

We have briefly discussed altered and extended chords and will return to them later, but we will now proceed to various kinds of SUBSTITUTE chords. These are most interesting to use in popular music and usually attract the most listener attention. Most chord substitutions can be reduced to simple rules and formulas and are not difficult to play because they are ordinary chords in an unusual sequence.

# ORGAN-IZING

## POPULAR MUSIC

by  
**AL HERMANN**



Whenever the melody of a song moves up or down the scale or chromatically, try substituting a series of 9th chords moving parallel to the melody in place of the original harmony. These 9th chords should be voiced in the following manner:

Right Hand = 5th (melody) + or - a half tone  
Left Hand = 3rd, 7th, 9th in that order  
Pedal = Root

Disregard the original harmony and use whichever 9th chord the melody is the 5th of. Example: a D melody will always be accompanied by a G<sup>9</sup> chord because D is the 5th of G. There are two opportunities in "Toyland" to apply this technique:

Measures 5 and 6; 21 and 22

Measures 29 and 30

Practice these examples slowly and always LISTEN. You should be able to hear if it sounds right (pleasant) or wrong (horrible).

Two of the longest opportunities I know of for substituting 9th chords parallel to the melody are in measures 5 to 7 in the first theme of "Winter Wonderland":

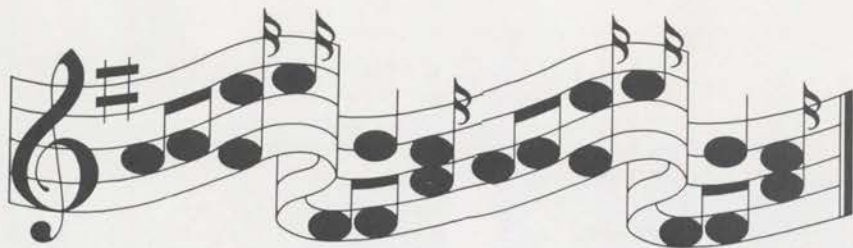
and measures 25 to 29 in "Tea For Two":

Notice that occasionally the melody moves a half tone ahead or behind and then catches up on the next beat. The accompaniment chords are all quarter notes. IF THERE ARE TWO COUNTS ON THE SAME CHORD, PLAY IT TWICE.

If any of you know of other good melodies to harmonize this way, please write and we will share them with our other readers.

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**JULY 2 - 6, 1988 • 1988 CONVENTION**



# Chapter Notes

**ALABAMA**  
Birmingham  
205/942-5611 or 205/664-3606

Our October meeting at the Alabama Theatre featured Dolton McAlpin. A southeastern favorite and real crowd-pleaser, Dolton just gets better and better each time we hear him. We often wonder when he will give up his law practice and hit the tour circuit!

October 30 was our fifth annual production of *The Phantom of The Opera* starring Lon Chaney and Tom Helms. We all agree that Tom is as big a star in Birmingham as Lon Chaney. His production (including funeral procession and other mysterious effects) has become a favorite of local patrons. The sixth annual performance of this show will be October 28, 1988, and will conclude the Alabama Theatre's first Silent Film Festival which will begin in March 1988 and will include a series of five silent films. Gaylord Carter, Lee Erwin, Tom Helms and Jim Riggs will be featured organists.

Our November meeting was held in conjunction with a Yamaha HX-1 organ demonstration given by Hector Olivera. Hector's performance was outstanding and, even with the problems he encountered with the instrument, he managed to delight many of our members. The business meeting gave us a chance to approve expenditures for a new electronic relay and combination action system for the Alabama Wurlitzer. Also approved were funds for having all of the organ's reeds revoiced and repaired. The organ will be taken down just after Christmas and will be back up for Lee Erwin's performance of *King of Kings* on March 26 and 27, 1988.

The 1988 Regional Convention Committee is hard at work finalizing plans for the Alabama "Diamond Jubilee" Convention to be held October 14-16, 1988. Make your plans to attend now!

Gary W. Jones

**CEDAR RAPIDS AREA**  
Iowa  
319/362-9676 or 319/396-5653

We have had an interesting year. We are all grateful that Bob Ralston had only temporary discomfort following his fall from the organ lift into the open orchestra pit at the close of his concert on May 3. X-rays confirmed that there were no broken bones — for which everyone was most relieved.

Our August membership meeting was held at the Cedar Rapids Community Theatre which is the home of the 3/14 Barton installed in 1927. Joe Roost, from Keokuk, Iowa, was our artist. This was Joe's third appearance for us in recent years, and he always presents an interesting and lively concert. Joe is nearing completion of his studies for the priesthood, and we wish him well and hope to have "Father Joe" back again soon.

We arranged to have our September meeting at Brucemore, a Victorian mansion formerly owned by a wealthy Cedar Rapids family and now deeded to the U.S. Government under supervision of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. A Skinner pipe organ and Baldwin grand piano are both in the home. George Baldwin played several numbers on both the organ and the piano, and open console was available for members who wished to play the organ. George also plays there during the holiday season when the mansion is open to the public and is decorated with Christmas trees and packages in every room as it was when the family lived there. Our members were given a tour of the entire mansion which was enjoyed by all, especially those who had not been there prior to our meeting.

Rob Calcaterra was the artist on the 3/11 Wurlitzer at the Paramount Theatre for our October show. Prior commitments made his stay in Cedar Rapids the shortest of any artist we have ever had — exactly 24 hours! Greeted at the airport at 4:30 Saturday afternoon, he was taken directly to the Paramount to practice and set combinations. A short dinner hour preceded a session at the theatre that lasted until 12:15 a.m. He was picked up at the hotel at 11:00 Sunday morning so he could practice before the 2:30 concert. At 4:30 he was whisked off to the airport to catch a 5:00 plane for his return to New York. Reviewer Les Zacheis of the *Cedar Rapids Gazette* wrote: "Theatre Organist Thrills Audience." He said: "It was a

return engagement for the monarch of the organ, and his appearance was hailed with delight by the majority of the patrons who recalled his previous exploits on the keyboard and pedals." Another fine concert by a great artist, this was our 34th Spectacular since we organized in 1969.

We were saddened by the untimely death of secretary Mrs. Lahonta Anders in July. Her husband had undergone surgery and she was visiting him in the hospital when she fell ill and died instantly. Lahonta had worked diligently as our secretary for several years and will be missed for all the things she did to make our club better in many ways.

Our October meeting was presented by Jim Olver who is in charge of our maintenance crew at the Paramount. Jim selected recordings of various organists from his vast collection of theatre organ records and added his own commentary about the artists and the record labels. His efforts were appreciated by all who attended.

John Hockaday



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