

ATOS Atlanta

Official Newsletter of The Atlanta Chapter of the
American Theatre Organ Society



Did You Know?

Bailey's 81 Theatre: It opened as the Arcade Theatre around 1907-08, later changing to the 81 Theatre. In the early 1920's, Charlie Bailey took control and substantially remodeled the theatre in 1925. As part of the remodeling, a 2/4 Kimball was installed and Graham Jackson was appointed music director and organist. The theatre was demolished in 1964 when the Atlanta Housing Authority sold the property to Georgia State College. The 81 Theatre was the second and largest of the Bailey Theatres chain to open in the Atlanta area. It operated as an African American theatre in the era of segregation.



Marquee and posters of the Bailey's 81 Theatre, 1958.



Graham Jackson playing "Mighty Mo" at the Fox.

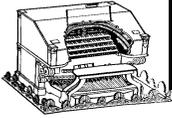


Jackson played the accordion at the train station in Warm Springs when President Roosevelt's casket was being transported to Washington, DC.

Please renew your ATOS Chapter membership if you haven't done so.



Level	Base	Cap
Student	\$17.50	
Basic	\$35.00	
Donor	\$36.00	\$99.00
Contributor	\$100.00	\$199.00
Sponsor	\$200.00	\$299.00
Patron	\$300.00	And up



A Letter from your President



WHAT STRANGE AND CHALLENGING TIMES

The Alabama Theatre badly damaged by looters. The same for the Ohio Theatre in Columbus and countless others caught in this current crossfire of upheaval and unrest. Fortunately for most of these theatres, the damage was what might be called “superficial” in that the vandals did not get inside too many of these buildings to do great harm.

The Fox Theatre was somewhat fortunate in that even those great glassed spaces along Peachtree Street and down Ponce de Leon were generally spared of severe damage.

As if the coronavirus didn’t cause enough disruption in our lives, we now have a level of civil unrest we have not witnessed since the 1960’s.

I hope you are all safe; and healthy; and while disturbed at whatever level all of this might cause, hopefully aware that among the things that can soothe this savage beast of unrest and provide some escape from the news channels and the madness, is.....music.

For us in ACATOS, our escape is with the music of our beloved theatre pipe organ, and even though we are not yet set for a general, “normal” chapter meeting, we can still enjoy the music. Ron Carter has been invited to play an event in Birmingham as those hearty folks at the Alabama Theatre are showing off Big Bertha often.

The Strand Theatre continues to produce its on-line streaming video offerings. I know the Fox officials are in consideration of sponsoring some kind of live-streamed program, details are still being discussed.

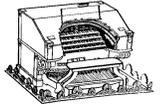
Sunday, June 14th at 2:30, I will be playing a program for the Central Indiana Chapter of ATOS on the Allen LLQ 324 in the home of my friend Tim Needler in Indianapolis, and that will be live-streamed through the chapter’s Facebook page.

(continued on next page)

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ACATOS is recognized as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501.c.3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

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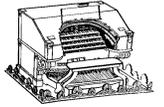


I had a most wonderful email from a gentleman extolling the virtues of Theatre Organ Radio, provided via the ATOS website. That virtual, digital “radio station” playing theatre organ music 24/7 is indeed a wonderful oasis in the midst of all this difficulty.

Someday soon, we will look back and be amazed at how we adjusted, survived, changed, and got back to whatever the “new normal” is going to be. I look forward to celebrating with all of you in person, and hopefully, the sooner the better. Until that time, we do what we have to do and hope for the very best.

Stay healthy. Stay safe. Find whatever manner of “escape” you can find, and we will be in touch again soon.

Ken



Opportunities to Enjoy Organ Music - Online/Facebook Live/You Tube

Ron Carter plays virtual silent film and organ solos at the Alabama Theatre on the fantastic original theatre organ named Bertha, Sunday evening June 14th at 7pm. He will be screening the Buster Keaton silent comedy “**One Week**”.

The Strand continues with its Living Room Sessions of musical presentations by Strand musicians. Saturday June 6th will be the 2nd screening of music from the 1919 Zigfield Follies!! Ron will also be doing another Living Room Sessions on his and Donna's Mighty Allen GW4 TBA.