

DETROIT THEATER ORGAN SOCIETY

Volume 55, Issue 2

March 2016



DTOS
Executive Board
& Directors

Scott Foppiano Returns

Sunday, March 13, 2016

Doors open at 2:00 p.m. Concert starts at 3:00 p.m.

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The 2016 concert series for the Detroit Theater Organ Society kicks off with a familiar face, Scott Foppiano.

Scott Foppiano was born in Memphis, Tennessee in 1965. He began private study of piano and organ at an early age and, while a student in the Parish School of St. Paul the Apostle. During his years at Christian Brothers High School he discovered the Mighty Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ at Memphis' Orpheum Theatre and was soon featured playing overtures and intermissions.

Upon his family's relocation to Charlotte following his senior year he began formal study of the organ and Church Music as entered the NC School of the Arts. He holds a BM, MMus and both the Service Playing and Colleague certifications of the American Guild of Organists. He studied organ improvisation with the late Gerre Hancock at St. Thomas Episcopal Church Fifth Avenue in New York City continued private study of the organ in theatre and symphonic organ stylings with his best friend and mentor the late, great Thomas Hazleton who for twelve years, serve as the assistant to the great Dr. Richard Purvis at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco.



Critically acclaimed and sought after as a recitalist, theatre organist and silent film accompanist he has played and recorded some of the greatest pipe organs in the world and to date has recorded eight digital solo organ CD's with future projects pending. He has been a featured artist for regional and national conventions of the AGO, the Organ Historical Society and the American Theatre Organ Society, all of which he has served as a member of the administrative boards at both local and national levels. He has served as Organist and Director of Music for several prominent congregations including a Na-

tional Shrine. Additionally, he been very involved as an adjudicator for the ATOS' Young Organist Competition.

In addition to his ecclesiastical duties Mr. Foppiano maintains a very active schedule as a solo performer. During the national convention in New York City in July 2007, he was honored with the title "A.T.O.S. Organist of the Year" which included his performing a solo organ recital on the historic organ in the great Cadet Chapel of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Doors open at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 13. Concert starts at 3:00 p.m. See you at the Senate!

M arquee Project Update

Our marquee project is still moving forward, although not much has changed up front. Permits are submitted to the City of Detroit, and we await their approval.

Earlier this winter, we had

a scare when a car went out of control and struck the support poles attached to the Senate sign on Michigan Avenue. Once we were alerted to the damage, we contacted the sign company that installed the poles. They came

right out and straightened the bent poles and reinstalled them. DTOS was contacted by the insurance company of the driver, and we have already been compensated for the damage.

It is our hope that the per-

mit process moves along at a good pace so that we can move forward with the design process. We will put updates on the process in future Newsletters.

Dave Calendine

DTOS Board of Directors

N otes from the Editor

There are a few updates that I wanted to let everyone know about.

First, I would like to welcome three people to the Board of Directors. Christopher Dengate, TJ Casterson, and Lynn Walls were appointed to the board. They are no strangers around the Senate, and we look forward to their input on the future of our organization.

We received a check from Amazon as part of their Amazon Smile program. If you use Amazon for online purchases, please sign up for the Amazon Smile program, and select the Detroit Theater Organ Society as the organization. We receive a portion of the proceeds on pur-

chases using Amazon Smile. Their sign-up process is spelled out on their web page and is easy to follow. Your purchases can all help our organization!

Another company that lets you support the DTOS by your purchases is Krogers of Michigan. Go to your account (or create your account) at Kroger.com and register your Kroger Plus card on the website. Once you do that, you can select the Detroit Theater Organ Society as your organization. We receive quarterly checks from Kroger as part of their program. You must be a Michigan resident in order to be a part of the Kroger Plus program.

The Senate Theater has sev-

eral rentals that are being finalized, and that means that we are going to need volunteers to help keep our theater open. Ticket sellers, ticket takers, concession stand staff, and several other key areas will need to be filled. We don't expect everyone to be at every event, but if you could be at one or more, that could help out tons! Events scheduled are:

April 4—Florida Group presents their "Hispanic Flamingo Ballet," with over 400 expected to attend. We will need volunteers in various capacities from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

April 9—300 to 400 people are expected for "Motor City Pride." Volunteers are needed in various capacities from 1:00

p.m. to around 11:00 p.m.

May 21—More information on this event day will be forthcoming in the next Newsletter.

July 3—American Theater Organ Society 2016 Convention Pre-Glow. The annual convention for ATOS is in Cleveland, but they are having a pre-glow trip to Detroit to hear concerts on two organs—The Senate Wurlitzer and the Stahl Automotive Foundation Wurlitzer. These concerts are a part of the ATOS convention, and are ticketed separately. Once we receive information on ticket availability for either show, we will publish that in the Newsletter.

That's it for now. Until the next time, see you at the Senate!

Dave Calendine

DTOS Board of Directors

Visit our friends at the Redford Theatre for their classic film series.

March 18 & 19—Monty Python and the Holy Grail

April 1 & 2—Seven Brides for Seven Brothers

April 15 & 16—Three Stooges Festival

April 23—The General—Silent Film Special with Lance Luce at the Barton organ

May 6 & 7—Field of Dreams

May 20—Dead Poet's Society

Full schedule of events, including times and prices, can be found on the web site

WWW.REDFORDTHEATRE.COM

Combination Action Releathering Project

Dave Calendine
 DTOS Board of Directors

In the last Newsletter, Lance Luce detailed some of the work that needed to be done with the combination action on our Wurlitzer. I am happy to report that this much-needed work has started.

The Board of Directors au-

thorized Stephen Warner to start work on one of the four combination machines that are located in the back corner of the relay room. That work has started, and if you have been in to play the organ lately, you will notice that 1/4

of the pistons on the console currently do not work. There is a great reason for this, and some of that is pictured here. The work on the first combination action machine will be reinstalled before the March concert, with the hope that the

next machine will be worked on afterwards.

To date we have received donations to cover approximately half of the project. Any help that you can provide to complete this project is greatly appreciated.



Left: Steve's assistant, Michelle, separating the contact rails from the action.

Right: The complete machine removed. This represents one-quarter of the combination action.



Bottom left: The quality assurance tag with the initials and employee number of those that worked on this mechanism at Wurlitzer.

Below: A secondary with the leather cleaned off. The linen hinge, (which is also being replaced) goes from inside to outside to take the force of the pneumatic "inflating to play" rather than "deflating to play" like in the key action relay.



DETROIT THEATER
ORGAN SOCIETY

Over 50 Years of Entertainment!

Detroit Theater Organ Society

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.DTOS.ORG

2016 Concert Series

March 13—Scott Foppiano

April 17—David Gray

May 15—Martin Ellis

June 26—Jonas Nordwall

September 18—Dave Calendine

October 16—Pierre Fracalanza

November 20—Justin Stahl

December 4—Lance Luce



photo: Lance Luce