

The Organ Log

LOS ANGELES

THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

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LATOS BOARD MEETING REPORT By Mark Herman, Secretary

The most recent LATOS board meeting was held at the York Theatre in the Highland Park neighborhood of Los Angeles. The famous Bob Baker Marionette Theater recently signed a 10-year lease to renovate and occupy the theatre, which originally housed a 4-rank Wurlitzer organ, and later went on to become home of the Artisan Organ Company in the 1950s and 60s.

Since LATOS was gifted a large 4-manual Allen theatre organ by the Jack Darr estate, countless venues have been explored to seek a good home for this magnificent instrument in a public venue. Luckily, we now have one. By unanimous vote of the board, we agreed to place the organ in the new Bob Baker Marionette Theater in Highland Park. This vibrant group of artists holds organ music as an important element in their shows, even using George Wright records to accompany acts. When the LATOS opportunity presented itself, they redesigned the plans for the new theatre to place the organ in a featured spot where it can be used as part of their shows, as well as for concerts and silent films. As part of their busy production schedule, they bring in countless school groups each month, all of whom we can now introduce to theatre organ through this exciting new partnership. The agreement was vetted by attorney (and organist!) Jelani Eddington, and we now will wait for approval from the Bob Baker Board of Directors. The board unanimously approved up to \$2,000 to relocate the organ into the space, and the Bob Baker organization is covering costs for electrical and to create space for organ chambers.



(Continued on page 2)

(Board meeting, Continued from page 1)

Treasurer Bill Campbell reported that we have \$55,951.76 in our checking account and we discussed ways to raise more funds. Our membership count is currently at 116 memberships (not counting associate/household members), and Kevin Cartwright made a motion that we pass a resolution to begin a membership drive for the 2019-2020 season to greatly increase our membership (which has suffered high attrition over the past decade). The motioned carried with a unanimous vote.

In other news, the bylaws committee (chaired by yours truly), is nearing completion on a comprehensive bylaws revision, which should be ready within a month or two.

If you have any questions or want to discuss the ongoing efforts of the LATOS Board, please contact me at (626) 524-0090 or mark@losangelesorgan.com.

Respectfully,

Mark Herman, LATOS Secretary



“Bob Baker Marionette Theater,”
still under construction.
Photos courtesy of Bill Campbell.

APRIL IN PERRIS (California, that is) By Stirling Yearian

On April 13th, Vicki and I hosted a LATOS pot luck social and open console at our home in Perris. The turnout was light. I think the traffic and long drive from Los Angeles to the Inland Empire discouraged people from coming. Nonetheless, we enjoyed seeing our organ friends and hearing some excellent music played on the Rodgers/Hauptwerk’s VTPO. I kind-of get stuck-in-a-rut with the same registrations and it was so nice to hear new sounds and songs from the organ. Later that afternoon some of us took turns driving the old 1938 John Deere tractor around the yard. It was a fun-filled day and we hope to do it again sometime.

Stirling Yearian



Lots of fun with; Johnny Hoffman, Cory & Joni Edelman, Kevin R. Cartwright, my wife Vicki, and me.



SILENT SUNDAY AT SAN GABRIEL MISSION PLAYHOUSE

By Stirling Yearian

April 14th Donnie Rankin accompanied the silent film *Blackmail*. An Alfred Hitchcock tale of murder and mayhem set in London. It was so refreshing to see a murder mystery film that gave you the idea of what was going on without all the violence and gore of today's movies.

LATOS had a table set up in the lobby promoting our organization and we also answered many questions regarding the organ. We acquired three new LATOS members at that event.

Please welcome;

- ◆ David Miller,
- ◆ John Johnson, and
- ◆ Maurice Meysenburg.



I wish to thank Kevin Cartwright and Sharon Zelman for helping at the table. Look for us at the next San Gabriel Mission Playhouse Silent Sunday on June 2nd with our beautiful new banners.

Thank you, to Stirling and Vicki Yearian for donating the funds to purchase the beautiful new LATOS stand-up banners! These colorful banners will surely draw lots of attention at events and attract new members.



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 3, 4, fundraiser at Bandrika Studios, please see below for details.

June 2, 2:30pm, "The Black Pirate" Silent Sunday Series; San Gabriel Mission Playhouse, 320 South Mission Dr, San Gabriel, CA 91776

June 9, LATOS Sunday Social at Ken Rosen's house, Organ Program, with an Open Console to follow and a Cookout with Potluck food items.



"SILENT FILMS LIVE 2" May 3-4

BANDRIKA STUDIOS
6120 Yolanda Ave, Los Angeles, CA

This is a live-to-picture benefit concert with proceeds to **Education Through Music - Los Angeles.**

This concert features new scores written to classic silent films featuring the Trojan Chamber Orchestra, conductor Angel Velez, host Robert Townson and composers Nathan Barr, Sean Callery, Fil Eisler, Blake Neely, William Ross, Arturo Sandoval, and Lisbeth Scott plus a live-to-picture performance of Elmer Bernstein's "*Toccata for Toy Trains*" with new orchestration by Emilie Bernstein.

12:00pm, Private organ tour with composer, Nathan Barr (Platinum Admission tickets ONLY)

1:00pm, Concert. (doors open at 12:30pm)

This concert is co-sponsored by BMI, LAFCI and Bandrika Studios.

Education Through Music - Los Angeles partners with inner-city schools to provide music as a core subject for all children, and utilizes music education as a catalyst to improve academic achievement, motivation for school and self-confidence.



LATOS
PO Box 15626
Anaheim, CA 92803

ONGOING EVENTS:

ONGOING: Concerts, Movies & Shows at the Old Town Music Hall, 140 Richmond Street, El Segundo. Many shows feature the 4-manual theatre pipe organ. Call (310) 322-2592 (recorded info) or visit <http://www.oldtownmusichall.org>

ONGOING: Concerts at The Nethercutt Collection. Visit <http://www.nethercuttcollection.org/Calendar.aspx> for dates & info.

ONGOING: The Organ Grinders every 2nd Sunday of the month at 2:00pm. Open console on a Roland At-

elier (also a volunteer pot-luck). Westminster Presbyterian Church. 1757 North Lake Ave., Pasadena, in the "Lawrence Chapel" (not in main sanctuary). Free parking in the rear. Contact Elly Reitz 626-281-3311 for more info.

ONGOING: Paramount Iceland, (3/19 Wurlitzer) organ is played for skating sessions every Tuesday 7-8:30pm. featured artist, Bill Campbell. 8041 Jackson St. Paramount. 562-633-1171

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