CIPHERS

MARCH 2013

Newsletter of the Central Indiana Chapter American Theatre Organ Society

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Mark Herman Concert: At the Movies

2012 Organist of the Year will perform on the Warren PAC Barton Organ on Sunday, March 3, at 2:30pm

About the Show

Mark Herman will perform a solo concert on featuring music from the golden age of movie musicals. The repertoire will include music from familiar films such as Singing in the Rain, The Wizard of Oz, Forty Second Street and The Music Man. The show will take place on Sunday, March 3, 2013 at 2:30pm at Warren Performing Arts Center, home of the Dessa and Virginia Byrd Memorial Barton Theatre Pipe Organ originally installed in the Indiana Theatre downtown.

Tickets are $12 presale, $15 at the door. Student tickets are FREE at the door. Visit www.cicatos.org to order tickets, or call (317) 255-8056. The concert will take place at Warren Performing Arts Center, located at 9500 E. 16th St., Indianapolis, part of the Warren Central High School Complex. Free parking.

About Mark Herman

Mark Herman is one of America's busiest young theatre organists, performing over 30 concerts each year across the US and abroad. In July of 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.

He studied theatre organ with John Ferguson of Indianapolis, who is recognized worldwide for his skills as a teacher. After graduating with a degree in Theatre Arts/Management from DePaul University in Chicago, Mark relocated to Indianapolis, where he operates his own web design and digital marketing company and represents the Allen Organ Company for Meridian Music Company in Carmel. He travels the country as a voicing specialist and tonal consultant for Allen Organs.

People

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Atlanta Convention 2013

Summary by Tim Stephens

Day One of the Convention marks the beginning of two exciting days at Atlanta's Fabulous Fox Theatre. Orginally intended as the Yaarab Shrine temple, the Fox Theatre opened Christmas Day 1929 and remains the South's grandest movie palace. As you sit under the canopy of canvas and twinkling stars, you'll thrill to the sounds of the theatre's original 4/42 Möller concert organ. From thunder of its 32' diaphones to the whisper of its ethereal division, the sounds of "Mighty Mo" are like no other. By popular demand, Richard Hills will perform the opening honors of the Convention in a midday concert.

After a free afternoon to explore Buckhead and Midtown Atlanta as you please, you'll return to the Fox Theatre for an unforgettable, silent movie presentation featuring the incredible accompaniment of Clark Wilson at the console of "Mighty Mo".

Larry-Douglas Embury, the Fox Theatre's Organist in Residence since 2002, will then host a special patriotic program to open Day Two, featuring some of Atlanta's top talent. You'll then enjoy ATOS favorite and 2011 Organist of the Year Dave Wickerham as he takes the reins of "Mighty Mo" for an energizing midday concert. You'll cap off the evening with the incomparable artistry of Australian artist Tony Fenelon.

The Fourth of July and Day Three of the Convention will take you across the border to the "Showplace of the South" – the beautiful Alabama Theatre in Birmingham. Opening in 1927, the Alabama was originally the flagship theatre in the Southeast for the Paramount-Publix Corporation, and is still home to its original Wurlitzer Publix One, affectionately known as "Big Bertha". David Gray, Scottish piano and organ prodigy and student at the Royal Academy of Music, will dazzle you on the now 4/32 Mighty Wurlitzer.

For the first time, the Awards Banquet is included in your Convention registration! You'll enjoy the best dining Birmingham has to offer in the historic B & A Warehouse, just blocks from the Alabama Theatre, followed by the Annual ATOS Awards Ceremony. You'll then head back to the theatre to experience why Mark Herman was awarded the 2012 ATOS Organist of the Year as he concludes another musically thrilling day.

The final day of the Convention will focus on the Atlanta Chapter's pride and joy. First, you'll head to Stephenson High School, in the shadow of famous Stone Mountain, to experience the Young Artists' Showcase on the Chapter's 4/16 Grande Page theatre organ. Following a catered lunch, you'll be entertained by former Young Artists' Competition winner and ATOS Organist of the Year Dwight Thomas, as premieres the former WHT Studio organ.

After a free afternoon to explore the many dining options in Buckhead and the surrounding area, you'll take another short drive from the heart of Atlanta to historic Marietta, and its 1935 Strand Theatre on Marietta Square. This Art Deco house recently underwent a beautiful restoration, which included the construction of four pipe chambers. The large chambers and room acoustics lend to one of the most thrilling Allen GW-4 installations around. You'll hear Detroit's Lance Luce in the closing concert with his special brand of keyboard magic.

Learn more at atosatlanta2013.org!

Member Notes

Please make note of these address updates:

Justin Stahl's NEW email is: justinstahl@outlook.com

George Fulton's NEW email is: geopiapvr@yahoo.com

Please welcome these new members:

Ronald L. English
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Rick Hawley
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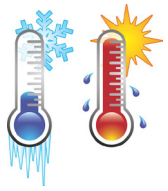
Fishers, IN 46038
PH: 317-578-8580
Email: rhawley8@yahoo.com



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President's Message

By Tim Needler

Joel Gary, who presented the February 10th Social's formal program, did a very nice job and showed off our WPAC Barton to fine advantage, and it was one of the best-played programs by a performer who is better known in the Michigan area. That Joel is not too well-known here is perhaps why we had fewer than 25 attendees sitting in the auditorium, a pretty dismal turn-out from our chapter that numbers about 300 members. Admittedly, the weather was rainy and not conducive to getting out in it. But, frankly, the turn-out was embarrassing to me as president of this organization and, I'm sure, disappointing to the artist who obviously had worked hard to prepare 45 minutes of fine music. Since I hosted him, I know he drove about four hours from his home in Grand Rapids to Indianapolis on Friday afternoon, spent much of Saturday practicing at Warren to prepare the professional and enjoyable program for us, and then drove four hours home on Monday morning. That was a lot of effort on his part, and the honorarium that he received was certainly not a great amount. Joel is also president of his Michigan chapter and commiserated with me on my disappointment in the attendance.

Folks, I know many of you will say you did not know the artist, and perhaps we didn't inform you well enough about this man's talent and abilities. Let me just say that while I am leading this organization, we will not present anyone who is not worthy of your attendance, and that goes for both concert artists, such as Mark Herman playing at WPAC on Sunday, March 3, as well as those who are asked to present a shorter formal program for our monthly socials. All I request is that you take notice of our upcoming programs listed in the newsletter, put them on your calendar, and do your best to support CIC-ATOS with your presence as much as you are able. Thank you for doing so.

And, my thanks those of you who have renewed your CIC membership, especially those who have renewed at a higher level than the basic, an amazing 72.3% of all members who have renewed thus far. In this newsletter is a list of those who have done so, and your generosity is highly appreciated!

Finally, about 30 have not yet renewed. If you have not yet done so, this will be your last newsletter. We hate to lose anyone and spend time trying to notify those who may have forgotten or neglected to renew. But there comes a time when we have to terminate the process. We will continue to send the unrenewed members concert flyers in hopes that they will support our public concerts in the future. And if you are unsure if you have paid your dues (either ATOS or CIC), give me a call anytime at 317-255-8056, and I can easily check the membership file and advise your status. Thanks as always for your continued support of CIC-ATOS!

The Grande Page Organ at the Embassy Theatre in Ft. Wayne. Be sure to support their events (in the calendar) and hear one of the country's most stunning theatre organs!

Meeting Minutes

By Tom Nichols

Date: February 10, 2013

Location: Warren Performing Arts Center

President Tim Needler opened the February meeting by welcoming 23 members and guests to Eash Auditorium at the WPAC. He thanked the technical director, Jeffrey Dalstrom, and the staff of the WPAC for making it possible for us to hold this meeting.

New members present were Rick & Terry Sue Louden. The guests present included Luiz Maia from Brazil (friend of John Rust).

Tim asked if there were any corrections or additions to the January 13, 2013 meeting minutes as published in Ciphers. The minutes of the January meeting were approved as printed.

Treasurer Shawn Chase presented the treasurer's report of transactions, revenues and expenses, and account balances. He had a record of transaction available for review.

OLD BUSINESS

- We have 130 members of record. An additional 40 have not yet renewed for 2013. All of them will receive a final reminder to renew their membership with CIC-ATOS and that they must also be members of ATOS.
- Carlton Smith reported that LaPorte Theatre Style "D" Wurlitzer organ, which we acquired in 2001 from Bruce Thompson of Anderson, IN, has been sold to a buyer in Sweden, who plans to install it in a Swedish church, without any modifications.
- The 2013 ATOS Convention will take place Tuesday, July 2 – Friday, July 5 in Atlanta. Atlanta's J.W. Marriott is the convention hotel ($119/night, plus tax). See the January/February issue of Theatre Organ Journal for details.
- We will be hosting the 2014 ATOS Convention, July 4-9. We're locked into a rate of $99/night at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and the banquet will be at the Indiana Roof Ballroom. Artists already committed include: Richard Hills (Hilbert Circle Theatre), Scott Smith (Warren PAC), Justin Stahl (Trinity English Lutheran), Walt Strony (Embassy Theatre), Simon Gledhill (Paramount Theatre), Nathan Laube (St. Paul's Episcopal Church), Clark Wilson (Hedback Theatre), Dave Wickerham (Embassy Theatre), Jim Riggs (Long Center), Pierre Fracalanza (on a virtual theatre pipe organ) and Mark Herman (Warren PAC). The Encore will include a newly-installed 4-manual Compton at the home of John Rust in Seymour, IN; Jelani Eddington on Ron Wehmeier's 4-manual Wurlitzer; and Mark Herman on the 3-manual Wurlitzer in the Cincinnati Music Hall Ballroom. The help of many CIC-ATOS members will be crucial to our success!

NEW BUSINESS

- Tickets are on sale for the Mark Herman concert on Sunday, March 3, 2013 at 2:30 at the Warren Performing Arts Center ($12/advance; $15/door).
- An Aeolian-Hammond roll-player organ has been donated to CIC-ATOS, with 60 original music rolls. It was built circa 1939 for a mansion on north Pennsylvania Street and features a custom art deco case. The organ has been partially restored and is playable. We will sell it as a fundraiser; it is being advertised in the AMICA Bulletin for $5,000. The organ is stored in Mark Herman's garage; contact him to see and play it.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Tim reminded us to please wear our name badges at meetings and at concerts, to help newer members get to know us all. Keeping yours in your vehicle ensures you'll always have it with you. If yours is misplaced or damaged, simply contact Tim Needler and he'll gladly print and mail you a new badge.
- Future CIC-ATOS concerts and meetings: On March 3, 2013, Mark Herman will appear in concert also at the Warren PAC. On April 14, 2013 our chapter meeting and social will be a pitch-in lunch at the home of Michael Fellenzer, gathering at 1:00 to eat, followed by an informal Hammond organ program at 2:30 performed by Nathan Wilcox. On May 12, the Buddy Nolan Memorial Concert at the Embassy in Fort Wayne will be played by Jelani Eddington, at 2:00. Our May meeting and social will be held on the third Sunday, May 19th, location and artist TBA. On June 9, 2013, Brett Valliant will appear in concert at the Warren PAC.

With no further business, the business meeting was adjourned upon motion by John Rust and second by David Graf. First Vice-President Michael Fellenzer introduced the artist for the afternoon, Joel Gary of Grand Rapids, MI. Joel is a staff organist at the Grand Ledge Opera House, works for the Westfield Organ Company in Grand Rapids, representing the Allen Organ Company, and is Director of Music and Organist at East Congregational Church. Following Gary's well-played program, refreshments were served in the lobby while members and guests enjoyed "open console" time on the 3/18 Barton organ.

We thank our generous donors for 2013!

Our chapter thanks those members who gave more than their basic annual dues amount for 2013 as listed below. If you gave in any of these categories but your name is not listed, please contact Tim Needler immediately (317-255-8056 or tneedler@needlersales.com). Those who have contributed after the deadline for this newsletter will be listed in a subsequent issue.

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2013 Event Calendar

March 3, 2013 | 2:30pm
Concert: Mark Herman, Organ
Warren Performing Arts Center, Indianapolis

March 10, 2013 | 2:00pm
SILENT FILM: Clark Wilson | Charlie Chaplin's *The Kid*
Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne

April 7, 2013 | Pitch-in 1:00pm, Program 2:30pm
CIC SOCIAL: Nathan Wilcox, Hammond Organ
Home of Michael Fellenzer, Indianapolis

April 14, 2013 | 2:30pm
Concert: Mark Herman & Anthony Snitker
Long Center, Lafayette

April 14, 2013 | 2:00pm
SILENT FILM: Steven Ball | *Safety Last*
Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne

May 12, 2013 | 2:00pm
CONCERT: Jelani Eddington
Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne

June 9, 2013 | 2:30pm
CIC CONCERT: Brett Valliant
Warren Performing Arts Center, Indianapolis