



# Theatre Organists As Composers PART II

Compiled by Lloyd E. Klos

**W. STUART ("STU") GREEN.** Born in Rochester, N.Y. in 1912. Grad. Syracuse University as Music Major in 1938. Played Regent, Harvard, Avon, Brighton, Rivoli and Riviera Theatres in Syracuse in late '20s and the Lyric Theatre in Stuart, Florida in 1930. Played many silent film revivals under auspices of Drama Dept. of Syracuse University at Syracuse Civic Theatre in late '30s. Now lives in California and is the Editor Emeritus of this publication.

**Publications:**

"Wie ein Geschenk" (Once in a Dream), in Vienna 1950. Words & Music.

"Das ist Dein Lied" (This is Your Song), in Vienna 1950. Words by Hans Rahner.

**Instrumentals:**

"Just Beyond Tomorrow," 1949

"Bitchie's Scratch Song" (for his dog), 1951

"Du Immer Nur Du" (You, Only You), 1952

"Song of My Heart," 1932 for high school revue

"Jade" (oriental fantasy), 1962

**BOB HAMILTON.** Born in Bridgeport, Conn. 1899. Student with John Bowerhan and Pietro Yon. Organist in theatres throughout the U.S., and for Ice Capades in 1960-61. Recording star.

**Songs:**

"Gotham Fantasie"

"Grateful Am I"

"Hello and Not So Long"

"I Confess"  
"Love Wail"  
"Second Honeymoon"  
"The Greatest Love"  
"The Military Polka"

**ETHWELL "EDDIE" HANSON.** Born in New London, Wisconsin. Studied at American Conservatory with organist Fran Van Dusen; Lawrence College with Mason Slade; and Chicago College of Music with Clarence Eddy. Soloist with Sousa's band. First radio organist in Chicago on WDAP. On staff of WBBM, WLS and WCFL 24 years. Organist in Chicago theatres and clubs.

**Songs:**

"At the End of the Sunset Trail"  
"California Moon"  
"Golden Melody"  
"Only a Weaver of Dreams"  
"Rattlesnake Rag"  
"Song of Life"  
"The Joy and the Pain of Love"  
"The World Needs a Heart Full of Love"  
"There's a Land Beyond the Rainbow"  
"Thunderbird March"  
"True Love Is Forever"  
"Weeping Waters"

**ARCHER HARDWICK (George Archer).** Born in Sacramento, Cal., 1918. Educated in Sacramento City College and Portland State College. Organist in California Theatre in Sacramento 1937-1939. Has had own radio show in Portland, Ore. Teacher since 1946.

**Songs:**

"Can't You Tell?"  
"Let's Tie Our Sails to a Sailboat"  
"My Dream Boat"  
"Sand on the Desert"  
"Sing, O' Rolling River"  
"Who'll Send Me Love?"

**GEORGE R. HENNINGER.** Born in Binghamton, N.Y., 1895. Died in 1953. Educated at University of Pittsburgh. Organist in theatres and on radio. ABC staff in New York.

**Film scores for:**

*Chloe*

*Hired Wife*

*Playthings of Desire*

**Songs:**

"God Is Everywhere"  
"In Flanders"  
"In Suniland"  
"Little Darlin'"  
"Old Prairie Wagon"  
"Our Graduation Waltz"  
"St. Patrick's Bells"  
"Sunset Lullaby"

**IAN L. KEITH.** Born in Lynn, Mass., 1911. Educated at New England Conservatory and Del Castillo Theatre Organ School. Also studied with organist Arthur Martel. Organist at Paramount Theatre in Lynn, Mass. and on staff of WESX, Salem, for eight years.

**Instrumental:** "Tahiti"

**HERBIE KOCH.** Born in Louisville, Kentucky, 1903. Studied with Arthur Becker, Robert Whitney and Marcel Dupre. Solo organist for Paramount Pictures throughout U.S., London, Paris and Cuba for 12 years. With WHAS, Louisville 23 years and WHAS-TV 7 years. Artist at Seattle and New York World's Fairs.

**Works:**

*In Memoriam* (to J. F. Kennedy)

*Sabbath Evening Service*

*Waltzing With Mary*

32 Volumes of Organ Arrangements.

**ESTHER S. HIGGINS.** Born in 1903 in Camden, N.J. Studied under private teachers. Silent film organist, 1919-1930. Staff organist, WCAU, Phila. Restaurant and arena organist and teacher.

**Compositions:**

26 organ preludes  
Intros, breaks, fill-ins  
& endings #18

#40, Hansen's all-organ series  
3 arrangements of "Star Trek"  
themes

**REX KOURY.** Born in London, Eng. in 1912. Studied theatre organ in Cranford, N.J. under Bill Meeder. Became youngest organist on RKO circuit. Wrote for TV and radio after leading his own orchestra and owning a radio station in Idaho.

Works:

"Gunsmoke" (TV theme)  
"Someday, My Love"

**ANN LEAF (Audrey Lynn).** Born in Omaha, Neb. Educated at Juilliard School. Featured organist in theatres, on CBS radio and in films. At Rainbow Room, N.Y. three years. Concertizes for organ clubs.

Collaborator: Tot Seymour

Songs and Instrumentals:

"Aristocrat in the Automat"  
"Happy Island"  
"In Time"  
"Prom Rag"  
"Rico Coco"  
"Tugboat on a Toot"  
"Waltz on a Cloud"

**RICHARD WILLIAM LEIBERT.**

Born in Bethlehem, Pa., 1903. Died 1976. Studied at Peabody Conservatory. Played theatres in Washington, Brooklyn, and from 1932 to 1971, was chief organist at Radio City Music Hall. Inducted into the Theatre Organists Hall of Fame in 1974.

Instrumentals and Songs:

"Come Dance With Me"  
"In a Little Clock Shop"  
"Maryette"  
"Pray For Me"  
"Radio City Music Hall March"  
"Ride, Son, Ride"  
"Sailing Suite"  
"Valse Rhythmique"  
"Virginia Hoe-Down"  
"Where I Could Smoke My Pipe"  
"You Look Like Someone"  
"You Were a Dream"

**NORBERT LUDWIG.** Born in Luck, Russia, 1902. Died in 1960. Educated at Vienna Conservatory and Juilliard School. Organist at Rivoli, Roxy and Paramount theatres in New York.

Songs:

"Blue Scarecrow"  
"Dancing Checkers"  
"My One and Only Love"

**ALBERT HAY MALOTTE.** Born in Philadelphia, 1895. Died in 1964. Concert and theatre organist in U.S. and Europe. Founded a theatre organist school in Los Angeles in 1927. Musical director of Disney Studios four years. Inducted into Theatre Organists Hall of Fame in 1972.

Film Scores:

*Dr. Cyclops*  
*Enchanted Forest*

Stage Scores:

*Fanfare*  
*Limbo*  
*The Big Tree*

Songs:

"Bob-O-Link"  
"David and Goliath"  
"Faith"  
"Ferdinand, the Bull"  
"Fiesta"  
"For My Mother"  
"Golfers' Lament"  
"I Am Proud to be an American"  
"It's Good to Know"  
"Little Songs of Life"  
"Maybe, Perhaps"  
"Melancholy Moon"  
"My Fascinating Girl"  
"My Friend"  
"Sing a Song of Sixpence"  
"Song of the Open Road"  
"The Beatitudes"  
"The Lord's Prayer"  
"The Ugly Duckling"  
"Twenty-Third Psalm"  
"Understanding Heart"  
"Upstream"

Ballets:

*Carnival of Venice*  
*Little Red Riding Hood*  
*Lolama*

Choral:

"The Ninety-First Psalm"  
"Voice of the Prophet"

**RAY MC NAMARA.** Born in Philadelphia, 1899. Died 1976. Organist in theatres and restaurants in New Orleans. Chief collaborator: Pinky Vidacovich

Songs and Instrumentals:

"Gotta Go to the Fais Do Do"  
"Six Buzzard Feathers and a Mocking Bird's Tail"  
"The Concert is Over" (theme)

**THEODORE A. "TED" MEYN.**

Born in Kansas City, Kan. Died in 1977. Touring organist for Loew's Theatres 27 years. One-Man-Won-

der-Trio in hotels and clubs. Collaborators: Charles Tobias, Murray Mencher, Larry Stock

Songs:

"More of the Same Sweet You"  
"My Thrill Is Loving You"  
"Ol' Lonely"  
"Raise the Window Down"  
"Roundup Time For Love"  
"There's No Right Way to do Me Wrong"  
"Wag-go-shoe"  
"Why Is My Little Redhead Blue?"

**BILLY NALLE.** Born in Fort Meyers, Fla. Graduate of the Juilliard School, New York. Performed on nearly 6,000 telecasts, all three networks, from New York, 1950 to 1970. Concert debut, Fox Theatre, Atlanta in 1966. Since 1975, artist-in-residence, Century II Center, Wichita, Kan. Concerts, recordings and compositions.

Compositions:

"April Smiles Again"  
"Sweet Delilah"  
"I'm a Guy In Love"  
"It's a Beautiful Day"  
"Television March"  
"Soldiers in the Sky"  
"Arturo Ricardo"  
"Parade Day"  
"Mama"  
"Center City Rag"  
"Show Business"  
"Tom, Tom, the Piper's Son"  
"Mood Sultry"  
"Alles Was Du Bist"  
"Liebe Und Hochzeit"  
"Coming Home"  
"Helen and Jesse"

**VIOLET REISER.** Born in New York, 1915. Organist on the Loew's circuit, Rialto Theatre in New York, and in radio. Also teaches.

Instrumentals:

"Dancing Sunbeams"  
"Holiday in Holland"  
"New Dawn Fantasy"  
"Tiny Toe Dancer"  
"Valse Elegante"  
"Waltzing Ballerina"

**ROSA RIO (Betty Raub).** Born in San Francisco. Studied at Oberlin and Eastman School of Music. Teachers included John Hammond, Joseph Schillinger and Jesse Crawford. Was a touring organist and on

staff of NBC and ABC. Teaches and concertizes extensively.

Collaborator: Abel Baer

Songs:

- "If I Could Love You"
- "In My Caravan of Dreams"
- "Just to be Alone With You"
- "Memories of the Past"
- "The Moon Is Blue"
- "You'll Come Running Back to Me"

**ALFRED GEORGE ROBYN.** Born in St. Louis, Mo., 1860. Died in 1935. Organist in New York theatres.

Collaborator: Henry Blossom

Works:

*Manzanilla*

*Pompeii*

*Symphony in D*

*The Ascension*

*The Mass of the Sacred Heart*

Songs:

- "A Heart That's Free"
- "Ain't It Funny What a Difference a Few Hours Make?"
- "Amo"
- "Answer"
- "I'm a Gypsy, Wild and Free"
- "It Was Dream"
- "You"

**MARY SCHAEFFER.** Born in Christonbury, Va. Organist in theatres and radio in Roanoke. Wrote for Broadway musicals and films.

Songs:

- "Dancing With a Broken Heart"
- "I Long to Belong to You"
- "Keep the Flag Flying, America"
- "Little Old Shack in the Mountains"
- "My Heart Has Wings"
- "Penthouse For Rent"
- "Rockin' Chair Swing"
- "That Flame is Burning Again"
- "The Heather is Blooming in Scotland"
- "Toy Town Jamboree"
- "You Little Heartbreaker, You"

**ARSENE SIEGEL.** Born in Lyons, France, 1897. Died 1967. Educated at Chicago Musical College and American Conservatory. Organist in vaudeville and film theatres, including Detroit's Fisher Theatre seven years. Staff of ABC, Chicago. Inducted into Theatre Organists Hall of Fame in 1970.

Works:

*Mirage*

*Sanctuary*

*Pasquinade*

*The House of Worship*

*The Windy City*

Songs:

- "Awake"
- "Holy Reverie"
- "Keep Thou Not Silent, O God"
- "Put on Strength" (anthem)
- "Sacred Moments" (collection)
- "The Holy Time"
- "The Iron Bells"

**RAY SINATRA.** Born in Gergenti, Sicily, 1904. Extensive education under many artists. Organist in Boston theatres. Scored films.

Works:

*Piano Concerto*

*Central Park Ballet*

Songs and Instrumentals:

- "Are You Listening?"
- "Happiness"
- "Hot Ivories"
- "I'll Never Go to Heaven"
- "Little Church on the Hill"
- "Miracle of the Bells"
- "No One Knows, No One Cares"
- "This World of My Own"

**GEORGE OLIVER WALLACE.** Born in London, England, 1887. Died in 1963. First musician to use a pipe organ for film accompaniment: Seattle in 1910. Featured in West Coast theatres, principally in Seattle. Composer and conductor for Disney Studios.

Chief collaborators: Frank Churchill and Harold Weeks

Film Scores:

*Alice In Wonderland*

*Cinderella*

*Dumbo*

*White Wilderness*

Songs:

- "Der Fuehrer's Face"
- "Hindustan"
- "Indiana Moon"
- "Last Night, I Had That Dream Again"
- "Louisiana"
- "Other Lips"
- "Rainbow of My Dreams"
- "When I See an Elephant Fly"

**HELEN SEARLES WESTBROOK.** Born in Southbridge, Mass. Educated at American Conservatory. Student with organist Frank Van Dusen in Chicago. Organist in film theatres, primarily in Chicago. On WGN radio for CBS. Music director of Central Church in Chicago.

Works:

*Andante Religioso*

*Chanson Triste*

*Concert Piece in D*  
*Dust at Friendship Lake*

*Intermezzo*

*Laughing Sprites*

*Melodie*

*Menuett in Olden Style*

*On the Ontonagon River*

*Pastorale Scherzo*

*Poem for Autumn*

*Retrospection*

*Waltz Circe*

Songs:

- "Alabaster"
- "Hindu Cradle Song"
- "If You Call Me"
- "Invincible"
- "March Beside Him, Lord"
- "Six Indian Songs"

**GAYLORD B. CARTER.** Born in Germany. Educated in Wichita, Kan. Played silent film theatres in Los Angeles. Organist for "Amos 'N Andy" from 1935 to 1942. In WW II in Navy. Returned to radio, branched into television. Began "Flicker Fingers" to accompany silent films in U.S. and abroad. Inducted into Theatre Organists Hall of Fame in 1975. Lives in San Pedro, Cal.

Selections:

- "Dunce Dance" (organ novelty)
- "Nocturne for Organ" □

