



# Theatre Organ Society

## ORGAN LOG

May 2012  
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Phone 1-888-LATOS22

Web Site [www.LATOS.org](http://www.LATOS.org)



samohi **Band!** Allen organs **LATOS** Los Angeles  
Theatre Organ Society

SANTA MONICA HIGH SCHOOL BAND  
THE LOS ANGELES THEATER ORGAN SOCIETY  
AND THE ALLEN ORGAN COMPANY

PRESENT

**DONNIE RANKIN**  
ON THE  
**MIGHTY**  
BARNUM HALL

**WURLITZER**

**SILENT  
MOVIES**  
and  
**THEATER  
ORGAN  
CONCERT**

**LAUREL & HARDY** **BUSTER KEATON**  
IN IN

**THEIR PURPLE MOMENT** **ONE WEEK**

PLUS CARTOON and SURPRISE SPECIAL ATTRACTION  
Winsor McKay's "Dreams of the Rarebit Fiend"

**APRIL 28 7:00PM** **BARNUM HALL**  
Santa Monica High School

**\$10**



Special thanks to Artist, Mel Horan for sketches.

### In This Issue:

- Donnie Rankin Performs at Barnum Hall on April 28
- How to Post Your Theatre Organ Events with LATOS
- "Go Organ!"
- *Feature Installation:* The Kellogg House Wurlitzer
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## **DONNIE RANKIN PERFORMS AT BARNUM HALL on April 28**

*(from a Press-Release by Mel Horan – edited by TW)*

Santa Monica High School Band presents an unforgettable evening of silent film comedy and pipe organ grandeur to celebrate the combination of the Barnum Hall Wurlitzer and a brand new projection system.

LATOS is helping to sponsor the Los Angeles appearance of Donnie Rankin, who will have the organ console for the evening. Henry Hunt (the local Allen Organ dealer) has also helped with this event. Donnie Rankin, a winner of the American Theater Society's Young Organist Competition, has been thrilling audiences on tour and in his post as organist at the Akron Civic Auditorium since he swept the Young Organist Competition in 2007.



In addition to a full theater organ concert, the program will also feature a pair of silent two-reelers. In the highest rated Keaton short *One Week* (1920), Buster Keaton and the lovely Sybil Seely spend their honeymoon trying to put together a kit house that should only take 'one week' to assemble. Unfortunately, her ex-boyfriend keeps interfering. Laurel and Hardy try to sneak out for a night on the town in *Their Purple Moment* (1928). Angry wives, dangerous dates, clumsy waiters, an awkward lack of funds, and a troop of midgets make this a disastrously memorable evening for all involved.

Barnum Hall, recently restored to its original Art Deco green splendor, is home to a magnificent 3 manual 19 rank Wurlitzer theater organ donated by Gordon Belt. After a sold-out debut concert in 2010, this upcoming concert represents the fulfillment of a long held dream of the Santa Monica High School Music Program. It is the first of many regular and ongoing silent movie and theater organ concerts.

## **THEATRE ORGAN EVENTS?**

### ***ANNOUNCE YOURS IN THE ORGAN LOG AND ON THE LATOS WEBSITE***

In preparing the Organ Log, we try to keep our readers informed about as many Theatre Organ programs as possible. But perhaps you are aware of some upcoming event that hasn't been brought to our attention. Possibly you are part of a group that is planning some Theatre Organ event that we might otherwise miss. If so, drop us an email telling us about the time and place (address), date, cost, sponsoring organization, etc. We'll be happy to list it in both the Organ Log and on the LATOS Website (LATOS.org) at no charge.

Although not required, you might also include a few lines describing the program. If it is something of special interest, and if there is space, we might be able to include it as a short article.

We reserve the right to edit your notes to fit available space. Although there is fairly unlimited space on our website, priority for entries in the Organ Log will be given to local ATOS theatre organ chapters (such as LATOS), and theatre organ establishments (such as Old Town Music Hall). Priority will be based on the order in which we receive submitted events.

Please only submit theatre organ related events, and let us know if the event or concert is on a pipe organ or electronic organ. Email your info to [LATOS1@verizon.net](mailto:LATOS1@verizon.net)

## **“GO ORGAN”!**

In addition to organ concert listings on the LATOS.org website, there is a new website which lists all sorts of organ events (both classical and theatre) with search options by city or date. Web address is [www.goorgan.com](http://www.goorgan.com)

## **FEATURE INSTALLATION KELLOGG HOUSE WURLITZER**

The Kellogg House at Cal Poly Pomona was originally constructed in 1926 by Will Keith Kellogg (of Kellogg Cereal fame), and was renovated in 1998 by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to bring the house back to its 1920's glory days when the Kellogg family used the home as their winter retreat. Only minimal structural repair was required in the renovation thanks to the craftsmanship of the original architect and builders. The construction project of 1998 took only five months to complete. The weathered features of the house, such as the plumbing fixtures, wrought iron banisters on both the master bedroom verandas, and the wall light sconces in the living room, were meticulously restored or recreated to precisely match the original item and appear just as they did when the house was first occupied.

It is rumored that Mr. Kellogg was not enthusiastic about the sound of the house's original pipe organ from the Skinner Company. Almost as if in homage to Mr. Kellogg, the pipe organ was replaced by a Wurlitzer Theater pipe organ. Dr. Martin Stoner, a now retired professor of plant pathology, mycology and economic botany at Cal Poly Pomona's Biological Sciences department from 1967 to 2008 (and former LATOS board member) passionately invested his time and energy to help see this magnificent dream become a reality. The pipes, chests, percussions, traps, etc. are housed in basement chambers and communicated to the historic living room of the mansion through very well designed tone chutes.



The 3-Manual Kellogg House Wurlitzer Console

The core part of the instrument is the 6 rank Style-D Wurlitzer that was originally installed in the Granada Theater, Ontario (CA) in 1925, and was later donated to the house by Dr. and Mrs. John Getts. A Clarinet rank (originally from the Portland Oriental Theatre), and two more Salicional ranks were added. The beautiful (and unique) 3-manual Wurlitzer console came from radio station WLW in Cincinnati, Ohio. The organ stops, presets and pipes are controlled by a flexible computer/processor-based system.

The organ was installed (and is maintained) by Wendell Shoberg of W. N. Shoberg & Company Pipe Organ Builders. The organ's stop-rail already accommodates current plans to expand the organ with an Oboe Horn, Orchestral Oboe, Kinura and a 10" Post Horn.

Martin Stoner said that, "The organ is available for use as an unforgettable touch for any Kellogg House Pomona event, including weddings, receptions, concerts, accompaniment to silent films, luncheons and dinners, or other special occasions where the unique ambience of historic Kellogg House and its magnificent organ will make a lasting impression."

For more info about the Kellogg House, visit <http://www.foundation.csupomona.edu/kh/>

### **2012 ATOS ANNUAL CONVENTION *Here in Southern California!***

There will be more news in the June issue of the Organ Log about ATOS National Convention that starts on July 2<sup>nd</sup> (Overture).

This will be a rare opportunity to hear top artists from across the nation (and abroad) perform on some of southern California's finest theatre pipe organ installations, as well as a few very unique venues – *all in one week!*

Info about the convention and registration can be found in the Jan/Feb and subsequent issues of the Theatre Organ magazine (the Journal of the ATOS). You can also go to the internet and visit <http://www.atos.org/conventions/2012>

**NEXT ISSUE** will highlight the Wurlitzer pipe organ at the Hollywood Lutheran Church!



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**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COMING EVENTS** *(LATOS Events are in larger/bold text)*

- April 22, Sunday at 2:30pm – **John Atwell** performs at Plummer Auditorium in Fullerton – Visit [www.OCTOS.org](http://www.OCTOS.org)
- April 28, Saturday at 7:00pm – Donnie Rankin performs on the Wurlitzer at Barnum Hall including two short silent comedy films** (a Santa Monica High Band event co-sponsored by LATOS) See article in this issue.
- May 5, Saturday at 7:30pm – **Bob Salisbury** accompanies the silent film, “Steamboat Bill, Jr.” at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 607 East 3rd St, Long Beach \$10 in advance / \$15 at the door. Free parking.
- May 12, Saturday at 1:00pm – **Bob Salisbury** accompanies the silent film, “Wings” at the Casino Theatre in Avalon (Catalina) Visit [www.catalinamuseum.org](http://www.catalinamuseum.org) and click on Events for tickets and info.
- May 16, Wednesday at 7:30pm – **Adam Aceto** performs for the Valley Organ Society on a Rodgers theatre organ (electronic) at the Little White Chapel Social Hall, 1711 N. Avon St., Burbank Admission \$5 at the door.
- June 10, Sunday at 2:00pm – **Paul Roberts** performs on the Wurlitzer at Trinity - 3902 Kenwood Drive, Spring Valley (San Diego area) – Visit <http://tossd1.webs.com>
- June 15, Friday at 8:00pm and June 16, Saturday at 2:00pm and 8:00pm – **Paul Roberts** performs at The Nethercutt Collection in Sylmar - Tickets will be available by calling on May 16th from 4:00 to 6:00pm
- July 2 to July 7 – ATOS 2012 Annual Convention – Here in Southern California! Visit ATOS.org**
- July 22, Sunday – Summer Pot-Luck Picnic, Barbeque & Concert for LATOS Members at Ken and Jenice Rosen’s Organ Studio** (with a Wurlitzer pipe organ). Look for info in upcoming Organ Log issues

**YOUR BOARD MEMBERS:**

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- |                                   |                             |
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