

## Calendar of Coming Events

### **American Theatre Organ Society**

Information Line: 303-466-3330

Monthly RMCATOS club socials are held at the Holiday Hills Ballroom, 2000 W. 92<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Federal Heights.

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

More information and map at: [www.RMCATOS.org](http://www.RMCATOS.org)

**March 10<sup>th</sup>** – (Sun) – **“Tribute to Ole Blue Eyes”** 2 pm

An enjoyable afternoon with songs and memories of Frank Sinatra

Everyone welcome. No charge.

*Would you like to become a RMCATOS member?*

*Annual dues, January to December, are \$15 per household.*

*All members love music: 95% of them are NOT organists!*

*Membership details are on the website: [ww.RMCATOS.org](http://ww.RMCATOS.org)*

**DON'T READ BELOW**

**UNTIL AFTER SEEING THE FILM**

**Being pulled up on a rope** to the top of the mast was filmed jumping down from the mast then projecting that shoot backwards in the final print.

**The view of the ships** from a distance were all small ship models.

**Sliding down the sails** using just a knife was filmed with the sails not vertical, but on a slope using airplane propellers behind the sail generating enough wind to provide support.

The rip in the sail was pre-cut and the knife descent had Fairbank's motion controlled by his being attached to wires and pulleys providing the constant downward speed.

**Douglas Fairbanks was married** to Mary Pickford who would not allow Doug to kiss any other woman. In the final kiss scene the face of the princess is not seen.

It is Mary wearing the princess costume!

*The Rocky Mountain Chapter  
American Theatre Organ Society and  
the Lakewood Cultural Center*

**Present**

# **The Black Pirate**

**A 1926 Silent Film starring**

**Douglas Fairbanks**

**With**

**Theatre Organ Accompaniment**

**by**

**Jim Calm**

**At the console of the  
STR-4 Digital Theatre Organ,**

**Lakewood Cultural Center**

470 South Allison Parkway

Lakewood, Colorado

**Sunday, February 24, 2019, 2 pm**

[www.RMCATOS.org](http://www.RMCATOS.org)

[www.Lakewood.org/CulturalCenter](http://www.Lakewood.org/CulturalCenter)

## About the Silent Film “The Black Pirate”

*The Black Pirate* silent film was premiered in NYC in March 1926.

*“Douglas Fairbanks plays a vengeful nobleman who disguises himself as a pirate in order to take down bad guys and save a princess. It’s Swashbuckling 101 stuff but Fairbanks has a secret weapon: Technicolor!”*

A fan of pirates since his youth, Fairbanks, himself, wrote the story for the film under the name of Elton Thomas. It has all things pirate: Peg legs, parrots on shoulder, pirate bandanas, cutlasses, pistols, duels, walking the plank, wooden ships, iron men and a princess to rescue ..... however, Fairbanks is quoted as saying “I simply can’t have pirates without color!”

Technicolor was in its development stages and very expensive so it had been used for a few short films, single scenes in black and white major films, and just two complete major films prior to *The Black Pirate*.

The two color process used a camera that created two images on the same strip of film. One image beamed through a green filter and the other through a red filter. The master print was processed into two half-thickness separate prints that were then glued together to produce the final result. For interior and exterior filming, Technicolor required two different sets of costumes and makeup due to the difference in the light sources.

Three cameras were used simultaneously, all hand cranked: 1) Technicolor, 2) Black and White in case the Technicolor was a disaster, and 3) for an export print.

Fairbanks did all his own stunts. The entire movie was shot in nine weeks. Of course, there were no computer graphics or green screen shots, but there were some early photographic tricks that were used. Want to know more?

(See: DON’T READ UNTIL AFTER THE FILM on page 4.)

## About the Artist

**Jim Calm** is a retired Jeffco music teacher who loves performing music, collecting classic cars and spending time with his family and friends. Jim and wife Rita are longtime Lakewood residents and proud grandparents. Their two children attended Jeffco schools and graduated from Lakewood HS.

Jim played theatre organ at Denver’s Organ Grinder pizza parlor, tuba with the Queen City Jazz Band and Ragtime piano in Central City and Shakey’s Pizza Parlor. He keeps busy playing tuba with the Mile High Banjo Society, piano in retirement homes and theatre organ at the Denver Paramount, Lakewood Cultural Center, Holiday Hills ballroom and in Colorado Springs.

Jim has a Bachelor of Music Education degree from CU Boulder, a Master of Education degree from Lesley University and is Music Director at Arvada Presbyterian Church. Jim is a past President of the Rocky Mountain Chapter American Theatre Organ Society.

**After the show** you are invited to come on stage to meet the artist, inspect the organ console, and ask questions.

## About the Strony Digital Theatre & Classical Organ

Instead of pipes, the digital STR-4 organ uses ranks of pipe samples which are digital recordings of actual pipe sounds. (A rank is a set of pipes that all play the same type of sound .. like flute, diapason, tibia, etc.) The Strony instrument has 32 theatre ranks and 49 classical ranks. A switch determines if the colored stop tabs on the console control the theatre or classical sounds.

The organ’s pipe and other sounds play through 20 speaker cabinets distributed among three chambers housing a total of 36 speakers and 8 passive radiators.