

# The Organ Spiel

NEWSLETTER FOR THE SIERRA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

SILENT MOVIE FROM 1927



FEB - MAR - APRIL, 2014

*The King of Kings* is the Greatest Story Ever Told as only Cecil B. DeMille could tell it. In 1927, working with one of the biggest budgets in Hollywood history, DeMille spun the life and Passion of Christ into a silent-era blockbuster. Featuring text drawn directly from the Bible, a cast of thousands, and the great showman's singular cinematic bag of tricks, *The King of Kings* is at once spectacular and deeply reverent—part Gospel, part Technicolor epic.

Beginning with the redemption of Mary Magdalene, the

film presents selected dramatic episodes from the life of Jesus, the first part dealing with the events of His ministry--notably the casting out of the seven deadly sins from Mary Magdalene, the raising of Lazarus, the driving of the money-changers from the temple, and instruction of the Lord's Prayer. The second half deals with the Passion: The Last Supper, the betrayal of Jesus by Judas, the trial before Pilate, the bearing of the Cross to Calvary, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection, and the Ascension.

## King of Kings 1927

GUEST ARTIST  
WALT STRONY



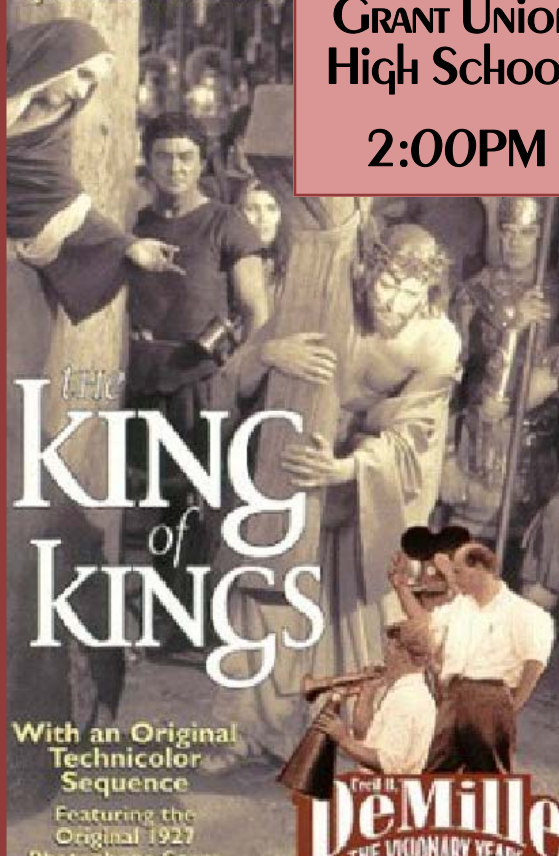
DO NOT MISS

Sunday,  
April 13

GRANT UNION  
High School

2:00PM

The Greatest Biblical  
Epic of the Silent Era



### Walter Strony is

one of America's premier concert organists. He made his public debut in 1974 at the age of 18 and has since established himself as one of few organists equally at home playing both theatre and classical organ.

Mr. Strony has performed hundreds of concerts from coast to coast in the United States as well as in Japan, Australia, England, and Canada. In addition, he has performed at many conventions of the American Theatre Organ Society and the American Guild of Organists.

He is the only living organist to have been twice voted "Organist of the Year" by the American Theatre Organ Society - in 1991 and 1993. In 2011, he was inducted into the ATOS "Hall of Fame" - the youngest person currently in it. He has performed with the Calgary Symphony; Allentown Symphony; El Paso Symphony; and Symphony Silicon Valley.

Being one of America's most sought after concert organists, Walt is well known for his work as a pipe and digital organ consultant-tonal finisher. His work in this area has taken

him to both theatre and classical instruments across the country and around the world. In 2008, the Allen Organ Company commissioned him to design a new four-manual instrument - the *Walt Strony Signature Series Organ*.

Walt lives in California's Gold Rush Country, located in the Sierra Nevada foothills. In his spare time, he enjoys fine dining, traveling and collecting contemporary art and Art Deco items.

This well-rounded musician brings a wealth of experience to any organ console. This experience has brought him the reputation of being one of America's most original and interesting sounding concert organists. As one reviewer noted - "Strony has become one of the rare breed of today's younger theatre organists to have developed a style uniquely his own. While looking backwards, respectfully to the masters of the theatre organ tradition, he manages to look forward with a refreshing approach in all his musical arrangements. It is a style that is inventive, harmonically interesting, and above all, right for today."

# Cameron Carpenter tickets still available at the Mondavi

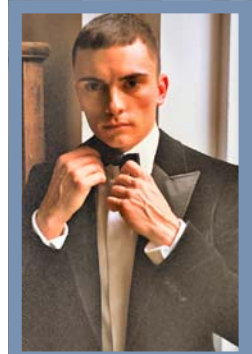
Sierra Chapter member **Wendell Jacob** is sponsoring the upcoming performance of

**Cameron Carpenter on April 2, 2014 at 8:00PM**

**On his Rodgers Touring Organ**

**Phone the Mondavi at (530) 754-4448**

*“No other musician of Carpenter’s generation has more adeptly fused shrewd showmanship, dazzling technique and profound thinking about his instrument and his place in the musical cosmos.” — San Francisco Chronicle*



# Aussies to perform at Berkeley Community Theatre - March 30, 2:30PM

This month get **two artists for the price of one**, with two superb performers from Australia who have a great, but slightly different approach to concertizing. This is a concert that all will enjoy.

**Scott Harrison , Organist**



**Scott Harrison**, playing the BCT Wurlitzer, last appeared here with **Mark Page**, at the piano, in 2009. **Scott** began performing Theatre Organs as the City Organist in Moorabbin (now Kingston), and later presided over TOSA’s beautiful 3/15 Dendy Wurlitzer (both are Australian venues). He has performed all over Australia, New Zealand, England and the United States.

**Mark** is actually a dental officer in the Royal Australian Navy, who has not limited his interest to piano, but also studied classical guitar and plays the bagpipes with the *Australia Highlanders Pipe Band*.

Since Scott met Mark around 2006 the two “Aussies” have concertized together and are now a well known organ-piano duet that is especially popular here in the US. Together the interplay of the organ and piano is quite effective in their hands. Both artists will play solo numbers as well as several duets.



**Mark Page , Piano & Piper**

Berkley Community Theatre is now ADA compliant, but not yet officially open to the public for NorCal events.

You will still need to enter via the Stage Door. Identify yourself as a Sierra Chapter member and you will be admitted (after paying admission) as a guest of NorCal.

**Chapter Officers**

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# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE—Randy Warwick



Happy spring to everyone! With Cameron Carpenter at Mondavi Center in Davis, Walt Strony playing *The King of Kings* Silent Movie at Grant High, and Mark Herman at Rio Vista, we have six weeks that include some wonderful organ music from three of the best organists anywhere.

Part of what we can all do to keep artists like these three presenting concerts in our area is, of course, to attend the events. Another part, since three of our Chapter members have involvement in all three of these events (member **Wendell Jacob** is underwriting the Cameron Carpenter concert), is to make a concerted attempt to recruit new members to our

Chapter. I am not saying that we only look for artists, pipe organ owners, or underwriters; however, the strength for our Chapter to do more comes from numbers. Every new member can contribute something even if it is only contributing annual dues and attending an event or two every year, but maybe we can do more than that. For example, let's find friends who may have an interest in this music and get them into our Chapter.

On Saturday, March 22, a good number of us turned out for the "Fair Oaks Parks Day." This volunteer effort will help to strengthen our relationship with the Fair Oaks Park District, owners of our club organ building. I thank all of those who were there, and that row of pine trees looked much better after we were done with them!



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome New Member:  
**Gilbert Solorio**

### Renewing at the Benefactor Level:

- Terry & Sherry Clifton**
- Jan Hunter**
- Wendell Jacob**
- Troy Killorn**
- Charles Metcalf**
- Don Walk**
- Bob Wilcox**



### Renewing at the Sustaining Level:

- Jeanne Paquette-French**
- Joan & Gary Grootveld**
- Steve Restivo**

### Renewing at the Contributing Level:

- Mitch & Ardith Cnota**
- Bob Suffel**



## ATOS SUMMER YOUTH ADVENTURE FUNDRAISER



The ATOS Summer Youth Adventure is an annual program sponsored by ATOS to support young artists. This year it will be held in Portland, Oregon, with a faculty that includes **Jonas Nordwall**, **Donna Parker**, **Jelani Eddington**, **Martin Ellis**, and visiting instructor **Chris Elliott**.

The students receive discussions, private coaching, master classes, and plenty of "hands-on" time at instruments in the Portland area including **Cleveland High School** (3/24 Kimball), **First United Methodist Church** (4/107 Classical/Theatre), **Scottish Rite Temple** (1/8 Wurlitzer and 3/16 Wurlitzer), **Bill Keller Residence** (Allen TO-5) **St Columbian Parish Hall** (3/10 Robert Morton) and the **Hollywood Theatre** (3/21 VTPO).

**Sierra Chapter will match donations up to a total of \$500 in support of this event.** Your support will go to a fund that provides scholarship assistance to attendees.

**To donate:** mail a check to

**Sierra Chapter ATOS - P.O. Box 2017 - Fair Oaks, CA 95628**

Write "Scholarship Fund" in the memo section. All donations are tax deductible.

**Deadline for this matching gift program is May 31, 2014.**

Sierra Chapter and ATOS thank you for your support.

**2014 Sierra Chapter Directories** are about to be printed.

**We need any snail mail address or e-mail updates by March 31. Contact Terry Clifton for updates.**

You will be able to pickup your new directory at the ticket window at Grant Union on April 13.



P.O. Box 2017  
 Fair Oaks, California 95628  
 (916) 604-6173

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

YouTube [youtube.com/SierraChapterATOS](https://www.youtube.com/SierraChapterATOS)

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Facebook [Sierra-Chapter-ATOS](https://www.facebook.com/Sierra-Chapter-ATOS)

First Class

Postage

Stamp

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR EVENTS

### SIERRA CHAPTER/ GRANT ALUMNI EVENT

Grant Union High School  
 1400 Grand Ave  
 Sacramento, CA

**Sunday, April 13**

**2:00PM**

Silent Movie

*King of Kings*  
 1927

Artist:

**Walt Strony**

**\$10 Members**

**\$12 General**

**Students Free**



### NORCAL EVENT

Berkeley Community Theatre  
 1930 Allston Way  
 Enter via Stage Door

**Sunday, March 30th**  
**2:30PM**

Two  
 Aussies



Artists:

Scott Harrison & Mark Page

**\$15 Admission for Sierra  
 Chapter Members as  
 Guests of NorCal**

### STOCKTON FOX EVENT

242 East Main Street  
 (Bob Hope Theatre)

Classic Movie  
**Friday, April 18**

Preshow concert 6:30PM

*West Side Story*

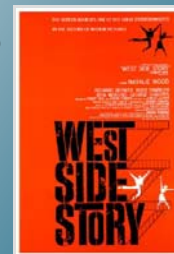
Artist:

**Dave Moreno**

On the

**Mighty  
 Morton**

**\$8/Adults**



The Chapter was organized in 1968 as a not-for-profit corporation under the statutes of the State of California and is recognized as tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and Section 23701d of the California Revenue and Taxation Code. It was organized for the purpose of preservation and promotion of the Theatre Pipe Organ and its music. Membership in the local Chapter also encourages membership in the National Organization, American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS.) [www.atos.org](http://www.atos.org)