

Calendar of Coming Events

American Theatre Organ Society

Information Line: 303-466-3330

Holiday Hills Ballroom, 2000 W. 92nd Avenue, Federal Heights, Colorado

The Holiday Hills Ballroom is home to a 4-manual/33 rank digital Wurlitzer Theatre Organ

More information and map at: www.RMCATOS.org

February 13th – (Fri) – Pizza, Salad, Dessert & the silent film “**Phantom of the Opera**”

Brett Valliant from Wichita, Kansas at the digital organ console. 6:30 pm.

St. Andrew Methodist Church, 9203 S. University Boulevard, Highlands Ranch, CO

Tickets \$15 per person, or \$100 for a table of 8. Must be purchased by February 9th!

Tickets online at www.st-andrew-umc.com or today at the information table in the lobby.

April 25th & 26th – (Sat & Sun) – “**Doors Open Denver**”

*Non-stop, live, **Mighty Wurlitzer** theatre pipe organ music plus personal theatre tours. How-a-pipe-organ works demos.*

Come and stay as long or as short as you wish.

Denver Paramount Theatre – Free - public invited

(Times may change based on Paramount availability)

Saturday, April 25th – 10 am to 2 pm

Sunday, April 26th – 10 am to 4 pm

101st Army Band Wind Ensemble

Of the Colorado Army National Guard, a component of the 101st Army Band.

CW2 Russ Massey, Commander.

Information Line: 720-847-8615

Check the web site for additional details

www.101starmyband.com

Rocky Mountain Brassworks

February 13th – (Fri) – “**Love Ya’ Brass**” 7:30 pm @ Broomfield Auditorium

March 15th – (Sun) – “**Celtic Storm**” 2:00 pm @ PACE Center, Parker

March 17th – (Tue) – “**Celtic Storm**” 7:30 pm @ Broomfield Auditorium

April 25th – (Sat) – “**Away We Go**” 7:30 pm @ Skyview High School (Free show)

Check the web site for additional details

www.rockymountainbrassworks.org

*The Rocky Mountain Chapter American Theatre Organ Society
in cooperation with Kroenke Sports Charities*

Present

Pipes & Stripes IX

Featuring the Denver Paramount’s

Mighty Wurlitzer

Twin Console Theatre Pipe Organ

with Bob Castle, Jim Calm & Randy Morris at the consoles

plus an all brass band under the direction of Doug Harris

The Rocky Mountain Brassworks

and introducing Sgt. Sean Hedding conducting

The 101st Army Band Wind Ensemble

with special guests

The Flatirons Young Marines Corps Color Guard

Denver’s Historic Paramount Theatre

Glenarm & 16th Street Mall

Sunday, January 25, 2015, 2 pm

www.fiymc.com

www.RMCATOS.org

www.101starmyband.com

www.paramountdenver.com

www.rockymountainbrassworks.org

The Paramount's Mighty Wurlitzer

by Bob Castle

The Paramount Theatre was built for showing films. Theatre organs were invented to accompany silent film. The Mighty Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ you will be hearing today is the original instrument featured in the theatre's grand opening on August 29th, 1930.

In the early days of motion picture studios, each studio owned and operated their own theatres as outlets for their motion pictures. Thus, Paramount owned and operated "Paramount Publix" theatres. The Rudolph Wurlitzer Manufacturing Company of North Tonawanda, New York, would often specify that a certain instrument would carry the nomenclature for a specific motion picture outlet.

The Denver Paramount has a "Publix One" (4/21) instrument: Four keyboards (called manuals) and 21 sets of pipes (called ranks) located one- and two-stories above the audience, either side of the theatre, behind the black drapes.

Since an organ pipe always plays at the same volume, heavy wood shutters separate the pipe chambers from the auditorium and they are opened and closed by a pedal shoe on the console. This is one way the organist has to control the organ's volume of sound. The other method is by how many sets of pipes are selected to be used at any given time. The lights in the pipe chambers have been turned on so you may watch the shutters in action.

In addition to pipes, a theatre organ also has tuned percussions – a chrysoglott (like an orchestral celeste) and an upright piano are housed in the Paramount's main (left) chamber. A marimba harp, two xylophones, chimes, glockenspiel and tuned sleigh bells are all in the solo (right) chamber. There are also drums, cymbals, triangle, klaxon horn, fire gong, castanets and two bird whistles All needed for silent film sound effects!

There are two consoles. The one on the left is the main console with all of the organ's controls. The slave console, on the right plays only the pipes the main (master) console has selected. Thus both consoles access and play the same 21 sets of pipes. The only other theatre in the US with original Wurlitzer twin consoles is Radio City Music Hall in New York City.

The characteristic sound of a theatre organ comes from pipes called "Tibia Clausa." The Paramount organ has two sets (or ranks) of Tibias, one in each chamber.

CD's and DVD's featuring the Denver Paramount's Mighty Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ are available for purchase at the information table in the lobby.

CD's of the Rocky Mountain Brassworks may also be purchased in the lobby.

Get RMCATOS membership information, newsletter copies and your questions answered at the lobby information table.

Rocky Mountain Brassworks Personnel

Under the direction of: **Doug Harris**

Eb Soprano Cornet

Bill Fee

Cornet

Ned Avery

Denise Clark

Mike Endicott

Mike Lusby

Larry Miller

Chuck Meisner

Mike White

Scott Williams

Jim Yarrington

Repiano Cornet

Terry Crummel

Flugelhorn

Ben Foss

Tenor Horn

Karen Giesecker

Tim Park

Lonnie Prather

Mattie Sweeden

Geoff Tyndall

Baritone

Alison Albright

Jim Saunders

Richard Todd

Trombone

Ron Argotsinger

Carl Cate

John Hupp

Bass Trombone

Curtis Edfast

Mike Snodgrass

Euphonium

Rick Hatfield

Steve Vaughn

Eb Tuba

Stephen Bollinger

Chuck Hoffman

Bb Tuba

John Orthel

Pamala Rust

Percussion

John Reed

Rob Tate

Ted Worth

101st Army Band Wind Ensemble Personnel

Under the direction of: **SSG Sean Hedding**

Flute

SGT Carly Jones

SFC Crystal Niedzwiadek

Trumpet

SPC James DeMarco

CW2 Russ Massey

Clarinet

SSG Alisa Anderson

SPC Brian Hopwood

Trombone

SSG Brian Ernster

SGT Doug Savage

SGT Michael Woodward

Saxophone

1SG Andrea Ojala

SPC Joseph Young

Tuba

SSG Tom Seidl

Percussion

SSG Shelley Stewart

Mighty Wurlitzer Organists

Bob Castle – Denver Paramount Theatre House Organist since 1947. Has played theatre organ at Boulder's Chautauqua, Louisville Three Coins Restaurant, Holiday Hills Ballroom, City Auditorium and Colorado College in Colorado Springs.

Jim Calm – A retired Jeffco Music Teacher, church organist, Dixieland band member & free lance tuba player. Has played theatre organ at Denver's Organ Grinder Pizza, Paramount Theatre, Holiday Hills Ballroom, City Auditorium and the Organ Gym in Colorado Springs.

Randy Morris – Started playing organ at the age of 4. Organ major in college. Has played classical and theatre organ concerts coast to coast and in Europe and Japan. Church and theatre organist employment in Indiana, Ohio and Colorado.