

Bass. In addition to a number of organ voices (all available individually), Concert has a complete electronic pedal bass which could add much bottom zing to a pipe organ.

Aside from sound benders, with the exception of Rodgers the trend toward jamming console stoprails, side jambs and backboards with flashy gimmicks which chop, distort, repeat and emphasize continues as it has for the past several years. These "sales pushers" are probably most useful to the salesman closing a deal and to the cocktail lounge organist, but the average Festival-goer seemed much more interested in advances in organ tonalities toward the pipe organ ideal. In this area no sharp breakthroughs were noted but most agreed that the majority of organs have been tonally refined, even since last year's Festival.

Although the Festival is considered mainly a good public relations show and future sales stimulant by ex-



Byron Melcher did his stuff on the Thomas company's popular 3-deck spinet. Note the deep-cut Robert Morton-style horseshoe. (Stufoto)

hibitors, a considerable number of organs were sold on the spot this year. The opportunity prospects have to compare many brands of instruments at the Festival is duplicated only at the Chicago NAMM show. Six of the exhibitors contacted during the final day reported they had sold some organs. The number ranged between three and fourteen. It can be assumed that these and the remainder of this year's exhibitors were quite satisfied with the effectiveness of the Festival as a merchandiser because every one of them has signed up for the 1973 Festival. They were aware that two prospective exhibitors had to be turned



Ann Tanner is amused by a photographer seeking 'leg art.' Ann concertized for Yamaha. — (Stufoto)

down this year for a lack of additional showroom facilities. With additional buildings going up on the park grounds, more accommodations can be anticipated.

This year's Festival assumed a leisurely pace which gave the visitor enough time to appreciate the perfect weather, the heavily wooded park (deer can be seen feeding at night), and the camaraderie of many minds with similar interests, whether they were merchants, music lovers, sales prospects, organ buffs or just musically-minded vacationers. More than eleven hundred of them attended this year. □



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Letters to the Editor concerning all aspects of the theatre organ hobby are encouraged. Send them to the editor concerned. Unless it's stated clearly on the letter "not for publication," the editors feel free to reproduce it, in whole or part.

*Address: P.O. Box 1314
Salinas, Calif. 93901*

Dear Sirs:

Many thanks for publishing my story "Nostalgic Memories" in the October issue of THEATRE ORGAN. It is unfortunate that two printing errors have been noted which may confuse some readers:

The organs both at the Imperial and at the St. Denis Theatres did not have two (2) three manual consoles at each theatre (note page 33). Both of these theatres had "two and three fifth (2-3/5) manual consoles. Great and accompaniment were 61 notes each, while the short top solo manual had only 37 notes, hence we called it 2-3/5 manuals. These unique consoles must have been Hope-Jones specials, and perhaps that's where the electronic manufacturers got the idea for their sawed-off keyboards.

The second printing error is on page 33. The article says "I did not go to the Capitol to see the organ, but to hear the organ". It should read "I did not go to the Capitol to see the picture, but rather to hear the organ" etc.

Thanking you, and with kind regards,

Charles Wright
2865 Notre Dame St.
Lachine 600, Quebec, Canada

Dear Sir:

I am continually amazed at the amount of information Lloyd Klos digs up for his "Nuggets from the Golden Days."

In the August 1972 issue he men-

tioned Marsh McCurdy broadcasting over WHN in New York City, and John Gart playing in Loews' Metropolitan Theatre over another New York station.

It may be of interest to your readers to know that WHN in the 1927-30 era broadcast both theatre organ and live vaudeville acts from many of the Loew Theatres in the New York metropolitan area. This was obviously promotional since WHN was controlled by the Loew Theatre interests at that time. These broadcasts could be heard almost every day, generally in the afternoon or early evening.

In houses which featured vaudeville, WHN broadcast all or most of the acts and filled in the balance of the time period with the organ interlude and organ accompaniment to the

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JULY 25 - 28
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silent picture. In theatres which ran films only, the station broadcast the organ accompaniment for one half hour or one hour periods.

Listening to the vaudeville required a reasonably good imagination but the organ segments came through loud and clear. Both John Gart and Marsh McCurdy were heard along with several others of equal capability. Loew theatres utilized included the State, Lexington, Hillside, Metropolitan, Gates,

Coney Island, and many more.

Sincerely,
Charles W. Fauroat
Member Rahway (NJ) Crew

Dear Mr. Young:

Thank you for giving me so much of your valuable time during our recent telephone visit. I wish a similar conversation could be conducted with each ATOS member that attended your convention.

Your people endured confusion over charges for their room accommodations, and delays during meal periods. To say we are concerned and embarrassed over these incidents would be a gross understatement. We offer our sincere apologies to you and your members. If only we had the opportunity to start again, I know your

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people would leave with a favorable impression of our facilities, service and personnel.

We do have the consolation of knowing your people enjoyed their 1969 convention at our Chicago Hotel and therefore are aware that a convention at a Marriott can spell success.

Hopefully, you will give us or one of our other hotels another chance in the future.

Sincerely,

TWIN BRIDGES MARRIOTT
Alan F. Strong, Resident Manager

Dear Sirs:

For years I have noticed that THEATRE ORGAN incorrectly spells the name of Quentin MacLean. It is not Quintin MacLean or McLean but as previously stated – Quentin Maclean. Now that his name has been added to the HALL OF FAME may the record please be amended? Similarly, the surname is often mispronounced. It is not "Maclean" (as in "lean") but "Maclane" (as in "lane"). Such are the eccentricities of the English language!!

With best wishes,
E.A. Houlden

Old Rectory, 37 Rectory Rd.
Farnborough, Hampshire, England

Dear Sir,

As You perhaps already know in Holland has been founded a Dutch Organ society under the name of: Nederlandse Orgel Federatie.

Purposes and methods of working being the same as organisations of the same kind in England and the U.S.A. We have now (in a year time) 120, members. We have an idea that a lot of Dutch people do not know the existence of our society.

So we ask You please send us the addresses of all the Dutch readers of your magazin.

After comparing the list of addresses with the list of our members we intend to ask the other Dutch readers to join our society to reach our purpose, more cinema organ concerts, more cinema organ maintenance.

with kind regards yours truly,
J.C. Jonker
secretary of the N.O.F.
Nederlandse Orgel Federatie
Postbus 189, Amsterdam

Mr. Editor:

Mr. Steven A. Malotte's objection to the word "plug-in" (Oct. '72 Letters) with reference to the electronic

HEAR YE!
HEAR YE!

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to pay your
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Other members please send National Dues direct to . . .

ATOS

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Salinas, California 93901

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organ must be based on his own interpretation of the word. He is mistaken if he thinks it is generally used as a term of derision. Far from it. It is a handy alternative which describes the usual electronic's easy readiness and mobility, and is used freely among manufacturing and designing personnel in and around factories and showrooms. Some use it in display advertisements – Baldwin, for one.

I'm surprised that the term "plug-in" is questioned at this late date. As a former organ merchant I made my own check on the acceptability of the term several years ago when it first came to my attention. For the fun of it I canvassed personnel manning organ displays at the NAMM show in Chicago and found the term in common use. Not one I talked with was offended by "plug-in" although they didn't care for another alternative, "organ substitute."

Nor is Mr. Malotte technically correct when he states that a pipe organ must have its blower "plugged in." I have yet to see a pipe installation whose blower motor was not secured firmly and permanently to house wiring, usually by bolts. And pipes were played long before electricity became a factor.

The electronic organ comes equipped with a line cord with a standard

plug for connection to a wall power outlet. In older models, tubes are plugged in. On newer computer models memory cards are plugged in. And most have outlets where additional speakers or a headset may be plugged in. The descriptive term "plug-in" would seem most appropriate. Let's not manufacture trouble where it isn't.

Paul Raedemaier
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Sir,

I am writing to enquire if you have any members interested in purchasing a Wurlitzer Cinema Organ.

I have a 3-manual Illuminated Console 6 rank pipe organ, which I removed from a cinema in England, and shipped to South Africa 3 years ago. My company have now recalled me back to the U/K, and so I have very reluctantly decided to sell the organ.

I am enclosing a photograph of the Console, together with a photostat copy of the distribution board details for your information.

This is a complete installation, meticulously dismantled and marked for re-assembly, and is ideal for a 'home' installation as the pipe chamber required is approximately 15' x 12' x 12' high.

Price: \$3,500.00 or equivalent sterling value.

Any assistance you can give in finding a buyer will be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,
R.T. Dover

P.O. Box 116
Umhlanga Rocks, North Coast
NATAL, S. AFRICA

Note:

Usually we do not print letters of this nature in our "Letters" column. However, because we get so few letters and pictures from Umhlanga Rocks, we decided to publish them.

Editor



Ideal for home installation, this Wurlitzer is for sale in Umhlanga Rocks, Natal, South Africa. Why not dash over for a first-hand look?