

The Organ Log

LOS ANGELES

THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

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A NOTE FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Dear LATOS members,

Hope this newsletter finds you, your family, and all of your friends well in these uncertain and stressful times with this coronavirus. All in my family, fortunately, are well; Only one of my friends got the virus. That was in early March. He recovered fully with no problems and no one else in his family caught it. I do strongly believe we are over the worst of it and better times are just around the corner. But until then, I have found many ways to get your "organ-music-fix" via the Internet. My husband, Stirling, and I have probably watched more silent movies and organ concerts, via the web, during the lockdown than we ever could have in real life. On average, two per week, and sometimes up to 5 shows in a week; from all over the world! Don't get me wrong, we are truly looking forward to when everything gets back to normal. There just is no comparison to being at a live concert, hearing the beautiful music, feeling the music, feeling the energy from a large audience giving a standing ovation at the end of a fine organ performance... Or the fun of being totally immersed in a rip-roaring action-packed silent comedy with all the bells and whistles, and not even missing actor's dialogs thanks to the artistry of our talented musicians.

Anyway, thank goodness for the internet which has made this "stay at home" policy due to COVID-19 a little easier to tolerate. Many artists are posting online concerts on a regular basis. See following pages for just some of the many listings available. See you soon!

*Your music loving friend,
Vicki Yearian*

Remembering Ken Crome

We lost Ken Crome last night. Ken was one of the theatre organ industry's most important figures, a good friend and insightful colleague to many. Rest In Peace Ken.

Ken was born February 6, 1947 in Los Angeles California. He married his high school sweetheart Rose Marie Costantino and had 2 children, Gina and Katie. As a member of a multi-generational pipe organ building family, Ken worked closely with his father throughout his early years and his lifetime of work has been proudly showcased across the country. Ken passed away on May 1st, 2020.

A celebration of life for Ken will be held on Saturday August 29th, 2020

Here are just a few of the many comforting words from the Face Book page;

Glenn Rank A one of a kind talent....he will be missed for sure..rest in peace dear friend.

Steve Stewart This humble servant was a-prince-of-a-man who made many personal sacrifices to bring countless instruments back to splendid life with incredible skill and artistry. We all owe more to him than anyone will ever realize. May his legacy live on for many generations to come!

Tony Fenelon So sad to hear this news. Although many of us never met him, we were nevertheless privileged to perform on many of the instruments that he lovingly restored. Thank you Kenny for the legacy you have left us.

Walt Stoney; Many of us are shocked and saddened by the passing of the legendary theatre organ expert Kenny Crome last night. Frankly, there is no one living that reached as many corners of the theatre organ world, in our lifetime, as Kenny did. He restored or rebuilt literally dozens, if not hundreds of theatre organs and/or restored or built MANY new consoles -- many of which concert artists play on a regular basis. In addition, he offered parts that no one else made. For example, the Piano pedals and mechanism that is used in my Allen STR4 signature model are made by his company. Kenny's passing will leave a major void in our world, and I'm not sure who will be able to replace him.

Kenny was like the Eveready Bunny. He kept going and going, at an energy level that most of us can only dream. Someone said that on a scale from 1-10, he was always at 11. While many others are merely at 4-5. And he did this in spite of the many MAJOR health issues that he dealt with in the last 40(?) years. He lived to work.

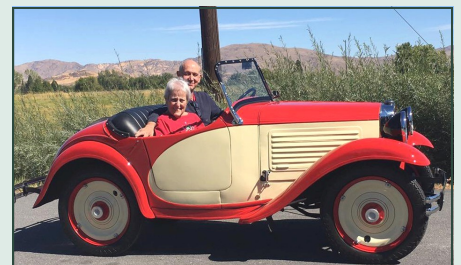
While Kenny's reputation had been well established by the time I first came on the organ scene, it wasn't until 1984 that we ever worked together. Unfortunately, it was a situation that placed us both under duress. I had been engaged to play an organ dedication concert in Southern California. Unfortunately, the organ wasn't ready, and the installation was poorly planned/conceived. The installers knew they had a problem, and brought Kenny in at the last minute to get the organ playing. We got through the concert without killing anyone (or each other, but were both glad when it was over!

Our paths occasionally crossed in later years. When I moved to Northern California, I occasionally visited his shop in Reno -- which is about 90 miles from me. A lunch usually followed with much information shared! :-)

Kenny's final two projects are yet to be unveiled -- the restored Barton organ in Madison's Overture Center, formerly the Capitol Theatre, and the newly restored original console in the Oakland Paramount which will be unveiled shortly.

RIP Ken Crome.

From Christian Elliott "Ken Crome, a remarkably talented organ builder and friend, passed away last night. We first met when I was 11 years of age. Over the years we worked together on numerous projects including the rebuilding of my own Wurlitzer console for the organ I enjoy at home. Ken was one of the most disciplined and productive people in the organ industry, responsible for the rebuilding and installation of many, many theatre pipe organs. In later years it was an honor to have walked through some tough life chapters with Kenny, both with his own health and that of his beloved wife, Rose. Considering all that Ken dealt with in life, he was a true survivor. He was most assuredly an original character, leaving behind a tremendous legacy of his works. I know that Ken and Rose are together again."



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Manuel Rosales; Kenny and his client Nathan Barr, musician and composer, planning the installation of the Fox Studio organ in Nathan's new studio. This is a very special organ with a rich history and it is superbly restored and used frequently including for film scores.



Photo by Steve Hansen, Ken Crome & Nathan Barr

Donnie Rankin; Today I learned of the passing of Ken Crome. I met Ken once very briefly, but over my thirteen years playing concerts I've become very familiar with his work. Aside from building from scratch, instruments under his care have been heard all over the world - for example the organ used in the recording of "Star of Bethlehem" from Home Alone. To say Ken's work was superior is an understatement. It was truly art, and as proof I've included this picture taken a few years ago.



stallations that benefited from his immense knowledge and skill. In 1983 Ken received the first ATOS Award for Technical Excellence (with Ed Stout and Dick Taylor). His legacy will live on in the many lives he touched, and the instruments he enhanced.



The 5 manual is at Sanfilippo residence outside Chicago. Photo by Steve Hansen)



NOTICE OF DONATION

LATOS thanks the North Family Trust for their support and their most generous donation of \$10,000 on March 24, 2020 to the Los Angeles Theatre Organ Society.

WELLNESS CALLS

The Los Angeles Theatre Organ Society board is implementing a "Member Care Initiative," a concerted effort to reach by telephone every single member of the LATOS during these stressful times with the coronavirus.

We have contacted over 120 members, and all were extremely delighted to receive the care calls. Looking forward to when we all can get back to normal again.

FREE

TO NEW HOME

*KILGEN 3 rank, 2 manual,
Theatre Organ*

It is complete with ALL original parts. It has 26 tabs, and 1 trem. Includes the original 5 note Chimes. The organ was installed in a home and is now in storage. All parts worked when the organ was removed. Organ must be removed from storage in the Riverside area.

Please contact board member Andre Rigden, 213-435-3057
LAAndre@earthlink.net

Get Your "Organ Music Fix"

If you are reading this online the links are clickable, and if you are reading the hard copy you can manually type the link into your internet browser to enjoy all these fun events to get your "Organ Music Fix"

JELANI & ZACH

Paul Woelbing, President of Carma Laboratories, along with Organists Jelani Eddington and Zach Frame, present a selection of music on this brand new installation in Franklin, Wisconsin.



Introducing the Carma Laboratories Orchestral Organ

2,269 views • Premiered May 20, 2020

107

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SHARE

SAVE

...

Video from 5/20/20, still viewable for viewing on YouTube.

Here's the link: https://youtu.be/_M8Bp19bSf4

Comments on Jelani and Zach concert;

—Thank you for sharing these magnificent instruments with us.

Great concert! Thank you Paul for your vision to bring this instrument to life and to Zach and Jelani for your supreme artistry in presenting all the facets of this wonderful installation and instrument.

—Outstanding concert! Thanks so much to you, Jelani and Paul for sharing this! The performances, audio, and video quality are superb. I appreciate that all the secondary

footage is in sync with the actual music where applicable. Far too many videos of such things insert B-roll coverage of mechanisms and pneumatic rolls assuming "oh, the viewer will never notice" it's out of sync or of a totally different piece of music.



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Comments on Jelani and Zach continued; Thank you to; Terry Kleven, Stan Zimmerman, and Yoshio Nakamura for sharing this wonderful video with us. (:



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"Organ Music Fix" Continued

MARK HERMAN

Every Saturday at 5pm, Mark plays a new LIVE program through the hospitality and generosity of film composer Nathan Barr, on the fabulous 1928 Fox Studios Wurlitzer, now beautifully restored and installed in his Bandrika Studios.



See all of Mark's previous live-streaming organ videos on his Facebook page. And every Tuesday Mark takes piano requests. See all at: <https://www.facebook.com/markhermanproductions/>

Tips are graciously accepted at PayPal: <https://www.paypal.me/markhermanmusic>



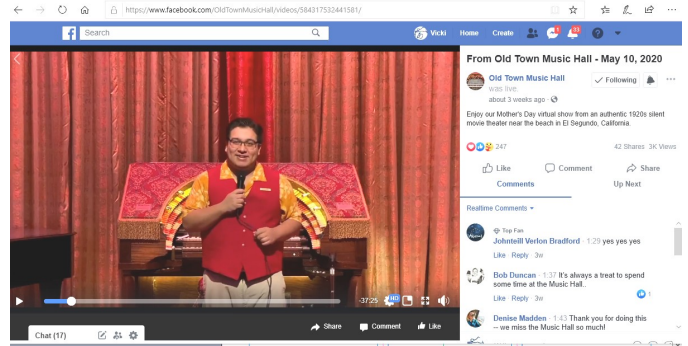
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"Organ Music Fix" Continued

EDWARD TORRES

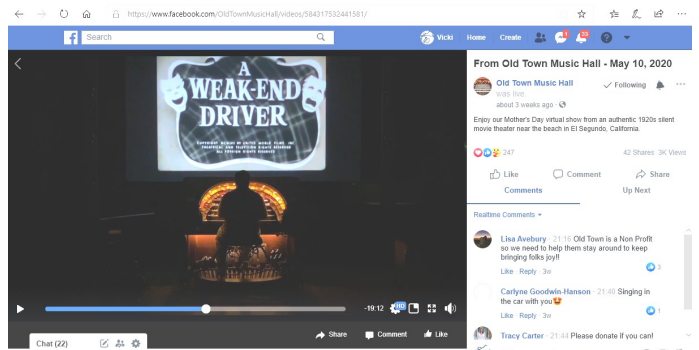
Old Town Music Hall has been hosting LIVE event on Facebook. There will be the traditional sing-along music with Edward Torres on the Mighty Wurlitzer and a silent comedy short.

Practice safer-at-home with us! Join us! <https://www.facebook.com/events/540540456647690/>



May 27, 2020;

Today Old Town Music Hall launched a major campaign on Go Fund Me. OTMH is a non-profit 501(c)(3) and your contribution is tax-deductible. You can help tremendously with outreach. The theater needs support, not only to help sustain them through this long Covid shutdown, but also with many long-overdue repairs and maintenance. They realize it's a tough time to be asking for contributions, so they ask only those who can afford to, to participate. OTMH is looking forward to re-opening for another 52 years! <https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/musichall>



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American Theatre Organ Society, <https://www.atos.org/>

Staying at Home? - Listen to the Theatre Organ!
As people heed the order to stay at home and many live events are canceled, there are still possibilities to enjoy theatre organ performances.



Here are some options for listening at home:
South Florida Chapter YouTube Channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3Pm5A0B2VjOkjDChGL26GQ/videos>

Organ Piper Pizza's Live Streamed "Quarantine Concert": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7tUmhS2Xqno>

Dickinson's Live Streamed Concerts:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoqp3l5Y5yqbGV-TX4mUZ3g>

Tour the St. Louis Fox Wurlitzer:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=9&v=kBQdaJr_kMs&feature=emb_logo

Atlantic City Boardwalk Organs:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxVOga0fJo6cLgUhrRHIDXTw/videos>

ATOS "See and Hear" Videos:
<https://www.atos.org/hear-and-see-now>

ATOS Radio, Theatre Organ Music 24 hours a day, 7 days a week! Over 11,000 tracks in the rotation, including: 6,000 CD tracks, 2,500 Vinyl Remasters, 1,200 Live Concert Recordings, along with another 500 Archival (78's etc.) tracks:

<https://atosradio.org/atosradio/landings.html>

Hot Pipes, podcast with Steve Ashley.

<https://www.hotpipes.eu/>



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"Cameo Comedy" with Monty Collins. This silent movie, with new musical scores by renowned silent film accompanist, Ben Model. Some of these are from DVD releases (uploaded with permission) and some are rare one-of-a-kind 16mm prints of lost films in Ben Model's collection.

<https://amblertheater.org/films/ben-model>

[Ironstone Vineyards](https://www.facebook.com/IronstoneVineyards/) was live 5/9/20, (still viewable), Buster Keaton in "The Navigator" streamed live from Ironstone Vineyards accompanied by Dave Moreno. It's amazing to hear how Dave is working in so many well known songs into the soundtrack while still matching the action and story.

<https://www.facebook.com/IronstoneVineyards/videos/263264828132656/?t=1609>

UPCOMING EVENTS

listed on ATOS:

<https://www.atos.org/events-list>

HEAR AND SEE

Upcoming Events/Calendar
Artist Directory
2020 Convention

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) NOTE

Many Theatre Organ public events are being canceled or rescheduled. Please check with the event chapter or sponsor.

UPCOMING THEATRE ORGAN EVENTS

There's nothing like the in-person experience of hearing a Theatre Organ. Listed below are events submitted ATOS chapters, venues, or artists.

When	Event	Venue	Artist(s)	State/Prov.
June 5, 12:00pm	Quarantine Concerts	Rialto Square Theatre	various	Illinois Virtual Concert
June 5, 7:00pm	THE GENERAL	Michigan Theater	Andrew Rogers	Michigan Pre-Recorded Concert
June 7, 3:00pm	THE GENERAL	Michigan Theater	Andrew Rogers	Michigan Pre-Recorded Concert
June 11, 7:00pm	THE GENERAL	Michigan Theater	Andrew Rogers	Michigan Pre-Recorded Concert
June 13, 11:00am	Second Saturday Silents at the Circle Cinema	Circle Cinema of Tulsa	Bill Rowland	Oklahoma Virtual Concert
June 13, 7:00pm	Peter Richard Conte in Concert	John Dickinson High School	Peter Richard Conte	Delaware Organ Concert
June 14, 3:00pm	50th Anniversary Temple Theater Organ Club	Temple Theatre	Clark Wilson	Michigan Organ Concert
July 4, 11:30am	Virtual 4th of July Concert	First Christian Church	Natsuki Saballos	Arizona Virtual Concert
August 17, 7:00pm	Summer Sizzler	Bette Dale Building, Senior Citizen Center	Andrew Rogers	New York Organ Concert
September 13, 2:30pm	Pops on Pipes / Grande Barton	Warren Performing Arts Center	Justin LaVoie	Indiana Organ Concert

ATOS Convention Rescheduled

As of 4/15/20; The 2020 ATOS Convention in Indianapolis has been rescheduled to July 2021. For those that have registered for the convention, you will be contacted by email regarding your registration very soon.

Summer Technical Experience Cancelled

As of 4/15/20; Due to the current COVID-19 or coronavirus pandemic, the Summer Technical Experience, originally scheduled for August, 2020, is cancelled. We plan to resume the STE next year. The dates will be announced in the Spring of 2021

2020 ATOS SUMMER YOUTH ADVENTURE

Rescheduled to 2021

This event will be held in Detroit, Michigan

Instruments:

Detroit Fox Theatre (4/36 Wurlitzer)

The Redford Theatre (3/10 Barton)

The Senate Theatre (4/34 Wurlitzer)

The Stahl Auto Museum (3/23 Wurlitzer)

Instructors: Jelani Eddington, Martin Ellis and Donna Parker

Jonas Nordwall, SYA Director

Guest Instructors: Lance Luce, Pierre Fracalanza

What is (SYA)? The Summer Youth Adventure

is a week-long event designed for young theatre organ enthusiasts who are interested in learning, developing, or refining their skills with the theatre organ. During the week, students will attend a variety of instructional sessions, master classes, and open console time designed to improve their theatre organ knowledge and skills. In addition to the invaluable instruction and learning opportunities, students will forge lifelong friendships with other young enthusiasts who share their passion for the theatre organ.

YTOC Cancelled This Year

ATOS, 4/15/20; "This evening, the Board of Directors made the tough decision to cancel this year's YTOC competition. At the same time, we voted to change the age requirements for the next two year's competitions so that those that would have aged out this year and next would have another opportunity to enter the competition. We look forward to resuming the competition next year at the convention in Indianapolis."





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Anaheim, CA 92803

Los Angeles Theatre Organ Society

Please, Join / Renew ONLINE

Go to www.latos.org, click on the MEMBERSHIP link and then select "JOIN / RENEW NOW"

"The doors are always open for donations."

From Treasurer, Angie Hougen: As a non-profit organization, LATOS depends on its membership fees and donations to pay the operational expenses of the chapter. If you would like to donate to our chapter, checks can be mailed to our PO Box 15626, Anaheim, CA 92803. OR EVEN EASIER, donate online!

Click here [LINK TO DONATE to LATOS](#)

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