

DETROIT THEATER ORGAN SOCIETY

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

Senate Theater • 6424 Michigan Avenue • Detroit, MI 48210

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WHAT'S NEW?

ZACH FRAME IN CONCERT! OCT 20, 2019 3PM.

Zach Frame owes his interest in the theatre pipe organ to his parents, and to a visit to Organ Piper Pizza in Wisconsin when he was 5 years old (in 1992). In addition to performing, Zach is a pipe organ technician and maintains the Organ Piper's Mighty Wurlitzer, he also has his own theatre pipe organ which he is in the process of restoring. Zach has a degree in Recording Technology from McNally Smith College of Music in St. Paul, MN. He and his wife, Emily reside in East Troy, WI, where he is also an active volunteer at the East Troy Railroad Museum



WE'VE COME A LONG WAY FROM THE IRIS THEATER!

The Iris Theater was built in 1916 and stood at 2314 East Grand Boulevard east of Woodward. Initially to have been designed by C. Howard Crane, who submitted an earlier design, the Iris Theatre ended up being done by the firm of Mildner & Eisen, in 1916, instead. The theater sat around 880 and was initially a first run film house. It would later switch to second-run and double features before closing in 1954 due to declining attendance.

After the removal of the Wurlitzer from the Fisher Theater it was installed into the Iris Theater with an initial membership of 61 in 1961. The club rented the theater for three years before they out grew the facility and the rent increased. From 1961 to early 1963, the Detroit Theater Organ Club (DTOC) presented organ concerts for members and guests at the Iris Theatre on the former Fisher Theatre organ. On May 3rd, the club held its last concert at the Iris Theater. Removal began in anticipation of installing the organ in its new home on the west side of the city at the Senate Theater on Michigan avenue. By June of that year the club was completely out of the theater. After the DTOC left, the Iris Theatre stood vacant for a few more years before being torn down.

The lobby of the Iris Theater pictured below.



MEET SOME OF OUR VOLUNTEERS

Lindsay Robillard

Member Lindsay Robillard began volunteering at DTOS film programs in 2017 and became a Playing Members in 2018. She's originally from Milford, Michigan and now lives in Hamtramck with her husband, Ian (also a DTOS Member) and cat, Hoggle. She graduated in 2008 from Michigan State University and spent seven years working at the Arab American National Museum, just down the street from the Senate in Dearborn. She now spends her days as Fund Development Officer at TechTown Detroit and gets her arts and culture fix at the Senate Theater. Lindsay was and is instrumental in us obtaining grants in the past and ongoing. She also chairs the fund-raising committee.



John Shettler

"I have been a fan of classic movies since I was a little kid. AMC and TCM exposed me to the great films of old Hollywood. I'm a bit of a film nerd, with comedies and silent films being my favorite. I first came to the Senate to see the Harold Lloyd silent film, "Safety Last", and I fell in love with the place. It's a real thrill to see the Mighty Wurlitzer in action! I have been a volunteer and playing member for about two years and have made lots of great friends. I'm also a member of the movie selection committee and I put together the movie pre-show programs. It's a real thrill to see people come in for the first time. I enjoy telling visitors the history of the Senate and the DTOS".

Nick Baldwin

Member Nick Baldwin is a husband and father. He works at Nationwide Insurance as a claims investigator by day and transforms to an artist at night. He enjoys painting, taking photos, and loves watching films. He grew up in Toledo, OH and attended Ohio University in Athens, OH where he earned a degree in Creative Writing. He moved to Detroit in 2015. He spent much of his youth coming to the city for various concerts and sporting events. He's an avid Tigers, Pistons, and Lions fan. Nick is a member of our film selection committee and is in his first year as a playing member of the DTOS. He also handles the Senate's various social media accounts as well as obtaining the film rights for our movie series.



Amelia Benavides-Colon

Amelia Benavides-Colon began volunteering at the Senate Theater's film programs in 2017 and became the Senate's Volunteer Coordinator earlier this year. Amelia is our youngest volunteer as she is going into her senior year of high school. She lives in Southwest Detroit with her family and 2 cats, Sam and Jack. Amelia plans starting college next fall to get a degree in Journalism. You will usually find Amelia behind the concessions counter. Sometimes with her mom too.



Ian Gleespen

DTOS playing member, Ian Gleespen is a devoted appreciator of the cinematic arts, a budding organ enthusiast, and an aspiring factotum. He hopes to one day be a jack of all trades. To that end, he has recently begun learning how to weld, and just finished a first draft of a science fiction novel which he illustrated himself. An amateur musician, he enjoys writing and singing original songs, plays guitar and bass, and has performed for audiences numbering in the tens of people. He hails from Chelsea, MI, but currently lives in Hamtramck, MI with his wife, Lindsay Robillard (another playing member), and their elderly cat, Hoggle.



Where have you been?

We haven't seen some of you in a while. We have a great line up through the end of the year and some great silent movies too which are included in your regular and associate memberships. Why not take advantage of such a great value. Remember, you can bring up to 3 guests for the concerts and silent movies. There have been many changes in and around the theater. Stop in for an event, look and say hello to your friends and fellow enthusiast. The organ is the king of instruments so come experience the music!



Let there be light. In the parking lot that is.

Members Chris Dengate, T.J. Casterson and Paul Ovares worked hard over a few weekends to tackle an on-going problem which were the outdated parking lot lights that were in need of replacement. Thanks to their efforts our parking lot shines bright which increases safety and enhances the whole experience for our patrons and members. Thanks guys!



Summer gathering at the Theater.

Members gathered for some great barbeque, fellowship and great music on the Mighty Wurlitzer. Hamburgers and Hot Dogs were provided by DTOS while members showed off their culinary talents with all the side fix in's. We had great weather and a good time was had by all thanks to all the chefs of the DTOS.



All concerts and silent movies are free to all playing and associate members. Members may bring up to three guests. General admission prices are \$5.00 for a standard movie, \$10.00 for a Silent movie and \$15.00 for concerts.

COMING EVENTS



Oct 5	\$5.00	Nightmare at the Senate. "Nightmare before Christmas" 3pm. "Nightmare on Elm street" 8pm.
Oct 12	\$5.00	2pm, 5pm and 8pm "Mise En scene Michigan".
Oct 13	\$5.00	2pm, 5pm and 8pm "Mise En scene Michigan" ..
Oct 20	\$15.00	3pm. Zack Frame Pops concert.
Oct 25	Online	7pm Chelsie Wolfe concert.
Oct 26	\$10.00	8pm "Nosferatu" (Silent). Scott Smith organist
Nov 2	\$5.00	8pm "Blade runner".
Nov 9	\$5.00	8pm "Beyond the Ashes"
Nov 23	\$5.00	8pm "Beyond the Rocks" (Silent). Lance Luce organist
Nov 30	\$5.00	8pm "Modern Times".
Dec 8	\$15.00	3pm Pierre Fracalanza Christmas concert.
Dec 14	\$5.00	6pm "Mickey's Christmas Carol"/"The Grinch who stole Christmas"
Dec 21	\$5.00	8pm "The Miracle on 34 th street".

**WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU. QUESTIONS,
SUGGESTIONS. . . . WE EVEN TAKE REQUESTS!!
OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS ARE HERE TO
SERVE YOU. EMAIL THEM AT**

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