

The Story of Organist Fred Feibel

The distinctive organ arrangements heard for many years on CBS Radio and Television were the tuneful work of Fred Feibel, a Columbia recording artist and composer whose recent published organ works include 22 special arrangements of standard classics and folk tunes and a novelty solo entitled "Toccatina in Blue."

Feibel is a musician whose hobbies, too, are musical. He has an immense music library in his home in Englewood, N.J., and he spends his spare time composing, using the Hammond organ and the grand piano in his living room.

Feibel arranges and plays the scores for his programs, some of which call for much ingenuity. To get eerie effects for the spine-chilling "Stage 13" show, for instance, he has used French and English horns for special effects, and has even strummed the piano wires with paint brushes to create "vampire" music.

Born in Union City, New Jersey, in

1906, Feibel started his musical education as a violinist when he was ten years old. He switched to the piano by teaching himself from his sister's piano studies. Then the organ fascinated him, and he watched the organists in church and the local movie house for hours on end, and began to study the organ under a local teacher.

At 14, Feibel became one of the organists in the church he attended. He was attending a movie matinee at the age of 16, when a notice was flashed on the screen that a pianist was wanted for afternoons only. Feibel was out of his seat in a second. He presented himself at the box office, specifying a preference for the organ and not the piano. He got the job.

Feibel joined the staff of organists at New York's Rialto Theatre in 1927, and a year later went to the Paramount Theatre, where he stayed for seven years.

In 1929, Feibel started his "Organ

Reveille" program on the Columbia Broadcasting System, starting the day for CBS listeners every weekday morning for seven and a half years. After 1935, Feibel devoted himself to radio and television exclusively. Radio programs on which he has been heard include "Phil Cook's Almanac," Richard Maxwell's "Songs of Cheer and Comfort," Ernest Chappel's "Are You a Genius?" and many favorite daytime dramatic shows.

He married in 1933, and he and his wife, Lenore, made their home in Englewood, New Jersey. During the war, Feibel served for more than two years in the United States Army.

His compositions include many modern instrumental solos, and a book of cue music for radio dramatic shows. His Columbia recordings include dance records by the Fred Feibel Quartet, pipe organ solos of well known concert music, and an album of Novachord records.

WURLITZER FACTORY SHIPMENT LIST

(CONTINUED)

2196	Spec. 3 Man.	Cleveland, O. Knollwood Cemetary	4/14/36	2212	Spec. 3 Man	Greenwich, England	6/18/37
2106	Spec. 3 Man.	Detroit, Mich Gesu Parish Chapel	5/ 8/36	2213	Spec. 3 Man	Stockport, England Ritz Th.	7/ 2/37
2197	3Man Spec.	Wandsworth London, Eng. New Cinema	6/26/36	2214	Spec 3 Man	North Cheam, England	7/16/37
2198	Rebuilt Style	Brooklyn, N.Y. Ridgewood M.E. Ch.	7/18/36	2215	Spec Man.	Kilburn, Eng Gaumont Palace	8/23/37
1051	R.B.1	Garrison, N.Y. St. Christopher Bldg.	8/10/36	1732	Reb	Schenectady, N.Y. L. W. Gilbert	8/30/37
570	RB1	Los Angeles, Cal. 1st Eng. Evang. Luth. Church	9/19/36	2216	Spec. 3 Man	Harrow, England	9/11/37
1889	RJ3	Newport News, Va. W.G. Turbyfill	10/ 5/36	2217	Spec.	Clapham Junction, England	9/18/37
2199	3 Man	Ipswich, England Ritz	10/ 5/36	2218	Spec.	Greenford, England	9/25/37
2200	3 Man	East Ham, Eng. Cinema	10/16/36	2219	Spec. 3 Man.	Copenhagen, Denmark	10/ 8/37
2201	3 Man	Barnsley, Eng. Ritz	10/30/36	1897	Spec.	Chicago, Ill. Aragon Ball Rm.	10/29/37
2202	3 Man	Coventry, Eng. Rex	11/16/36	2220	Spec.	Welling, England	11/22/37
2203	Spec. Man.	Woolwich, Eng. Granada	12/ 1/36	2221	Spec.	Slough, England	12/11/37
2204	Spec.	Catham, Eng.	12/17/36	2222	Spec. 3 Man.	Richmond, England Ritz	1/28/38
2205	Spec.	N. Tonawanda, N.Y. St. Paul's Evang. Luth. Ch.	12/29/36	995	Reb. 2 Man	Beckley, W. Va. M.E. Ch.	3/ 7/38
2206	3 Man	Aldershot, Eng	1/28/37	2223	Reb. 2 Man	Batavia, N.Y. 1st Baptist Ch.	3/18/38
2207	3 Man	Walford, Eng.	2/ 8/37	2224	R.B.8	Chicago, Ill. Christ Temple Ch.	3/24/38
2208	3 Man	Oldham, Eng.	2/26/37	2225	Reb. 2 Man	Radford Coventry, Eng. Savory Theatre	3/30/38
2209	3 Man	Durban, So. Africa Metro	3/27/37	2226	C-2 Chapel Organ	Bingham, Maine Congregational Church	4/ 9/38
2210	3 Man	Luton, England	4/27/37				
1579	2 Man	Calvary Episcopal Ch. Ashland Ky.	5/14/37				
2211	3 Man	Hastings, Eng.	5/21/37				
1394	Addit.	Loughborough, Eng. Stanford Hall	5/25/37				

* Please turn to page 31

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WURLITZER FACTORY SHIPMENT LIST (Continued from Page 14)

1881	Reb.						
	3 Man	Workington, Eng.	6/17/38	2230	Spec		
2227	Spec.				3 Man	Pittsburgh, Pa. KDKA Studio	9/14/39
	3 Man	Holloway, England	6/20/38	2231	Spec.	Johannesburg, S. Africa	
1732	Spec.	San Francisco, Cal.			4 Man	20th Century	11/27/39
	3 Man	San Francisco Bay Expos.	1/17/39	2044	R-20	Inglewood Paul Paul Filson	1/ 5/40
2227A	Relays	Oakland Cal. Chapel of Chimes	2/14/39		Lodge		
					Organ	Buffalo, Visitation Church	5/ 6/40
2044	R-20	New York Worlds Fair, Winter Wonderland	4/12/39	1066	3 Man	New York, N.Y. Radio Station WNCA	9/16/41
2228	Spec.				Rebuilt		
	3 Man	Blackpool, Eng. Opera House	4/24/39	1336	2 Man	Mexico D.F. (A-3 old R-5)	4/11/42
2229	Adds.	Kingston, Eng. (Granada	8/23/39	1018	3 Man	Buffalo	10/27/43

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