

The Windline

May 2023



*Susquehanna Valley Theatre
Organ Society*

www.svtos.org

DONNIE RANKIN SHOWCASE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**MONDAY MAY 22ND, 7:00 PM
CAPITOL THEATRE, YORK, PA**



DONNIE RANKIN was born in Ravenna Ohio and was immediately immersed in music. After hearing his great-grandfather Don Sr. play the electronic organ at home, Donnie first took an interest in the theatre organ at the age of three when he heard the sounds of the Wurlitzer at the Civic Theatre in Akron, Ohio.

After building a musical foundation in the school band, at age 12 Donnie's family acquired their own organ and he began taking formal lessons. Classical piano training followed at age 16, and his budding talent quickly blossomed into first rate musicianship.

Since then, Donnie has won several competitions and awards, including being named the Overall Winner of the American Theatre Organ Society's Young Theatre Organist Competition when he was 18. After his win in 2007, Donnie began a 5 year journey studying with noted organist Jelani Eddington.

In the course of his career, Donnie has performed for several ATOS annual conventions, and has played for theatre organ audiences around the world, including appearances in Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. In addition to performances, Donnie has presented playing clinics as part of the ATOS Summer Youth Adventure and at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. His work as an organist and percussionist have been broadcast on countless stations including NPR, and BBC 2.

Donnie resides in Ravenna, Ohio where he runs a piano studio outside of his normal working hours. He remains on call as an organist at Cleveland's Playhouse Square, and the Akron Civic Theatre.

SVTOS is a 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to the preservation and presentation of Theatre Pipe Organs. Proudly supporting the Mighty Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ in the Capitol Theatre in York, PA.

The last week of April Ed Horvath and I had the wonderful chance to visit with Simon Gledhill for concerts in Rochester, NY (Rochester Theatre Organ Society) and Groton, MA (Shanklin Music Hall) as well as a practice session in Elmira, NY (The Clemens Center). Prior to that week, we spent a week in Florida for my 65th High School Reunion. A wonderful chance to see old friends. Here's hoping everyone is getting a chance to do spring travel and visiting, now that "ugly" weather is gone. I want to give a big thank you to our members who provided music for last month's Members' Showcase. We had a good time listening to each player's music and a movie music quiz as well. (See group photo at left)

This month we will have a visit with Donnie Rankin when he presents his style of theatre organ playing to the SVTOS at the Capitol Theatre. (Details on Page 1 of this "Windline".) In case you don't remember, Donnie was to be the artist at last summer's picnic, but due to COVID-19 we had to ask Ken Double to substitute. The plan was to have him visit OPUS 501 this spring, however, Barry and Larry asked to reschedule the event to the Capitol due to Barry's surgery (editor's note: Barry's doing fine). So, don't forget Monday evening May 22nd, 7 PM for our next meeting. The program will be proceeded with a short annual membership meeting as defined in the SVTOS By-Laws.

For our June 12th evening meeting, we will have Luke Stasiunas as the guest organist at the Capitol. Also be sure to save Saturday afternoon, July 29th to attend the SVTOS Picnic with Brett Miller providing music on the Walker 3/51 at the residence of Richard Neidich and Edward Horvath. Brett has promised to provide some of his orchestral score material as part of the program. For those interested, Brett will be providing the Monday noon-time concerts this summer at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City.

Several of us will be traveling to the Chicago area in July to attend the ATOS Convention. I will plan on a photo review in the fall. A number of instruments not presented before are on the agenda as well as a Young Organist Competition, not held since 2019.

See everyone at the Capitol on Monday, May 22nd.

Richard Neidich, President SVTOS



L to R: Bill Autry, Bob Carbaugh, Don Schoeps, Gary Collier, Roy Wainwright, and Frank Vanaman

SVTOS OFFICERS

Richard Neidich - President 202-302-6320
Barry Howard - Vice President 717-274-2254
Roy Wainwright - Secretary, Treasurer, and Webmaster 717-619-7243

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Larry Fenner – "Windline" Editor & Membership
Ed Horvath - Hospitality
Bill Autry, Gary Collier, Sam Groh, Don Kinnier, Ken Kline, Terry Nace, Don Schoeps, and Judy Townsend

SVTOS 2022-2023 SEASON

Monday May 22nd* 7:00 PM NOTE CHANGES	Donnie Rankin Showcase, Capitol Theatre, York PA (NOTE DATE/TIME/ VENUE CHANGE—Details on Page 1). Preceded by short Annual Membership Meeting
Monday June 12th 7:00 PM	Luke Stasiunas Showcase, Capitol Theatre, York, PA
Saturday, July 29th* Time TBD	Summer 2023 “Picnic” Brett Miller piano and organ program at the home of Richard Neidich and Edward Horvath featuring movie themes and orchestral sounds.
<i>* Indicates meetings NOT held on the usual second Monday of the month <u>and/or</u> at a different time or location</i>	

“SVTOS Plays For The Movies”

Hear these SVTOS members play the Wurlitzer 30 minutes before listed times at the Capitol Theatre.

Consult the Capitol Theatre Website ([Click here](#)) for the film being shown, details, and admission prices.

- Friday, June 2 @ 6:30 PM - *Wallace & Grommit* - Gary Coller (FREE)

NOTE: During May and June, additional films will likely not be shown due to competing events at the Strand Theatre. There will also be a period of time during the summer when the Capitol will be closed to the public as the HVAC system and the front doors are replaced, which is currently expected to be July 27 - August 31.



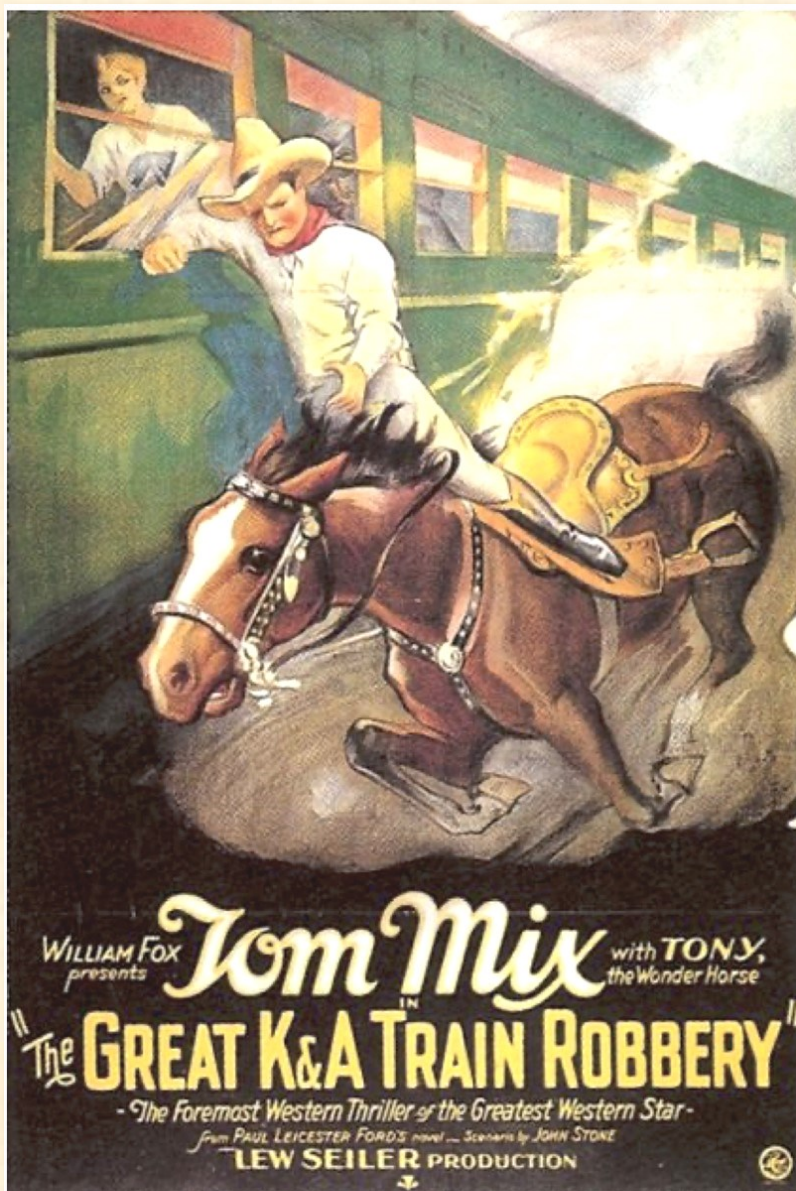
COMING ATTRACTIONS

July 2-7 ATOS Annual Convention 2023

The Chicago Area Chapter sponsors the ATOS 2023 Annual Convention featuring ten different artists playing seven different organs. See www.atos.org/convention and/or www.catoe2023.org for details.

Click on the underlined links to find additional information, including location and cost, for these events.





Silent Movie Night

Friday, May 12, 2023 at 8:30 pm

at

Bergstrasse Lutheran Church

9 Hahnstown Road. Ephrata,

PA

Join, Theatre Organist,

Don Kinnier

as he accompanies
Legendary Western Star

TOM MIX

in a thrilling evening of
cinematic adventure!

Admission is Free -- Doors Open at 7 pm

ALL ARE WELCOME

