply splendid. Oh, how I wish there would have been more of YOU there, but we will keep working to build our audience for our concerts.

Thanks and kudos to Tedde Gibson for his marvelous performance at our Grande Page theatre organ; and the same to Mr. Quentin Goins and his wonderful group of musicians in the Stephenson Wind Ensemble. Together they presented a tremendous concert and a wide array of great music. This kind of collaboration is important as we try and bring new people to the theatre organ.

Thanks and kudos to our volunteers who help make the concerts possible. David Tuck, Larry Davis, John Alford and Lee Lanier all helped Tedde with transportation to and from rehearsal and the performance; John Tanner and others assisted with organ prep; Tim Stephens is indefatigable in his work with the PA system, ticketing, PR and more; Brady Born is always available to led a hand; and, anyone I missed, please forgive me. But it takes a band of us to stage a concert, and thanks to you all.

Take a good close look at the upcoming calendar in this newsletter. You will find details on our next chapter meeting, the ever-popular Hammo-rama, again held at Emory University with Randy Elkins lining up a great group of musicians on the Hammond organ. Meanwhile, Ron Carter is playing the next silent film at the Plaza Theatre, March 17th; there are a lot of opportunities to hear theatre organ over the next few months, and it's all listed in the newsletter.

A last reminder about your dues if you have not yet paid. We love all the love and support from our members. Touch base with Treasurer Rick McGee if you have questions. and thank you and kudos to YOU too for your membership and support of ACATOS.

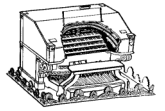
Finally, let us all continue to pray for those families affected by the horrible tragedy involving those two students from Stephenson High School. It is a terrible moment that affects the entire Stephenson High School family, and by extension, we are surely a part of that family.

And please, you all be safe and healthy and happy 'til we see you for Hammo-rama.

Ken

Ken Double





*An American Original*  
**Tedde Gibson turns a “Page” of the art form**  
**By John Clark McCall, Jr.**



From the first strains of *Jalousie*, the Stephenson audience of Saturday, February 23rd witnessed a fresh and rarely heard approach to the art form of the theatre organ. And what an *organ!* Tedde Gibson was obviously pleased with the resources of this fine instrument. Every possible resource seemed to be at his beckoning—even when the sound of a Hammond-and-Leslie effect was important to his repertoire.

Before this review continues, some observations should be offered regarding Mr. Gibson’s unique approach to music: he knows how to lift his hands when a split second of silence is in order, he is a builder of unique harmonies and refreshing solo lines, he orchestrates the organ with varied, inventive registrations, and most importantly, he continues the legacy of great, but too few, African-American artists gracing the bench. This includes Fats Waller, Bob Wyatt, Jimmy Smith, Nat King Cole (yes! especially his Hammond/vocal duos), Jimmy Paulin, and Atlanta’s own Graham Jackson. His homage to those who have

served in our military—beautifully expressed in *You Raise Me Up*—was introduced by the plaintive sound of “bag pipes” and developed in such a way that one was immediately aware that this organist is one with the ecclesiastical and theatrical sides of music. His heartfelt *Precious Lord* was another example. There was a chestnut from the pen of the great gospel composer, Richard Smallwood; Rodgers and Hammerstein’s *Climb Every Mountain*, and the Hawkins Brothers’ *Oh Happy Day* continued the genre. As Mr. Gibson explained, *Gospel Music* is a rich, and multi-faceted resource.

But there were so many other musical sides; for example, his treatment of *Sentimental Journey* could come from the charts of Count Basie or Duke Ellington. There were extremes of inventive improvisation, reminding us that the organist knows his solo lines. As a vocalist at the Page, he “broke the rules” with fresh interpretation, “Hammond-like” passages and a punctuation to his pedal lines that was unexpected but oh-so-right.

There was a second reason to be at Stephenson, and that was to witness the amazing assembly of high school musicians under the direction of Dr. Quentin Goins. The premise of the symphonic wind ensemble—demonstrated under the baton of Dr. Goins—is so orchestral that the listener readily forgets that there are no strings! He also forgets that these are high school musicians! He forgets that the stage’s soloists have not even earned a di-

ploma...yet! And when the talents of an organist at an *orchestral* instrument is added, well, you’ve really got something.

Also offered was Tedde’s suite of Michael Jackson favorites showcasing the talented percussionist, Shaunice Brantley. It was a daunting order for the Page and a talented young man on the traps--requiring two musicians who understand popular song conceived by the one and only Michael Jackson. It worked, and the audience was a participant in this presentation of hits that included *Don’t Stop ‘Till You Get Enough*, *Rock With You*, and *The Girl Is Mine*.

Mr. Gibson’s last showstopper was underscored by February’s Black History Month. This symphonic poem by John and James Johnson told of the African-American experience through the most powerful form we have: music. The musical essay built around *Lift Every Voice and Sing* proved there were really TWO symphonic entities on the Stephenson stage that night. In the words of Larry Davis, the performance was “stunning and moving.”

One can only imagine where these students of Stephenson high school will go musically. They witnessed how one person who was once a student fared—yes, that brilliant one at the bench of the Page Pipe Organ, Tedde Gibson.



*An American Original*  
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**Shaunice Brandley—  
percussionist**

**Tedde Gibson—Organist**

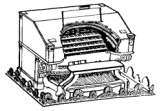
**At Page Console**



**Shaunice and Tedde show how to make music!**

Article by Gale Kay of The Champion newspaper about Tedde, the wind ensemble and the Page.

<http://thechampionnewspaper.com/news/local/theatre-pipe-organ-a-hit-with-professionals-and-students/>



**Ron Carter's what's going  
on at the Strand, Plaza and Carolina**

**STRAND PROGRAMS WHERE THE CHAPTER'S GW4 WILL BE  
PRESENTED:**

Saturday March 16 at 7:30 Organ preshow for the film FAR AWAY first time organist Debbie Chambless (Debbie is Chapel Organist at Callaway Gardens and has spent many hours preparing for her first time pre-show for the Strand)

Saturday March 23rd at 7:30 Organ preshow for the film PRINCESS BRIDE organist Larry Davis

Saturday April 5 at 7:30 Organ preshow for the film DIAL M FOR MURDER organist Larry Davis

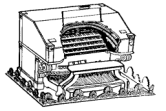
Sunday April 7 at 2:30 Organ preshow for the silent classic THE TEN COMMANDMENTS organ preshow Jay Mitchell. The film will be accompanied by House Organist Ron Carter. This is the first time this 1923 epic silent masterpiece has been presented at the Strand or anywhere in Georgia in over 90 years. Directed by Cecil B DeMille.

Friday April 26 at 7:30 Organ preshow for the film SELENA organist Randy Elkins

Sunday April 28 at 2:30 Organ preshow for the film WILLY WONKA organist TBA

**PLAZA THEATRE SILENT FILM** with theatre organ accompaniment on the Chapter's Allen LLQ324 by Ron Carter on Sunday March 17th at 5pm. The film to be screened is FLESH AND THE DEVIL starring Greta Garbo and John Gilbert. A great accompaniment score to this pre-code thriller!

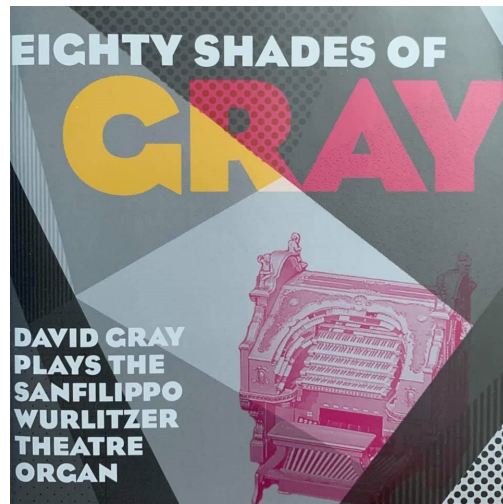
**CAROLINA THEATRE** in Greensboro NC Tuesday April 30th at 7pm Ron Carter will accompany the fantastic Harold Lloyd comedy SAFETY LAST on the theatre's original Robert Morton theatre organ.



Larry Davis's Corner

**Bob Haag – Lifetime Achievement Award**

Bob has been one of the Page crew for close to two decades and it is his wiring made the keyboards and the stops able to communicate with the pipes and percussions in the chambers. He has done all his work as a volunteer Saturday after Saturday (and sometimes Sundays) for these many years. For his long years of contributions to the Grande Page, the Board of Directors is honored to present Bob with the Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Atlanta Chapter, ATOS. He was, appropriately, presented the award at a work session at the Page in February by a fellow honoree, John Tanner.

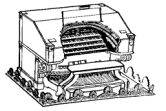


We were first entertained by the now-famous David Gray the year after he won the youth competition when he stopped in at our dear Bucky's home on the way to play in Florida. He came back a couple of years later and then again after he had spent some time at the Royal Academy, when he spent a week here, visited the Fox and the Alabama and drove my car around the city ("the wrong side of the car, the wrong side of the road, at night, in the rain, on a motorway"). He returned a couple of months later for Bucky's birthday party and stunned all of us with he fabulous musicianship. Since then, he played as part of our 2013 Convention and on the Grande Page last year. He has completed a spectacular new CD on the SanFilippo Wurlitzer. As I have said, our friend and follow chapter member David finally has an organ worthy of him and the the organ at SanFilippo has an artist worthy of it. I have the CD and I cannot recommend it enough. You can obtain it at <http://80shadesofgray.com/> ! Do it before it sells out!



## UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS (MARK YOUR CALENDARS)

Date	Time	Location	Event Description
March 16 Saturday	3:00 PM	<u>Cannon Chapel at Emory University - Atlanta, GA</u>	<b>Monthly Meeting</b> - A Hammorama Tribute to Wanda and Elbert Fields - featuring Matthew Kaminski, organist for the Atlanta Braves
March 16 Saturday	7:30 PM	<u>Strand Theatre - Marietta, GA</u>	Organ preshow for the film FAR AWAY first time organist Debbie Chambless (Debbie is Chapel Organist at Callaway Gardens and has spent many hours preparing for her first time pre-show for the Strand)
March 17 Saturday	5:00 PM	<u>Plaza Theatre - Atlanta, GA</u>	Theatre organ accompaniment on the Chapter's Allen LLQ324 by Ron Carter. The film to be screened is FLESH AND THE DEVIL starring Greta Garbo and John Gilbert. A great accompaniment score to this pre-code thriller!
March 23 Saturday	7:30 PM	<u>Strand Theatre - Marietta, GA</u>	Organ preshow for the film PRINCESS BRIDE organist Larry Davis
April 5 Sat- urday	7:30 PM	<u>Strand Theatre - Marietta, GA</u>	Organ preshow for the film DIAL M FOR MURDER organist Larry Davis
April 7 Sun- day	3:00 PM	<u>Strand Theatre - Marietta, GA</u>	Silent Film - The Ten Commandments - the epic 1923 film presented with live accompaniment by Ron Carter on the Mighty Allen GW-IV organ. Preshow by Jay Mitchell.
April 14 Sunday	2:30 PM	<u>Forker Memorial Wurlitzer, Grace Church, Sarasota, FL</u>	John McCall in Concert. Free admission
April 26 Friday	7:30 PM	<u>Strand Theatre - Marietta, GA</u>	Organ preshow for the film SELENA organist Randy Elkins
April 28 Sunday	3:00 PM	<u>Strand Theatre - Marietta, GA</u>	Organ preshow for the film WILLY WONKA organist TBA
April 28 Sunday	3:00 PM	<u>Allen Organ Studio</u>	<b>Monthly Meeting</b> hosted by Jeff Ayers. Currently there are two theatre organs, at least two classical organs and a Hammond Organ in the studio! What fun! Artists TBA.
April 29 Monday	7:30 PM	<u>Westminstere Oaks</u>	John McCall and Larry Davis on Allen 317 and Bosendorfer Grand. Free admission
April 30 Monday	7:00 PM	<u>Carolina Theatre Greensboro, NC</u>	Ron Carter will accompany the fantastic Harold Lloyd comedy SAFETY LAST on the theatre's original Robert Morton theatre organ.
June 16 Sunday	3:00 PM	<u>Ric McGee's House</u>	<b>Monthly Meeting</b> cookout and open console at the home of member Rick McGee with the 5 manual Allen Theatre Organ.

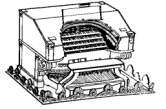


**DIRECTIONS TO CANNON CHAPEL**



**Parking is free in the Peavine Deck on Saturdays. You have to pay to park in the Peavine Lot or the Oxford Deck**



***DIRECTIONS TO CANNON CHAPEL***

## **Peavine Parking Lot and Deck**

**29 Eagle Row  
Atlanta, GA 30322**

### **Driving Directions**

From North Decatur Road, turn onto Dowman Drive through the main Emory gates at the roundabout. Take the second roundabout exit to continue on Dowman Drive past the Boisfeuillet Jones Building on your left. At the stop sign turn right onto Eagle Row. Peavine Lot and Deck will be on your left. Park in Peavine Lot on weekdays and in Peavine Deck on weekends or evenings.

### **Walking Directions to Venues**

Exit the parking lot/deck and turn right onto Eagle row. At the stop sign, turn left onto Dickey Drive. Walk up the hill towards Tarbutton Hall. Take the stairs on your right between Tarbutton Hall and the Anthropology Building. Walk toward the Callaway Center, and turn right on the walkway. The Modern Languages Building will be on your right and Cannon Chapel directly in front of you.

Alternatively, exit the parking lot/deck and turn right onto Eagle row. At the stop sign, turn left onto Dickey Drive. Turn right and go up the hill between Cherry Logan Emerson Hall and the Candler School of Theology. Go up the two flights of stairs beside White Hall. Cannon Chapel will be on your left.

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Oxford Deck**