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PUGET SOUND PIPELINE

Published monthly by Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society, a non-profit organization furthering the appreciation, preservation and use of the Theatre Pipe Organs of yesteryear. PSTOS is a Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society.

Volume 20 No. 10

October 2009

A Chapter of American Theatre Organ Society

Coming November 21st & 22nd

Theatre Organ Weekend

With England's Internationally renowned

SIMON GLEDHILL

TWO BIG EVENTS!

1 SATURDAY THEATRE ORGAN WORKSHOP

Bill Keller home, Allen 5-manual Theatre Organ. Near Olympia.

Double session—Saturday, Nov. 21

1:00–2:15, How to set up the organ for different types of music.

Where and when should you use this and that?

What are good combinations for specific categories of music?

Simon will help!

2:30–4:00, How to approach making an “arrangement” from a standard piece of music. Is there a formula? What are the tricks? How do you think it through? *Simon will tell you!*



SIMON GLEDHILL, born and reared in England, began studying accordion at an early age, and electronic organ and piano at ten. When he heard the theatre pipe organ at Blackpool's Tower Ballroom, he was hooked. Locating a private instrument that could be rented by the hour, he was off and running and at age 17, won the *Northern Young Theatre Organist of the Year* competition, leading to an invitation to make recordings for BBC. A flurry of concert offers soon arrived, launching a performing career that has taken him all over the world. He received the prestigious *ATOS Organist of the Year* award in 1997.

“That rare combination of flawless technique, impeccable phrasing and an unerring sense of musical good taste,” said Lyn Larsen. You'll agree. Don't miss hearing Simon!

2 SUNDAY POPS CONCERT

at Gig Harbor's Wurlitzer Manor!

Sunday, November 22, 2:00 PM

ADMISSION

CONCERT ONLY		WORKSHOP ONLY		BOTH CONCERT & WORKSHOP	
Members	\$30	Members	\$25	Members	\$45
Non-members	\$35	Non-members	\$30	Non-Members	\$50
16 & under free w/adult		16 & under	\$15	16 & under	\$15

SUNDAY BUS! Round Trip Deluxe Coach Transportation for Sunday Concert
will depart from Prosser's Store, 185th & Aurora in Shoreline at 12:30 pm.
ONLY \$15 PER PERSON ROUND TRIP!

**SATURDAY
CARPOOL!**

*Interested in carpooling to Olympia for the Saturday workshop?
Contact Ray Harris – see below.*

Seating is limited!

Use the enclosed order blank to reserve your seats now.

Questions— phone Ray Harris, 206-546-8959, email rayh@prosserpiano.com

*Proceeds from this event
will benefit the 2010 Convention
Organ Preparation Fund*

PUGET SOUND PIPELINE

Vol. 20, No. 10 – October 2009
Published monthly by
Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society
6521 NE 191st ST
Kenmore, WA 98028-3453

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

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Nat'l Magazine Reporter—Jo Ann Evans

LIAISONS

AMICA & POF—Carl Dodrill • Haller Lake Comm. Club—Bob Zat
Paramount Theatre—Tom Blackwell • Wash. Center—Andy Crow

Listing of non-PSTOS events in the Pipeline

PSTOS, upon request, will list non-conflicting non-PSTOS theatre organ events in the "Other Events" column of the two Pipelines immediately preceding the event, providing Pipeline editors receive sufficient prior written notification. Venue, artist, type of event, date, and contact information will comprise the included information.

Advertising in the Pipeline

Classified-type ads for member-owned electronic, electric, or pipe organs, and/or pipe organ parts, will be published at no charge. Please limit copy to include brief description, contact name and phone number. Prices will not be listed. Ads may be edited for content and length. Mail ad copy to address above. Other advertising is not accepted.

Joining Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society is quick and easy! For a one year membership, send a \$20 check payable to PSTOS together with your name(s) as you would like them to appear on your name badges, your address with complete 9-digit ZIP code, and your email address (optional) to:
Bill Keller, Treasurer, 9914 Hampshire Ct. SE,
Olympia, WA 98513-4241.

PRESIDENT'S Message

Preparations for the 2010 Convention are proceeding nicely. We are partnering with the venues to be used for the performances and have been evaluating their needs in order to make the best presentation



possible to the American Theatre Organ Society when enthusiasts from around the world come for *Seattle, Where it All Began*.

The Organ Maintenance and Restoration Committee has been assessing the needs of these instruments and concluded that some professional assistance is necessary to bring everything to completion in time for the convention. The professional work will need to be paid for, and you can help attain our goal of having all the instruments in top condition. How so?

PSTOS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, making contributions to the organization tax deductible. We are very fortunate that so many Pacific Northwest venues with fine instruments are interested in participating in the convention. Calvary Christian Assembly has a marvelous Kimball/Wurlitzer hybrid generously shared with us for our *Christmas in January* show. The Temple Theatre in Tacoma has a wonderful 2/9 Kimball, the Everett Theatre a 3/18 Kimball, St. Columban in Yelm a Robert Morton. And of course there's Seattle's Paramount Theatre 4/21 Wurlitzer maintained by PSTOS and still needing considerable work to bring it to its full glory for the convention. Financial assistance to help with professional fine-tuning work on all these instruments is needed.

If you write a check, notate that it's for the Organ Preparation Fund, and send it to

**Convention Organ Preparation Fund
Bill Keller, Treasurer
9914 Hampshire Ct. SE
Olympia, WA 98513-4241**

The financial assistance your contribution provides is greatly appreciated.

The Organ Maintenance and Restoration Committee works very hard at being good stewards of the funds to make sure that the highest quality work is acquired while keeping within budget. Bob Zat and Tom Blackwell have been very busy assessing the needs of each instrument and preparing work schedules to assure completion by convention time. To both of them, a

PSTOS Coming Events

◆ SIMON GLEDHILL and THEATRE ORGAN WEEKEND!

**WORKSHOP on Saturday,
CONCERT on Sunday.**

Known worldwide to theatre organ fans, Simon comes to the Northwest for his first visit. You'll want him to return!

Saturday afternoon workshop will cover *Registration* during the first half, and *How To Arrange A Song for Theatre Organ* during the second half. All at Bill Keller's home utilizing his 5-manual Allen!

Concert on Sunday at spectacular Wurlitzer Manor in Gig Harbor.

For tickets, use enclosed form.

**Saturday & Sunday
November 21 and 22**

◆ Annual PSTOS Holiday Party

Save the date for the big annual Holiday Celebration which this year will be at Haller Lake Community Club.

Watch for all the details in the November/December Pipeline.

Sunday, December 13

sincere "Thank you!"

The next Silent Movie Mondays series at the Paramount Theatre begins in November. Jim Riggs plays everyone in and out, so be there for his console riser at 6:30 PM. The film presentation begins at 7:00 PM.

Also, put Sunday November 22 on your calendar and reserve your place to hear Simon Gledhill at Gig Harbor's Wurlitzer Manor. Sincere appreciation goes once again to our friends Barbara and Raymond whose generosity makes it possible for all of us to enjoy their spectacular home and one of the finest organists playing today. We have room for some of your friends at this concert, which is always a family affair.

If you want to enjoy the workshop with Simon at Bill Keller's home on November 21, space is limited, so you may want to sign up soon before it fills up.

Dave Luttinen, President

Other NW Theatre Organ Events

◆ Kenyon Hall in West Seattle

Latest news can be found on the web at www.kenyonhall.org or by email at kenyonhall@earthlink.net

◆ Lincoln Theatre in Mt. Vernon

Hear the Wurlitzer every Mon/Tue at 7PM & Fri/Sat/Sun at 5PM.

◆ Columbia River Theatre Organ Society

For info and latest news go to www.croconline.org

◆ Bellingham's Mt Baker Theatre

Mt. Baker Theatre Organ Society presents the "Dazzling Duo from Canada," Dorothy Watson and Hal Logan, with *Broadway at its Best*. Hal and Dorothy are favorites at MBTOS! \$10 suggested donation.

Sunday, October 18, 2:00 pm.

◆ Spokane's First Nazarene Theatre Organ Society

Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month and feature the historic and newly refurbished 1914 Seattle Liberty Theatre Wurlitzer. For up-to-the-minute news and events calendar, go to www.sfnatos.org



Paramount Theatre Silent Movie Mondays November Series

All movies accompanied by Jim Riggs at the Paramount's original 4/21 Wurlitzer

◆ Monday, November 2, 7PM

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea (1916), with Allen Holubar

◆ Monday, November 9, 7PM

Adventures of Prince Achmed (1926)

◆ Monday, November 16, 7PM

The Lost World (1925), starring Bessie Love, Lewis Stone, Wallace Beery

No movie is scheduled for
Monday, November 23.

From The MAILBOX

Dear Editors,

Being curious about the Estey in Spokane's former Casino Theatre (shown on pg. 5 of the September Pipeline), I looked it up on the Estey opus list. Not there!! So, I contacted Jim Stettner. Turns out it is their opus 81, a tubular pneumatic built in 1903 and consigned to the Boston MA Estey store. It stayed in the store until relocated to the theatre in 1910.

Clint Meadway ■■

Join the excitement...
ATOS Convention in 2010!
Volunteer now... It's great fun!
email Tom at tom@pstos.org



FOR SALE Organ Stuff

Kimball Pipe Organ For Sale

The console is a 2-manual horseshoe installed in 1926 in the D&R Theatre in Aberdeen. It has bourdon/flute, open diapason, violin, string celeste, vox, chimes, 2 regulators, tremulant, swell shades with two different styles of motors, Spencer blower single phase, extra chests, relay switcher, switch stack and extra tabs. Reasonable offers considered.

Bob Nelson (360) 240 -1380 ■■

Kimball Organ available in Des Moines, Iowa

I grew up in Des Moines, Iowa at St. Paul Lutheran Church, a small church, with an old Kimball theater organ installed in the 1930s or '40s.

It has a really great string and string celeste. It also has a really outstanding horn diapason (half way between tuba horn and diapason for its sound - I LOVE it!). Also has a harmonic flute (8' tc) and bourdon/flute (16'). Flute is unified. Other stops are on straight chests. There is an electric chime set (at least 25 notes the last time I was in the chamber, but might be 37 notes). So I guess it is 5 ranks: flute, horn diapason, string, celeste and harmonic flute, and chimes.

They do know what theater in Des Moines it came from.

Also there is a good Orgoblo blower

and one tremolo. FYI: It is a Kimball, so any relay is in the console and depends on multiple key contacts rather than key relays as with a Wurlitzer. Pipework would be good anywhere - especially the strings and horn diapason. Kimball has been rated as having really great strings. Console is oak. Straight stop rail with combo action.

The church is in an area which is causing its failure. Since I play organ and grew up in this church, I was contacted to see if I was interested in buying the organ.

I don't need a pipe organ (due to Digital Pipes and space in my home) but the strings and horn diapason are so good that I think someone should buy this organ.

They do not have a price and I think anything would be acceptable.

When someone buys the property, the organ would be trashed. I would be happy to go to Des Moines to help.

Is there an interest in this Kimball?

Arndt Organ did maintenance on it for the past umpteen years.

I do have videos of me playing the organ for Xmas services.

I think this is a "save the organ from the trash" type of endeavor. Price doesn't matter.

Contact me, Patrick Lajko, at adidaspatrick@aol.com or 206-854-4208 for more info. ■■

Pages From The Past... 1912

From THE SEATTLE SUNDAY TIMES, APRIL 7, 1912

MAGNIFICENT PICTURE PLAYHOUSE FINISHED

The Clemmer, Luxurious New
Home for "Movies" and One
of Finest Ever Built in West,
Opens This Week.

STRUCTURE REALIZATION OF FOUNDER'S AMBITION



JAMES Q. CLEMMER

The Clemmer Theatre, Seattle's largest photoplay house to be devoted exclusively to high-class photoplays and musical talent, will be opened this week. This new theatre is without question one of the finest

exclusive photoplay houses in the West. It is absolutely fireproof and up to date in every respect.

In the completion of the Clemmer Theatre comes the realization of the fondest hopes of James Q. Clemmer. Ever since he embarked in the photoplay venture some five years ago, first in Spokane and later in the Dream Theatre in this city, he has planned to build an exclusive photoplay house which would compete in size, convenience and attractiveness with the legitimate show houses.

The Clemmer Theatre is located on Second Avenue just north of The Times office across the street from The Bon Marche. It is practically a new structure for nothing is left of the former four-story building except the four walls. It is built entirely of steel and concrete. Abundance of exits are provided both front and rear and the seats are arranged so that there is more than the ordinary width of aisle room.

Gold Curtain Big Asset.

From a decorative standpoint it is beautiful through its simplicity of artistic richness. From the attractive canopy over the sidewalk to the gold curtain on which are displayed the photoplays, no expense has been spared to make this the best in every way. The entrance is finished in marble with a ceiling of ornamental plastering, resplendent with many electric lights. Entering the foyer, the refreshing atmosphere, the rich curtains and draperies, carpets, tinted walls, lights, all seem to offer a most cordial welcome.

In the auditorium proper, the happy blending of art and artist is everywhere noticeable. Architecturally, the old Roman style is in vogue, plain columns set off by flaming electric torches. These torches are decidedly unique and something new in the manner of theatrical lighting in the West. The color decorative scheme throughout is French gray with trimmings of gold and ivory, producing a soft, pleasing effect in connection with the draperies of golden brown.

The crowning feature of the interior is the massive dome; a beautiful reproduction of the faraway sky, enhanced by a circle of several hundred concealed electric lights.

Beneath the dome and around the entire auditorium is a frieze of a cleverly wrought

panoramic view of Washington's noted forests, with snow-capped mountains in the distance.

The walls are paneled and each one of the several panels offers a scene from nature which is unusually attractive.

The top of the proscenium frame is decorated with a group of allegorical figures which is said to be one of the most beautiful ever placed in any theatre.

Great Organ to Be Installed.

On either side of the proscenium arch, in large specially built niches will be placed the pipes of the massive pipe organ which will be one of the largest and finest on the Coast. This organ is being built in the East, but could not be completed in time for the opening of the theatre. It will be installed within the next thirty days. Oliver G. Wallace, recognized as a genius in the interpretation of photoplays on the pipe organ and piano, will be the player.

The ventilating and heating scheme is perfect. The lighting is both concealed and open. Under the dome, the balcony and in other places concealed lights are used. On the pillars, the flaming torches. A feature which will be appreciated is that the house will be brilliantly lighted at all times without destroying any of the beauties of the photoplays.

Rest and retiring rooms for ladies are provided, with a maid in attendance, just off the balcony stairway on the right.

Splendid Seat Arrangement.

The 1,200 seats are all so arranged that everyone is given an uninterrupted view of the stage. The seats are especially wide and placed more than the ordinary distance apart. The several boxes are decidedly cosy and will be furnished with doxy movable chairs.

The gold curtain, permanently placed at the rear of the stage, is considered by many theatrical men in the East as being the best medium for photoplay displaying, since it brings out the clearness and minute details of the photography.

The operating room is the most comfortable and best equipped in the city. It is large and roomy and with plenty of fresh air. Being absolutely fireproof and equipped with automatic fire shutters at all openings. The projecting machines are of the latest pattern.

Pages From The Past..continued

EDITOR'S NOTE: The original Clemmer Theatre organ was a 1912 Estey, opus 981, 3 manuals, 12 ranks. It was enlarged in 1916 to 28 ranks with a new 4-manual console and an additional 4-rank echo division.

In 1921 the Estey was removed and installed in St. Joseph's Catholic Church in

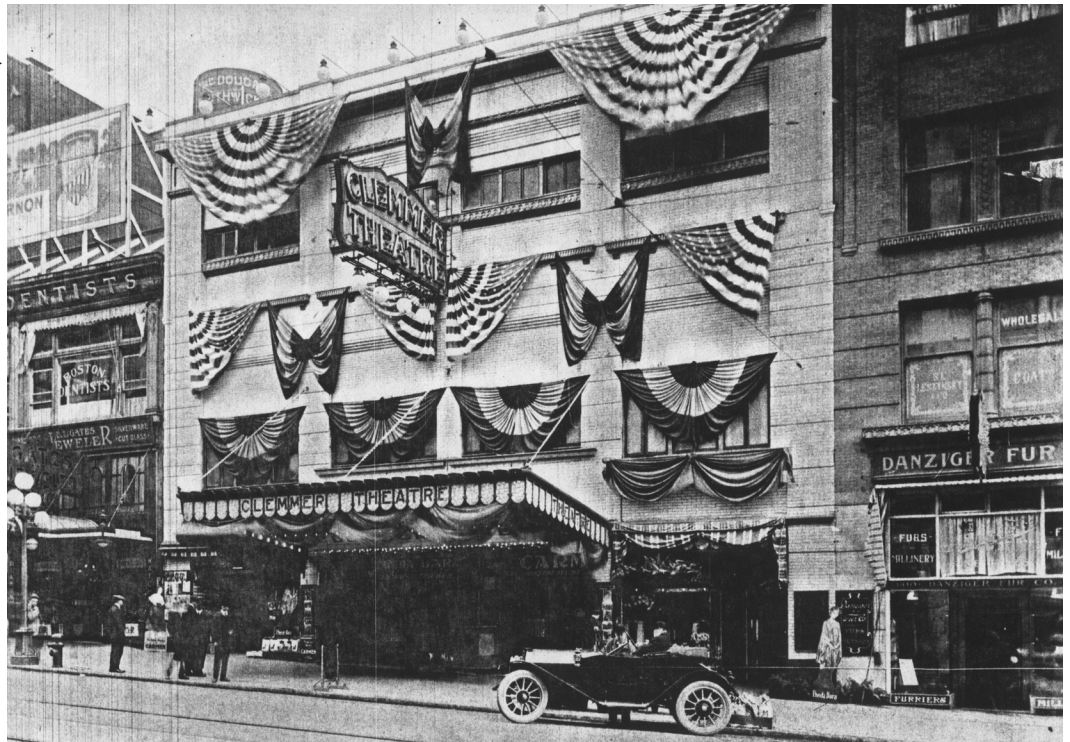
Yakima. It was removed in 1958. Disposition is unknown.

In March of 1922 the Clemmer Theatre had been renamed the Columbia. The Wurlitzer factory shipped their opus 533, a style 210, with 2 manuals and 9 ranks, to the Columbia where it remained until 1936

when it was moved to the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma.

It was sold to Harry Heth in the early 1980s and moved to Texas. It remained in storage and was never installed by Mr. Heth, now deceased. Today the organ is reportedly still looking for a good home. ■■

Clemmer Theatre
grand opening,
April, 1912.



CLEMMER THEATRE
Seattle's Best Photoplay House

**Opens
Wednes-
day
April 10**

Free
Public
Inspection
Wednesday
Afternoon

**First
Showing
of
Photo-
plays
Wednes-
day
Night**

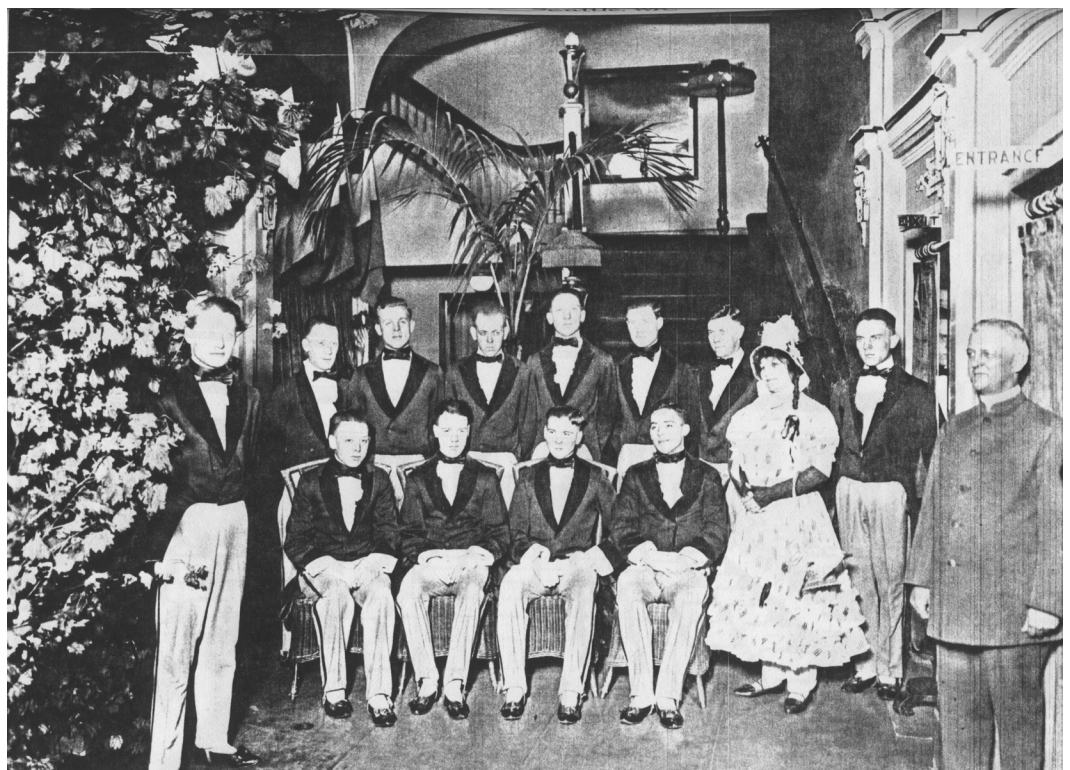
**The Most
Beautiful
Photoplay
House**

In the West
WILL FEATURE
ONLY THE BEST
PHOTOPLAYS
AND MUSICAL
TALENT.

James Q. Clemmer
Manager

▲ Clemmer Theatre
grand opening ad in
The Seattle Times,
April, 1912.

Clemmer Theatre staff
outfitted for the movie,
"Birth of a Nation," 1915.



DRIVE DIRECTIONS TO ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL

1410 NE 66th Street, Seattle

USING I-5 SOUTHBOUND:

Take exit 171 toward NE 65th St/NE 71st St
Merge onto 6th Ave NE
Turn left at NE 70th St
Take the 2nd right onto Roosevelt Way NE
Turn left at NE 66th St
RHS will be on the left

USING I-5 NORTHBOUND:

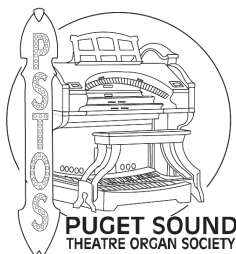
Take exit 170 for Ravenna Blvd toward NE 65th St
Turn right at NE Ravenna Blvd
Turn left at 12th Ave NE
Turn right at NE 66th St
RHS will be on the left

PUGET SOUND THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

Russ & Jo Ann Evans, Newsletter Editors

6521 NE 191st ST

Kenmore, WA 98028-3453



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You and your friends are invited to the...

Roosevelt High School Organ Inaugural Concert



The original Moller II/7 organ was given to the school in 1940 by students, faculty, and alumni in memory of their beloved first principal V. K. Froula. Under the direction of the Pipe Organ Foundation, the organ has been increased to 17 ranks, and it now speaks with a broad range of voices and includes four 16' ranks.

Featuring 4 Outstanding Organists!

● **HALDEN TOY**

Sophomore H.S. student

● **THOMAS VARAS**

Sophomore H.S. student

● **CARA PETERSON**

2008 Roosevelt grad now studying organ at Westminster Choir College in Princeton NJ. Cara will be accompanied by the Roosevelt Chamber Orchestra.

● **ANGELA CROSS**

Daughter of a 1942 Roosevelt grad, an MD, and concert organist.

A fantastic program! Reception follows.

IT'S FREE! Come, and bring your friends!

The many PSTOS members who made financial contributions to this project, Raymond and Barbara Lavine who with PSTOS sponsored a benefit concert at Wurlitzer Manor, and the numerous PSTOS members who contributed endless hours of labor will all be recognized in the program.

Saturday, Oct. 17, 2 PM

Roosevelt High School Theatre
1410 NE 66th Street • Seattle