



PUGET SOUND PIPELINE

Volume 29, Nos. 3-4 • March – April 2018

www.pstos.org • www.facebook.com/pstos

2018 Series **THEATRE ORGAN POPS** Toe-tapping tunes From the 1920s, '30s, '40s



Tedde Gibson, an eclectic musician whose chosen instrument is the organ, plays classical pipe organ, theatre organ, and Hammond. He also plays gospel, jazz and classical piano. His several recordings of the 4-manual 38-rank Hardman Studio theatre organ located in Great Falls, VA incorporate the wonderful sounds of this instrument in a unique mix of music from gospel to hymns to jazz.

A native of Tacoma, WA, he began playing piano at age four and pipe organ at age 16. He studied classical organ with the late Dr. Edward Hansen and Dr. Carol Terry, classical organ improvisation with Dr. J. Melvin Butler and David Dahl, and theatre organ stylings with Jonas Nordwall. He was a featured organist at Pizza & Pipes in Tacoma. Since 2003 he has resided in the metropolitan DC area where he is active in both the theatre and church organ scenes.

Tedde periodically commutes to Seattle to play for the Paramount Theatre's Silent Movie Mondays presentations.

From Washington D.C.

TEDDE GIBSON

plays the 3-manual 25-rank

Kimball-Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ

*Calvary Christian Assembly
6801 Roosevelt Way NE • Seattle*

Saturday, April 14, 2 PM

ADMISSION

(For those who are not series subscribers)

PSTOS members \$20 – Non-members \$25

Age 16 and under FREE with adult

To purchase tickets online, see page 3

SPECIAL BONUS for organists, AGO members,
piano students, Hammond players!

Tedde will present a FREE WORKSHOP

**“Gospel music, orchestral transcriptions,
and more— on the theatre organ”**

Friday evening, April 13, 7–9 PM

Calvary Christian Assembly

Drive Directions: IMPORTANT! The Calvary parking lot is now operated by Diamond, but **parking is free for those attending these events.**

SOUTHBOUND I-5—Take exit 171 toward NE 71st St/NE 65th St, merge onto 6th Ave NE. Take a slight left at NE 71st St, continue onto NE 70th St. Turn right at Roosevelt Way NE, destination will be on the right.

NORTHBOUND I-5—Take exit 171 for WA-522/Lake City Way toward Bothell. Take a slight right to NE 73rd St, then the first right onto Roosevelt Way NE. Destination will be on the right.

PUGET SOUND PIPELINE

Vol. 29, Nos. 3 - 4, March - April 2018

Published by

Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society
10002 Aurora Ave N, Suite 36 #516
Seattle, WA 98133-9329

Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization furthering the appreciation, restoration, and use of the historic Theatre Pipe Organs of the 1920s, through education.

OFFICERS

President—Bob Zat, bob@pstos.org
Past Pres.—Jamie Snell, jamie@pstos.org
Vice President—Russ Evans, russ@pstos.org
Secretary—Ellen Sullivan, ellen@pstos.org
Treasurer—Jon Beveridge, jon@pstos.org

DIRECTORS

Fred Rowe, fred@pstos.org • Barbara Graham, barb@pstos.org
Jamie Snell, jamie@pstos.org, Phil Hargiss, phil@pstos.org

COMMITTEES

Organ Restoration & Maintenance—Bob Zat
Program Planning Team—
Bob Buchholz, Jo Ann Evans, Barb Graham, Ray Harris,
Susan Buchholz, Jamie Snell, Ellen Sullivan, Bob Zat
Educational Outreach Committee—Fred Rowe, fred@pstos.org
Volunteer Coordinator—Barbara Graham
Paramount Crew Chief—Phil Hargiss, phil@pstos.org
Membership Coordinator—Jeff Snyder, jeff@pstos.org
Hospitality HLCC—Ellen Sullivan
Facebook—Jeff Snyder

NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE

Pipeline Co-Editors—Jamie Snell, jamie@pstos.org
Jo Ann Evans, joann@pstos.org
Pipeline Online Website—Tom Blackwell, tom@pstos.org

LIAISONS

AMICA, POF, and AGO—Carl Dodrill
Haller Lake Community Club—Bob Zat
Paramount Theatre—Phil Hargiss
Calvary Christian Assembly—Jeff Snyder

JOINING PUGET SOUND THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY IS FAST AND EASY!

Simply click on the link below and select your preferred level of membership.

- Secure!
- No checks!
- No stamps!
- A few clicks and it's done!



<http://www.pstos.org/membership/new-member.htm>

Celebrate the 90th birthday of The Paramount Theatre

SHOW DIVINE AT 9TH & PINE

(original billing used in 1928)

Get wild Roaring '20s-style! Live music by Tedde Gibson on the mighty Wurlitzer and sing-along numbers from 1928 led by local vocalists Taryn Darr and Ty Willis

Special thanks to the Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society

Monday, May 21 • Doors at 6:00 pm • Event at 7:00 pm

FREE! but please RSVP here <https://www.tfaforms.com/4656440>

LEADING LADIES

The Paramount Theatre – Celebrating its 90th anniversary

April 2 – 30, 2018 • All films start at 7:00PM • Tickets \$10, Seniors \$7



April 2 - The Patsy (1928)

Marion Davies stars in a screwball comedy about forbidden love and also co-produces this successful film. The first of three Davies comedies directed by King Vidor, this Cinderella story for the Jazz Age co-stars film veteran Marie Dressler in a "comeback" role.

Donna Parker featured on the Mighty Wurlitzer

April 9 - A Woman of the World (1925)

Pola Negri stars in this drama-comedy as a European flapper "countess" who journeys to what she believes is the other side of the world, Maple Valley, Iowa. Director Malcom St. Clair.

Tedde Gibson featured on the Mighty Wurlitzer



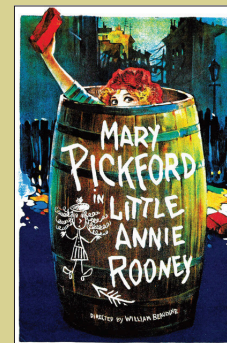
April 16 - Stage Struck (1925)

Gloria Swanson stars in this comedy as a waitress who dreams of becoming a star on the stage. Director Allan Dwan, whom Swanson called "a genius," made eight popular films together, displaying her gift for comedy. This film was one of the first features to use Technicolor.

Christian Elliott featured on the Mighty Wurlitzer

April 23 - Little Annie Rooney (1925)

Mary Pickford wrote, produced and starred in this comedy-drama, presented in this newly restored film produced by the Mary Pickford Foundation. Directed by William Beaudine, the film features Pickford (then 33) playing a scruffy young Irish girl, a "tomboy of the tenements," who also tends to her brother and widowed father. Little Annie Rooney was a critical and commercial success, becoming one of the highest grossing films of 1925. The Mary Pickford Foundation commissioned a new score by L.A. based composer Andy Gladbach, who performs on piano and conducts an eight-piece local ensemble in the first live performance with the restored film.



April 30 - Ella Cinders (1926)

Colleen Moore stars in this comedic Cinderella story based on the syndicated comic strip of the same name. Directed by Alfred E. Green, the film co-stars Moore's most popular collaborator, Lloyd Hughes.

Christian Elliott featured on the Mighty Wurlitzer

CineClub Discussion immediately follows all films

PSTOS

Coming Events

2018 series

THEATRE

ORGAN POPS

Calvary Christian Assembly

1 **TEDDE GIBSON**



Saturday, April 14

2 **SCOTT FOPPIANO**



Saturday, June 23

3 **DAVE WICKERHAM**



Saturday, October 6

More 2018 events



Sat., Aug. 11
BRETT VALLIANT

Returns to the Pacific NW to play Merlyn Johnson's Tacoma Residence 3/30 Wurlitzer-Morton

Sat., Sept. 8, 1:30PM
MARTIN ELLIS

Returns to West Seattle's KENYON HALL and its 2/17 Wurlitzer



Sun., Dec. 2

Holidays at Haller

Annual festive Christmas celebration
Food! Fun! Music!



2018 Series

THEATRE ORGAN POPS

SAVE \$\$! Order the three-concert series now at

<http://www.pstos.org/TOP>

PSTOS Member – Subscription to all three concerts \$50 USD

PSTOS Member – Tedde Gibson Apr. 14 \$20 USD

PSTOS member – Scott Foppiano June 23 \$20 USD

PSTOS Member – Dave Wickerham Oct. 6 \$20 USD

Non-Member – Subscription to all three concerts \$65 USD

Non-Member – Tedde Gibson Apr. 14 \$25 USD

Non-Member – Scott Foppiano June 23 \$25 USD

Non-Member – Dave Wickerham Oct. 6 \$25 USD

The Seattle Gilbert & Sullivan Society presents a World Premiere— a comic opera accompanied by the PSTOS Mighty Wurlitzer

Tyler Pattison will play the Wurlitzer at Haller Lake Community Club accompanying the one-act musical farce

Cox & Box
by Arthur Sullivan (of Gilbert & Sullivan fame) and F.C. Bernard

The toast of 19th Century Musical Comedy was the duo of William Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan. Sullivan's first foray into musical theater was a short farce called *Cox & Box*.

The plot involves a retired Army sergeant named Bouncer who runs a rooming house. One of his lodgers, a Mr. Cox, works all day making hats, and the other a Mr. Box, works for a newspaper and works all night. Because they work opposite shifts, Bouncer rents them the same room and collects twice the rent. They never meet until one day Mr. Cox is given a day off. Mayhem ensues!

Mike Storie, a long-time producer of the Seattle Gilbert & Sullivan Society and also a member of PSTOS, was struck by the fact that he could find no instance of the music of Gilbert and Sullivan being properly introduced on the Mighty Wurlitzer. Was this even possible?

Then Mr. Storie met Mr. Pattison.



Mike and Tyler worked with an artistic team of G&S veterans, director Christine Goff and radio host Dave Ross, to create this unique musical experience. They present this farce as a 1930's radio show with sight gags, audience participation, old radio jingles and sound effects from the organ.

Don't miss this world premiere Sat., April 7 at 7:30 PM
Haller Lake Community Club • 12579 Densmore Ave N • Seattle

Tickets \$22 at the door or online at: www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3335525
Members of PSTOS and AGO \$20—Use code **Organ2018**

Donna Parker Brings Valentine's Day Joy Reviewed by Jamie Snell, photo by Jeff Snyder



and was the 1996 recipient of the prestigious ATOS Organist of the Year Award.

Before the concert began, the audience of about fifty received their choice of apple or cherry pie à la mode, graciously served by stalwarts Barb Graham, Susan Buchholz, Jo Ann Evans, and new member Cheryl Stuart. Coffee, tea, and Valentine's Day sweets were also provided.

Following PSTOS President Bob Zat's introduction, Parker opened with the 1953 Dean Martin hit "That's Amore," re-popularized in the 1987 romantic comedy *Moonstruck* starring Cher. Then, for a change of mood, came the humorous 1959 Clovers rock 'n' roll song "Love Potion Number 9," complete with the original bass line on the pedals. Returning to standards, next were Irving Berlin's "Reaching for the Moon" and the Youmans tune "The Carioca" from the 1933 Rogers/Astaire film *Flying Down to Rio*. Turning to recently composed music, Parker played Michael Bubl 's "It's a Beautiful

Day," noting that it doesn't quite qualify as a love song, given the lyrics: "Oh, baby, any day that you're gone away / It's a beautiful day." Back to 1953, Parker performed "Cry Me a River," the lush though melancholy torch song, written by Arthur Hamilton for Ella Fitzgerald. Then came two rock songs not concerning love: one about non-stop partying, "Rock Around the Clock," the 1952 hit by Bill Haley and his Comets; and one from the movie *The Wiz*,

"Ease on Down the Road," a modernized counterpart to "Follow the Yellow Brick Road," sung as Dorothy embarks on her quest for the Wizard of Oz. Parker ended the first section with the jazzy 1928 Gershwin/Romberg song "Oh Gee, Oh Joy" from the Ziegfeld show *Rosalie*.

After a pause for setup, the audience was treated to the 1917 silent film *Teddy at the Throttle*, accompanied by Parker at the organ. The star in this convoluted melodrama is Gloria Swanson, but the hero is a Great Dane named Teddy. The dog sprints to an approaching locomotive and delivers a note from her true love telling the engineer to stop the train, thereby (by inches) saving Swanson, who has been chained to the tracks by a nefarious villain. Parker did the magic that only an expert silent film accompanist can do: She didn't just play music perfectly complementing each scene, she made us forget there was an accompaniment at all!

Following the movie, Parker wrapped up the event with a newie and an oldie: "City of Stars" from the 2016 romantic comedy *La La Land*, and "Don't Rain on My Parade" from the 1964 film *Funny Girl*, sung by Barbra Streisand as she embarks on her quest for her true love... "Hey, Mister Arnstein, here I am!" The audience thanked the day's artist with extended and enthusiastic applause.

Many thanks to all who helped put on this fun event, starting with Donna Parker, along with the program planning team, the pie à la mode team, Bob Zat for organ prep, announcing, and A/V duty, Ellen Sullivan for Valentine's Day decorations, and several other members who pitched in for setup and cleanup

Three days ahead of Valentine's Day, the mood was festive and perhaps a little romantic as Donna Parker performed at the Mighty Haller Lake Wurlitzer with songs suited to the day, and accompanied a classic silent film on the theme of true love. Parker, based in Portland, is a special friend of PSTOS; she has performed internationally and across the U.S., has held several staff organist positions, is active in the American Theatre Organ Society,

AGO Programs

Sunday March 4, 3 PM

Iain Quinn, Guest Organist in the Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series on the Fritts organ, Lagerquist Hall, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma WA. Tickets: \$17 General Admission, \$10 Military/60+/PLU Community and Alumni, \$5 PLU students/18 and younger.

Monday March 5, 2018, 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Organ Workshop on "Improvisation and More" led by Michael Kleinschmidt and John Stuntebeck at St. Mark's Cathedral, Seattle. Open event, no charge.

Tuesday March 6, 2018, 12:10 noon

Noontime organ recital on the Marceau organ of Trinity Episcopal, Seattle.

Friday March 16, 12:10 noon

Oliver Brett plays the Brombaugh organ at Christ

Episcopal Church, Tacoma. Mr. Oliver is a doctoral student at the Eastman School of Music, and Second Prize winner at the 2017 Canadian International Organ Competition in Montreal. Donation at the door. 310 North K Street, Tacoma. www.ccptacoma.org

Monday March 19, 2018, 7:30 PM

Joseph Adam presents a concert on the Watjen concert organ at Benaroya Hall, Seattle. \$19 - \$31.

Friday March 23, 2018, 12 noon

Dr. Paul Thornock will perform on the Fritts organ at Kilworth Memorial Chapel, 1500 N 18th St, Tacoma, WA 98416, no charge.

Sunday March 25, 7:00 PM

Boccherini Stabat Mater at Saint Joseph Church, 732 18th Ave E, Seattle, WA. Matthew Samelak playing the Willis organ, Soprano Madeline Bersamina, Mezzo Erin Calata. Suggested donation \$15.

Tuesday April 3, 12:10 noon

Noontime organ recital on the Marceau organ of Trinity Episcopal 609 8th Ave Seattle, 98104.

Friday April 6, 7:30 PM

Henry Lebedinsky plays Bach, Buxtehude and Brosig on the Fritts organ at Ascension Episcopal, 2330 Viewmont Way, Seattle, WA 98199.

Sunday April 8, 3 PM

Gregory Peterson in recital on the Fritts organ, Lagerquist Hall, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma WA. Gregory Peterson is Head of the Music Department and college organist at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa. Tickets: \$17 / \$10 / \$5.

Saturday April 14, 7:00 PM

The Redmond Chorale, Laurie Betts Hughes, Director, will be in performance at Church of the Holy Cross, Episcopal, 11526 162nd Ave NE, Redmond, WA 98052. The featured work on the program will be the Faur  "Requiem". There will be an organ pre-concert recital of French organ music by John Palmer beginning at 6:40 PM. Admission is \$16 general admission, \$13 seniors/students, and \$40 family. More information is available at www.redmondchorale.org.

PAGES FROM THE PAST...

Seattle's Capitol Hill boasted several busy theatres during the early twentieth century

This article is reproduced from "The Hill With a Future, Seattle's Capitol Hill 1900 – 1946," by Jacqueline B. Williams, with added theatre pipe organ information from PSTOS website.



Society Theatre, c.1913. According to the Junchen opus lists, the Society Theatre originally had a 2/7 tubular pneumatic Kimball organ, installed in 1909. In 1921, it was renamed the Broadway Theatre.

New York shows did not travel to Seattle's Broadway, but Capitol Hill audiences did not lack theatres. Before moving pictures lit up the stage, fans could ooh and aah, and laugh and cry at the Society Theatre (201 North Broadway, now RiteAid), Madison Theatre (1112 Broadway), and Broadway Theatre (1527 Broadway).

Moving pictures, first presented in Seattle in 1902 at Le Petit Theatre on Pike Street, gave viewers a new kind of entertainment. "A comfortable and cozy house showing the finest photoplays obtainable," advertised the Bungalow Theatre, at the corner of Fifteenth Avenue North and East Republican in January 1915. At that date the Bungalow featured "The Nightingale," a silent movie starring the talented Ethel Barrymore. At the Olympian Theatre, at Fourteenth Avenue and East Madison Street, viewers could thrill to "carefully selected licensed films" with musical accompaniment by Hans Schroeder, a pipe organ soloist.

Sensing a more lucrative market, the Society Theatre, sometime around 1921, gave up its "First Class Plays," changed its name to the Broadway, and began showing movies. "I saw every movie it

showed," said Frank Burgess, who lived nearby. Others said that the venerable Broadway was *the* place to go on a date, "in spite of the fact that in the summer the temperature climbed so high, young people nicknamed it the "arm pit." Remnants of the theatre remain in the neon-bordered marquee, which now advertises shampoo and soap instead of glamorous screen stars.

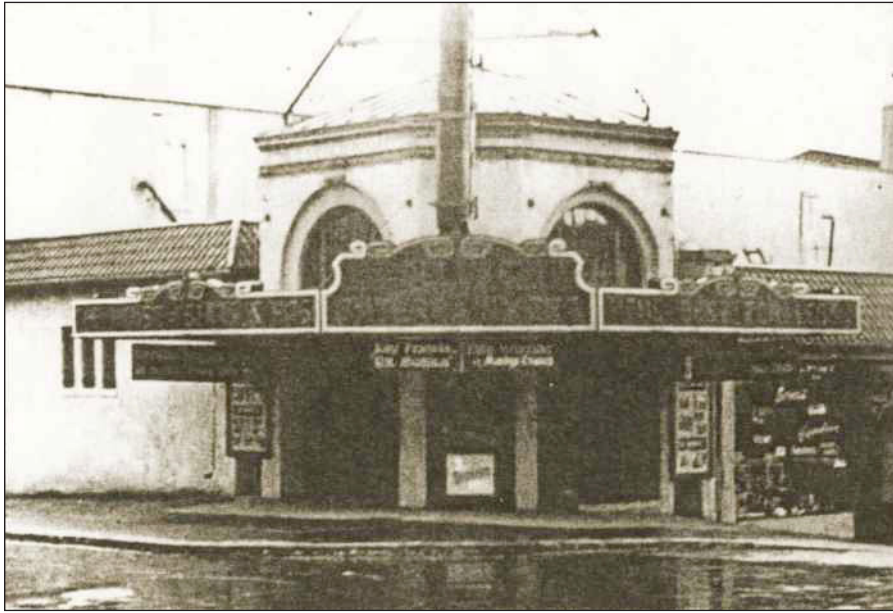
Gradually motion pictures became an accepted part of the neighborhood. Capitol Hill had, in addition to the Broadway, the Roycroft and the Venetian. Both started with silent films. Though the Venetian was the more luxurious, the Roycroft is more often remembered with a special affection.

S.R. Gargas, an Oakland, California, showman, built the Venetian Theatre at 1427 East Pine for \$150,000. He patterned the 900-seat theatre after an Italian music house and installed a Wurlitzer organ. Floodlights lit up the street for the grand opening on November 14, 1926. Admission was twenty-five cents for adults, ten cents for children, and remained that way until the war years when children had to pay fifteen cents. The feature attraction on



The Broadway Movie Theatre at Broadway and John replaced the earlier Society Theatre. The site is occupied by a Rite Aid Drug Store today.

PAGES FROM THE PAST... *Continued*



The Venetian Theatre at 1427 East Pine was patterned after an Italian music house. It was torn down in 1959 to pave the way for the Foodland supermarket. Records show two organs for the Venetian Theatre:
 1919 - 2/7 Kimball, tubular pneumatic action
 1926 - 2/6 Wurlitzer opus #792, a Style D, with roll player

opening day was “Hold That Lion,” a silent film starring Douglas MacLean. Gargas sold the Venetian a year later to Jensen and Von Herberg, Seattle theatre magnates. John Hamrick Theatres acquired it around 1949. The last double feature was shown on December 31, 1958. The Venetian succumbed to the wrecking ball in 1959.

As action-packed talkies replaced the melodramatic silent films, going to the movies became a favored form of entertainment. On Saturday afternoons at the Roycroft, at 706 Nineteenth Avenue East, for just ten cents, children could see one or two feature films, cartoons, the news, and best of all, a serial. For the uninitiated, the movie serials of the 1930s and '40s consisted of an action or adventure film broken into miserly, tempting segments. Each segment lasted about fifteen minutes, and always ended with the hero or heroine caught in a perilous situation. Everyone knew there would be a heroic rescue, but spent the week wondering how it would happen. Cowboy movies and episodes of *Flash Gordon* headed

everyone’s list of favorites. But wait, there was more! The ten cents paid for admittance to the Roycroft also got children a candy bar

and a picture of a movie star. Collect ten buttons and you got a free pass to a future movie. Those with musical skill did even better. “I earned my first fifty cents playing piano one-half hour before the movie,” recalled Juanita Brown Webb.

Another popular event, the yearly popularity clapping contest, was a special day of fun. On that day, Ted Ackles, the Roycroft’s owner, dressed in a black robe and stood on the stage while anxious boys and girls hoping to be selected marched forward. As each approached the stage, Ackles held his hand over the candidate’s head and the audience clapped. The boy with the loudest claps was dubbed Popeye the Sailor Man, and the second-loudest answered to Wimpy, Popeye’s hamburger-loving friend, while the girl with the most applause was called Olive Oyl, Popeye’s girlfriend. All the winners received free passes for a year, recalled John Parker, who admitted that one year he was Wimpy. Like the Venetian, the Roycroft closed in 1959. However, the building was not razed. Instead it became the Russian Community Center.



The Roycroft Theatre originally had a 2/5 Robert Morton organ installed in 1925. Feature films, a weekly serial, and cartoons made the Roycroft Capitol Hill’s favorite theatre.