

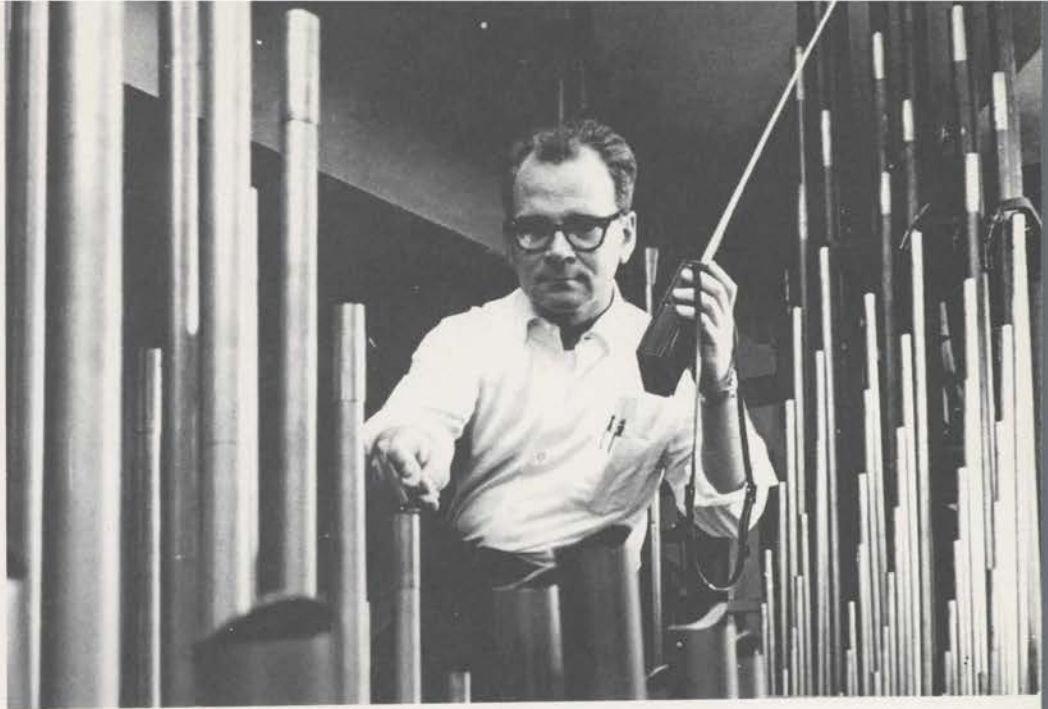


FOR THE RECORD

One innovation of the 1975 ATOS Convention was the gift to each attendee of a very special souvenir recording, a LP containing 12 selections played on Bay and Sacramento area organs, some current, some gone. The organists are Everett Nourse, Gordon Kibbee, Tiny James, Emil Martin, Len Rawle, Bill Langford, George Wright and Jesse Crawford (the last by miking a perforated paper roll). The organs range in size from a 2/9 to a 4/36, the latter being the now gone SF Fox Wurlitzer. The package was prepared by Doric Records and includes a jacket with a striking view of the San Francisco skyline and Bay Bridge across the front and back covers. Inside, the jacket notes include brief biographical sketches of 20 convention organists, plus notes about the organs and organists heard on the record.

The package was put together in great haste and there are a few typos in the program notes but a high quality of sound is evident in the record grooves. Most of the cuts are from previously released records. However, the tunes played by Emil Martin, Gordon Kibbee and Jesse Crawford have never before been heard on records e.g. Jesse Crawford playing "El Capitan" March. Other tunes are "Slow Poke," "Object of My Affection," "Tea for Two," "One Kiss," "Just One of Those Things," "Goofus," "Lara's Theme," "Coquette," "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy," "Blaze Away" and "Jealous."

Only enough records for convention goers were pressed and any extras remaining are not for sale. The only way stay-at-homes can hear the goodies on Doric's *Leave Your Heart in San Francisco* is to buttonhole a returning conventioneer. It's well worth that effort. □



JOE PATTEN — 1975 Honorary Member

by Bob Van Camp

In July of 1974 it was announced that Southern Bell Telephone Company was negotiating to purchase Atlanta's Fabulous Fox Theatre, and to demolish it to make way for a high rise office tower. Joe Patten, long time ATOS member, had restored the theatre's 4/42 Moller Deluxe in 1963 and kept it in perfect condition ever since. In the course of this, he had also become well acquainted with virtually every square inch of the Fox Theatre building. His love of both the organ and the building prompted his taking quick action to avert the demolition.

He assembled a group of knowledgeable Atlantans who shared his feeling about the building, and from this group Atlanta Landmarks, Inc. was formed, chartered by the State of Georgia as a non-profit preservation corporation. There followed a year of complicated negotiations involving Southern Bell, Atlanta banks, realtors, even the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, and City, County and State officials. Through all of this, Joe Patten was the prime mover and many weeks he spent more time in Save-The-Fox meetings than he did in his office. In late June, 1975, the results of all this hard bargaining fell into place, and contracts were signed making Atlanta Landmarks Inc. the owner of the Fox Theatre.

Now comes the real task of saving the Fox: assembling two and a half million dollars which will be necessary to retire the loans, with interest, by July 1978. But for the moment, one of the last of the great theatres remaining has been saved from the wrecker's ball. For the fact that the Atlanta Fox still stands, and the Mighty Mo' still plays, Joe Patten deserves the major part of the credit and ATOS' selection as Honorary Member for 1975. □

Electric Organs

An interesting sidelight and crowd pleasing part of all recent ATOS National Meets has been the electronic organ displays.

This year space was taken by four firms and their products received many hours of use by the Conventioners, between scheduled events.

The following were represented:

Allen organ — courtesy — Stevens Music.

Conn organ — courtesy — Golden Gate Conn Organ Studio.

Rodgers organ — courtesy — Rodgers Organ San Francisco store.

Yamaha — courtesy — St. Regis and Leuenberger of San Francisco.

ATOS expresses a warm thank you to the above who helped make the Roaring Twentieth roar. □