



Console of the 3/21 mostly Wurlitzer now installed in the Carpenter Center (Loew's Richmond).

organ for the theatre had been ruled out and work had begun to convert one chamber into an office and the other into a storage room. It was at this point that Bill Floyd became involved. Bill had exchanged letters with Hank Crane, owner of the Surf City Hotel regarding the 3/16 Wurlitzer there which was hardly playable. Crane agreed to donate the organ, Bill arranged with the Center to accept it, and Bill and his two sons moved the organ from Surf City to a warehouse in Richmond.

Examination of the organ revealed that

View toward the Solo chamber. Heavy velour stifled original organ; new gold mesh is tonally transparent. Lighting bays in the "sky" are hydraulically closed when not in use.



every component of the instrument needed rebuilding, as did the additional five ranks that had been obtained. As the contractors concluded the building renovations, the organ crew began to expand. Fred Berger and others from C. & P. Telephone Company of Virginia took on the task of wiring the "new" three-manual console and solid-state relay. Klann of Waynesboro, Virginia, who had provided the manuals and pedalboard while the organ was still at Surf City, re-conditioned these and installed new Kimber-Allen contact

rails, and a new solid-state combination system which provides two channels with eight general pistons, six pistons on the Solo, eight on the Great and Accompaniment, and four for the pedals; there is a sforzando reversible, and a general cancel; Syndine actions were used with new stop keys by Hesco. The console also features a transposer. New swell frames and shades by Klann are operated by Peterson electronic motors.

Others who have become involved in the organ project include Tom Landrum, who has done pipework repairs, and who, along with Dick Barlow did much other work, including releathering all regulators. Over the past three years many have given time and talent to the effort: Nick Pitt, Paul Harris, the technical trade students from Tuckahoe Middle School, and many others. Bill remarked, "I am blessed with a wonderful crew who have made this truly a civic project . . ."

In 1985 the theatre was renamed Carpenter Center for the Performing Arts upon receipt of a \$1.5 million memorial gift from the trustees of the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation. Listed on the State and Federal historic landmark registries, it looks today much as it did when it opened its doors in 1928. It is a cultural anchor for the plans the city is implementing to revitalize the downtown area — an acoustically superior, multiple purpose, 2000-seat theatre for the performing arts in the center of Richmond. Because of the generosity of the citizens who love it, Richmond has been able to preserve this historic gem for its current and future generations to enjoy. We look forward to meeting you there in July.

The following sources were used in the preparation of this document:

1. Elroy E. Quenroe, "Movie House Architecture, Twenties Style," *Arts in Virginia*, Vol. 17, No. 1 (Richmond, Va.: Virginia Museum), pp.22-34.

Carpenter Center for the Performing Arts, *Reach for the Stars*. Advertising booklet, 1985-86 season.

Special thanks to Bill Floyd for his history of the "new" organ and its rebuilding and installation.

## Lance Johnson's Troubleshooting Guide Quiz Question

You have a dead middle E on the Trumpet 8' on the Solo manual. You find that this same note will still play on the Great. Where would you look first?

Answer on page 55.

### Questions and Answers

Lance Johnson will answer readers' technical questions by telephone. He can be reached at 701/237-0477 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central Time Monday through Friday, or in the evening from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at 218/287-2671. □



## FOR SALE

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Allen theatre organ #4362, 61n manuals, 32n pedal. Combination capture action 32 presets, card reader, inter-manual and pedal couplers, TAS system, separate pedal speaker and amplifier. Mint condition. 617/582-4204.

Three-manual Wurlitzer console, Style 260 Special, Grauman's Chinese, Hollywood. Complete, needs restoring. Photos and information on request. Contact John Ferguson, 10051 Greenbrook Trail, Apt. B, Indianapolis, Indiana 46229 or phone 317/357-4475.

Korg AT-12 Autochromatic Tuner. Play any note on your instrument and the AT-12 instantly indicates the note and octave (by LED) and how many cents sharp or flat (by V-U meter) in seven octaves: C1 to B7. Generates four octaves: C2 to B5 at two volumes. Calibrate tuner A = 430 to 450 Hz. Quartz crystal. Case, stand, AC adaptor, batteries earphone. One pound. One year warranty. \$135 postpaid (\$190 list). Song of the Sea, Dept. ATOS, 47 West Street, Bar Harbor, Maine 04609. 207/288-5653.

Schober Recital Organ, two 61-note manuals, 32-note pedal clavier (AGO), 32 voices (with "Library of Stops"), five registers, six couplers, combination action, two amplifiers and speaker system, walnut console and enclosures. Needs minor repairs. Asking \$1500. Ken Van Dellen, 1018 Nottingham, Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan 48230. 313/821-5706.

## TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE QUIZ ANSWER

See question on page 7.

As that Trumpet note can be played, the trouble must lie with the relay switch stack. Use test wire at switch bar first and if note will not play, trace it to the relay tray. □

## FOR SALE

Non-profit, tax exempt organization seeks donation of a three or four manual, double stop rail Wurlitzer or similar theatre pipe organ. We would ideally like to acquire the entire organ, but will accept separate donations of the console and various useable ranks, regulators, traps, and other parts. Your sincere consideration is appreciated. Contact Michael Knowles at P.O. Box 5601, San Francisco, California 94101. Thank you.

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Schober theatre organ, including Dynabeat, reverb tape, and presets. Walnut cabinet. Must sell. \$1100 or best offer. Call 201/722-6655.

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## RECORDINGS

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### "WURLITZER AT ITS BEST"

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## WANTED

Early moving picture trade magazines, pre-1930 and especially pre-1915 — *Moving Picture World*, *Billboard*, etc., single copies or runs; pre-1970 hobby publications, including *The Cipher*, *The Console*, *The Bombardier*, and THEATRE ORGAN; Wurlitzer, Robert-Morton, Link et al original sales catalogues and literature; interior and exterior photos of early (pre-1915) nickelodeon theatres. Dave Bowers, Box 1224-TO, Wolfeboro, New Hampshire 03894.

Howard Seat in reasonable condition. State price. Steve Alhart, 26 Wildwood Trail, Boonton, New Jersey 07005. 201/335-3470.

Three-manual Wurlitzer, 14 to 18 ranks. Also four-manual Wurlitzer console. Ron Wehmeier, 523 Elberon Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45205. 513/471-2588.

## We'll see you in Richmond!

Howard Seat or Arndt replica, Wurlitzer piano type foot levers with actions unit. Would prefer unit with four or more levers. Need Chimes with electric actions; Rodgers M-13 speakers. George Attison, 601 Kenmore Avenue, Copiague, New York 11726. 516/842-7106.

THEATRE ORGAN back issues: Volume 17, Number 1 and Volume 20, Number 1. Please write, stating price to: Robert A. Wood, 22 Dayne Street, Rochester, New York 14622.

For 18 note Wurlitzer chimes — Numbers 8G, 10A, 12B, 13C, 14C#, 15D, 16D#, 17E. For Style D Trumpet pipes — Numbers 1C, 2C#, 4D#, 38C#. Gordon A. Johnson, 2931 Dara Drive, Marietta, Georgia 30066. 404/565-2424.



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