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- One Vacant Seat

Pierre Fracalanza Performs For DTOS Sunday, September 16 3:00 p.m.

Pierre Fracalanza returns to the Senate with an innovative multimedia presentation. With a blend of music from the twenties to Josh Groban and quite a bit in-between, the September 16 audience will be treated to such things as a virtual roller coaster ride and a trip to Hollywood. There are plenty more surprises as Pierre performs duets with himself (but without leaving the Wurlitzer bench).

A Michigan native, Pierre has been entertaining audiences in the Metro Detroit area for over thirty years. Trained by his Dad, the late Professor Romeo Fracalanza (who himself was a concert organist) and educated at the renowned Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, Pierre is at ease whether playing organ, piano or vocalizing. In fact, Pierre does all three at his full-time job, Director of Music at St. James Roman Catholic Church in Novi, a Parish community of approximately 2600 families.

There are countless private parties and special events at which Pierre has entertained. Some of the more notable ones include a luncheon for then First Lady Hillary Clinton, and entertaining for celebrities such as Arlene Dahl and the

late Senator Ted Kennedy. Pierre opened for Carol Channing at the Macomb Center for Performing Arts and entertained nearly all of our nation's Governors at the National Governor's Conference in Traverse City.

Pierre's first began playing the piano and organ at approximately three and half years of age. He was playing in church regularly by the age of twelve and was already an Organist/Music Director at the age of sixteen.

Pierre was a former staff organist of Theatre Organ Pizza and Pipes in Pontiac. As a piano entertainer, he appeared at the Vineyards, the Caucus Club, the Dearborn

Inn, the Ritz Carlton Dearborn, Francesco's and the ultra-luxurious Chez Raphael in Novi where he was house pianist for four years.

Pierre was staff artist and MIDI specialist for Hammell Music for nearly eighteen years and continues to promote pianos for the prestigious Steinway & Sons. His musical talent at the piano has not gone unnoticed by Steinway & Sons as on August 16th of this year, Pierre was named a Steinway Artist, joining the list with such prestigious artists as Duke Ellington, George Gershwin, Sergei Rachmaninoff, Cole Porter, Harry Connick, Jr., and Roger Williams. Congratulations Pierre!



Fr. Andrew Rogers Resigns From Board Seat Dave Calendine, DTOS Board of Directors

We regret to inform the membership that Fr. Andrew Rogers has submitted his resignation from the Board of Directors effective immediately.

With a change in his schedule due to various

obligations, he found that he was unable to regularly attend Board meetings and concerts, and felt that the membership would be best served by someone that could be more active in the organization than his sched-

ule would permit.

We would like to thank Fr. Andrew for his many years of dedication and service to the Detroit Theater Organ Society, and we look forward to his return to the theatre.

Fr. Andrew will still be performing our Christmas concert, so be sure to come and enjoy his artistry at the console during the December concert!



These two "wonderful" things are the original seat ends from the Fisher Theatre. Lights inside the fixture would light up the eyes, nose and mouth. Lights from the mouth also lit the floor for patrons to see walking up and down the isles.
Charming, aren't they?



Rentals And Events Update Michael Fisher, DTOS Board of Directors

A busy fall season is coming our way! We have the Graystone Stompers scheduled to perform at the Senate on October 13th, promising to provide a step back in time to a bygone era of "Roaring Twenties" style music. The fun-filled evening begins at 8 p.m. Grab your favorite flapper and plan on attending this event as a patron or better yet, as a volunteer!

Next up is something completely different. Friday and Saturday, October 19 and 20, we are hosting two evening shows of The Rocky Horror Picture Show movie. The doors will open at 9 p.m. both nights with a preshow at 9:30 p.m. and the movie at 10 p.m. We are expecting a great

turnout for this cult-classic following picture and will need plenty of volunteers. Please support our organization and come volunteer one night or both nights. There are plenty of jobs for all!

Contact me, Michael Fisher to let me know when you are able to come and support the DTOS in these fundraising endeavors to help take care of our great theater and our Grand Old Dame, the Fisher organ.

These events and rentals require lots of help, don't be shy, no matter what your capabilities, YOUR club needs YOUR help! Please call (313) 378-1275 or e-mail me to help. (e-mail on front page.) I look forward to hearing from each of you soon as to what you can

do to personally help make these events a success.

News Flash!
More rentals are heading our way! We have recently secured not one more rental, but two!

Dragon Picture Productions (a local film production company) has booked our theater on Saturday, September 22nd for a variety show event designed to help them raise interests and money for a film premier. This event will be well advertised and the Company plans a large crowd coming our way that evening. Doors will open at 7 p.m. and the variety show starts at 8 p.m.

Then, finally (for now!) this same company, Dragon Pictures, plans to book our theater for the

premiere of their movie called "Act of Vengeance" at the Senate for either the first or second weekend of November. More details to follow shortly!

So folks, it is easy to see that we are heading in the right direction to get the Senate and our organization on the map (once again) as a great venue for all sorts of events! I hope that you share the Committee's enthusiasm as to the potential to make money at such events as they continue to come our way. We can't do this without your help. Please come and be vital to our success in our debuts as a viable multi-use facility in Metro Detroit.

Exciting times ahead! Stay tuned!

DTOS ANNUAL PICNIC GATHERING

Connie Masserant, DTOS Board of Directors

On Sunday August 19th, forty-five DTOS members and friends gathered for our annual Summer Picnic at the home of Glenn Rank and David Voydanoff. The weatherman cooperated fully in providing us with a picture perfect not-too-hot, not-too-cool afternoon.

Hot dogs and Sloppy Joes were provided by our hosts and salads, snacks and desserts were provided by the members in attendance. It gave us a huge choice of foods to pick from.

A special thank you to Joan and Craig Brown who brought and presided

over a great sundae bar, with a large choice of toppings and sprinkles. Thanks again Joan and Craig. You may have started a tradition!

After the meal we were provided entertainment on Dave's 3-manual, ten rank Wurlitzer. Those sharing their musical talents

were Dick Dengate, Gil Francis, Lee Hohner, Paul Jacyk, Paul Kline, Lance Luce, Connie Masserant, Nancy Pennington and Lynn Walls.

A very special thank you from the hosts to Lance Luce for making a good party a great party.



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A Glimps of DTOS' Past From Old Newsletters

Gil Francis, DTOS Board of Directors

[from the editor ... thanks to Gil Francis for "digging up the past" with these bits from past Newsletters!]

• Vol. 6, Feb. 6, 1963
Progress report on Senate Theater Renovation.

Your club is now the legal owner of its future home, the Senate Theater. The deed to the property has been officially registered in the name of the Detroit Theater Organ Club, and work on the renovation of the building is now proceeding as fast as weather conditions and availability of volunteer help permit.

Temporary lighting and power lines have been strung in all areas of the building where work is expected to be done, and 110 volt electrical service has been supplied by Detroit Edison.

To date, most of the work done has consisted of sweeping up and shoveling out several truckloads of trash which had accumulated over the years in the theater. During the cleanup, the stage has been stripped of its lights, cables and ropes, movie screen, curtains and other useless theatrical equipment in preparation for the construction of the four organ chambers. However anything worth saving has been put aside by our sharp-eyed work crew.

The remains of a Steinway Grand is still standing in a corner awaiting removal by one of our club members who claims he can rebuild it.

A new oil burner has been installed in one of the furnaces. As soon as some minor plumbing repairs are completed, the heating system will be put into operation.

Snow accumulation

and extremely cold weather have held up the roof repairs. Until the new roof is installed and the heat is turned on, plastering repairs to the auditorium cannot be started.

Meanwhile, volunteers are needed now for the renovation jobs that can be done immediately. No experience is necessary and all that's required is a willingness to help transform the Senate Theater into the country's finest theater organ home.

All club members who want to be part of this project should call. Better still, put on warm work clothes, boots and gloves, and report for duty at the Senate next Saturday morning or afternoon.

• Vol. 8, Apr 15, 1963.

Work is continuing on the renovation of the Senate Theater, and much progress has taken place since the last report in the DTOC News.

The new auditorium roof is on, although some minor repairs are still to be completed. Bad weather caused some delays in this job.

All structural framing for the organ chambers is now complete, and plastering is underway on the chamber ceilings. This job will be completed before the plasterers move to other parts of the building.

The Detroit Edison Company has provided 3-phase current, and George Aston has roughed in practically all of the permanent wiring.

Doug Gamage has inspected the various motors throughout the building, and some of them have been

cleaned and put into operation.

• Vol. 9, May 15, 1963
Help Wanted! More volunteers are urgently needed now to help move the organ to the Senate Theater. No experience necessary.

If you can disconnect, unscrew, lift, pull, push, or otherwise move miscellaneous organ parts, your help is requested now.

Jobs are immediately available at both the Iris and Senate every weekend and on other designated evenings.

More workers on the job mean that the organ will be playing again much sooner.

• Vol. #10, June 19, 1963

This month finds us out of the Iris Theater and completely moved into our permanent home at the Senate Theater. To all of you who worked so hard at moving the organ and seats, and at the many other tasks at both the Iris and Senate, many grateful thanks.

However our job is far from finished. We must really put our "shoulders to the wheel" throughout the summer installing the organ and readying the theater if our fall opening goal is to be realized. Work sessions will continue on Wednesday evenings and all day every Saturday. So please, all of you, try to donate some time to this important "cause".

• Vol. #11, August 6, 1963.

A Sewing Circle is to be formed to make seat covers for the Senate. "Wurlitzer Widows" who feel left out while their husbands toil at the Senate, may now take an active part in the Club's renovation activities.

The open house is your chance to see the progress

to date and the work which remains to be done on the project before the mighty Fisher/Orbits Wurlitzer plays again. Perhaps you'll discover where your particular talents can be utilized to help get the job done faster.

The present entrance to the Senate is through the alley off Cicotte Avenue at the west side of the theater. The area will be well lighted.

DID YOU KNOW that the Fisher/Orbits Wurlitzer about to be installed in the club's new headquarters is among the eight largest Wurlitzers ever built, and that this 34 rank giant is one of the twelve Largest theater organs of any make. So says organ enthusiast Floyd Bunt, who makes a hobby of collecting such facts.

According to Floyd's statistics, more than 2,200 pipe organs were built by Wurlitzer, of which only about 200 were larger than 10 ranks. The 2/6 and 2/7 were the most popular models.

The seven Wurlitzers which exceeded the Fisher's 34 ranks were the 4/58 in New York's Radio City Music Hall, the 4/36 in the Detroit Fox and its four identical companions, and the 4/35 in the Denver City Auditorium.

Among the theater organs of other makes which were larger than the Fisher Wurlitzer were a 60 rank Robert Morton in Los Angeles, the 56 rank Kimball in the Atlantic City Ballroom, the 42 rank Moller in the Atlanta Fox, and the 62 rank Barton in the Chicago Stadium.

Welcome Paul Jacyk to the Board of Directors

So that our members get to know the Board of Directors more, every once in a while an article will be included in the Newsletter to let you get to know more about them. At a recent Board meeting, President Masserant appointed Paul Jacyk to the Board to fill a vacancy. Paul has sent in the following information so that we might get to know him better. Welcome aboard, Paul!



Introduce Yourself:
Paul Jacyk. I was appointed to the DTOS board a couple months ago to fill a vacancy. Grew up in Toledo. Went to OSU for Chemical Engineering MS degree. Lived in NJ for around fifteen years. Back in Toledo. Currently working for a large non-profit engineering and research company in software development.

Outside interests:
I like all kinds of music, particularly theatre organ (musical and technical). Mainly play organ and piano now. Interested in acoustics of musical instruments, computer music

(notation, audio, MIDI) and virtual organs. Had fun as volunteer "House Organist" at Collingwood Arts Center in Toledo when the organ was there. Played clarinet with many community bands and orchestras. Also enjoy odd looking cactus and other fat succulent plants.

Talents and abilities you can offer to the club:
Established and maintained the Garden State Theatre Organ Society (GSTOS) web site for twelve years. Los Angeles Times

award and complimented by NJ Small Business Institute for organ web site of special interest. For DTOS I set up a Facebook group for greater visibility and public communications. Also content editor for ATOS web site's "Web Journal".

I was VP and Program Chairman with GSTOS for nearly four years. In NJ, worked on organ crews restoring and installing a 4/23 Wonder Morton in Loew's Jersey Theater, a Wurlitzer and a

Kilgen theatre organ. Recipient from ATOS: David Junchen Technical Scholarship, Mentor Program Award and two awards in the ATOS Hobbyist Division (for organ playing).

Name your goals for DTOS in the next year:
For DTOS I am currently Program Committee Chairman and also on the Publicity Committee. Working on plans for an exciting 2013 Senate organ concert series. Lots of variety and some new faces. Thrilling concerts you will not want to miss. I am continuing publicity related efforts on the Internet for DTOS so more people can find out about our great Wurlitzer and shows. It is very important that our audience has the most enjoyable time ever and attendance grows for future success. If you know anyone who might like our organ related shows or other rental shows at the Senate Theater you can help in a major way by simply telling them about it.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Please consider getting the DTOS Newsletter electronically! This will save money from less printing, and the cost of postage. To sign up for electronic delivery, please send an e-mail to Dave Calendine. dave@calendine.net

Renovation Update

Connie Masserant, DTO Board of Directors

We are beginning to see some real progress with the property that was donated to expand our parking lot. To give you an update, the house is now gone and the property has been leveled.



Paperwork, paperwork, paperwork! The next step involves a bit more paperwork. The city has to have its say, but then hopefully we can move forward with stones and a fence. Stay tuned for future

updates.
On another note, I would like to thank Stephen Warner for hanging our Artist's pictures once again for our viewing. This was NOT an easy job as he had to drill into a brick/cement wall to place each hook. Now we can view and enjoy another piece of our history.

Name cards will be placed below each photo and it is hoped that we can rotate addi-



tional pictures that we have on file.

DTOS has received two computers for the office at the theater. Many thanks to Jeff Slabaugh who donated a new computer and a used computer to



be used in the projection room for assisting in printing our CD labels. This frees up our original computer to be designated strictly for our alarm

system.
Thank you Jeff for your many days and many hours at the theater in getting these installed.
With regards to building renovations, I am still looking for people to assist with wall repair and patching. This is your theater to come and enjoy, so please step forward to help in any

Open Console Day Enjoyed At The Fox

Connie Masserant, DTOS Board of Directors

Members from DTOS and MCTOS gathered for an afternoon of touring, music, and fun at the FOX Theater in Detroit. Members had an opportunity to play the Mighty Wurlitzer. Lance Luce made himself available for those who wanted help with registrations.



Gil Francis plays while Lance Luce looks on.

While listening to the music, other members were allowed the privilege of roaming around the lower level and the balcony to compare listening areas as well as view other parts of the theater.

Later, a most welcomed informative tour of the organ was given by Dave Calendine. He started us with a look at the chambers



followed by a visit to the relay room and basement to see where all the action begins - the blower.

Also on the lower lever is the mechanical room of the theatre, where the original vacuum cleaning system is installed. It is a Spencer system, the same make as the organ's large blowers.

Members were very fortunate to be able to take

as many pictures as they desired as long as they were for personal use only. What a rare opportunity.
A Very Special Thank You to Dave Calendine for arranging this event and making it possible for us to be able to not only enjoy the theater, but especially the Mighty Wurlitzer. I believe that everyone hopes that we can make this an annual event.

From the President's Desk

Connie Masserant, President, DTOS Board of Directors

What an exciting August we have had. We are getting closer to extending our parking lot. We had a wonderful club picnic with lots of good food, great music, along with lots of catching up with old friends and new. Thank you to our hosts, David Voydanoff and Glenn Rank. We topped the month off with nothing less than a fabulous visit to the Fox where we could play the Wurlitzer or simply enjoy listening to the music, followed by a tour of the organ. Thank you to Dave Calendine, Lance Luce and others who helped make this a successful event.

Now for the upcoming months. We have a lot of exciting things happening at the theater, the first of

which is Pierre Fracalanza's Concert. He has a wonderful program planned for us - one you won't want to miss. A lot of exciting surprises that will include multimedia and a wide range of different music. This will be a very different program, but one I am sure you will thoroughly enjoy and not soon forget. There will be preconcert entertainment for this event. The group that we have performing at the theater in October (The Graystone Stompers) is giving us a preview of what they have to offer. They will be entertaining in the inner lobby before the concert. They play music from the 20's, 30's, and 40's.

Upcoming events:

- Sunday, September 16

3pm DTOS Concert featuring Pierre Fracalanza

- Saturday September 22, Rental: Fundraiser by Dragon Films - expected between 300-500 guests. The show will be a variety show with several performing acts.
- Saturday, October 13 at 8:00pm—Rental: "Graystone Stompers" perform music from 20's-40's
- Friday & Saturday, October 19 - 20 - Movie Night—10:00pm "Rocky Horror Picture Show" expect 500+ guests
- Sunday, October 21 3pm DTOS concert featuring Stephen

Warner
We are in the process of getting volunteers together. This can not be successful if we don't have enough people come forward to help out. Our needs are ticket sellers, ticket takers, concessions, ushers to help with crowd control, letting people know where to go and where things are located (no assigned seats), and of course clean up, vacuum, pick up trash, sweep floors, dust.

Expect to hear your phone ring to see what you can do to help out your club. We will be building committees for all of these needs.

Until next time, see you at the Senate!

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE REDFORD THEATRE

September 21 & 22—The Sea Hawk

September 28 & 29—Alfred Hitchcock's "The Birds"

October 5 & 6—Three Stooges Festival

October 19 & 20—Halloween Double Feature with
The Bride of Frankenstein & Frankenstein Meets the Wolf Man

October 26—Midnight show—Evil Dead

October 27—8pm—Halloween Silent Movies with Tony O'Brien featuring
The Haunted House & The Cat and Canary

All of these great films are shown Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:00 p.m. as well as Saturday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted)

Organ overtures start thirty minutes prior to each show time.

Sit back and enjoy the movies under the Redford's star-lit sky!

Visit the Redford Theatre on the web at www.redfordtheatre.com

DETROIT THEATER ORGAN SOCIETY

Over 50 Years of Entertainment!

Detroit Theater Organ Society

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.DTOS.ORG

Remaining 2012 Concert Series

September 16—Pierre Fracalanza

October 21—Steven Warner

November 18—Melissa Ambrose-Eidson

December 2—Fr. Andrew Rogers

All concerts are held at the Senate Theatre, located at 6424 Michigan Ave.

Detroit MI 48210-2957

Doors open at 2:00 p.m.,
Concerts start at 3:00 p.m.



photo: Lance Luce



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