



# Vox Wurlitzer

Volume 1 Number 2

Summer 2006

## Silent Film Event With Ken Double Friday, Sept. 1, 8 p.m.

Ken Double will be at the Wurlitzer at 8 p.m. Friday, September 1, at the Long Center for a special night of silent films sponsored by the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism and the North American Victorian Studies Association. The program will feature the 1910 "Frankenstein" and the 1922 "Nosferatu."

LCTOS has included this special event as the opening for our 2006-2007 season and has purchased a special block of tickets for our theatre organ society following.

Individual tickets for the Sept. 1 event are available at \$10 each for adults and \$5 for students by writing to LCTOS, P.O. Box 177, Lafayette, IN 47902-0177, or at the Long Center.

Note: If you purchase your tickets at the Long Center, be sure to identify yourself as part of the theatre organ society so your tickets come from the block we have purchased for your use.

### **For Information . . .**

Web site: [www.lctos.org](http://www.lctos.org)

Long Center Web site:

[www.longcentertheater.com](http://www.longcentertheater.com)

Long Center phone: (765) 742-5664

Nancy Burton: (765) 426-3718

Mail: P.O. Box 177, Lafayette IN 47902-0177

## Special Free Children's Program

## Disney Theatre Organist Oct. 20

Rob Richards, house organist for Disney's historic El Capitan theatre in Hollywood, brings his magic to the Mighty Wurlitzer and the Long Center Friday evening, Oct. 20. The 7:30 p.m. concert will feature the man who was named "organist of the year" by the American Theatre Organ Society in 2005.

Among the highlights of Richards' career are the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary Mary Poppins Re-premiere, with Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke; a concert appearance with Liberace; playing the famous Radio City Music Hall organ; two years as guest organist at the Ohio Theatre in Columbus; six international concert tours including England, Australia and Japan, and designing his own five-manual digital theatre organ.

A composer and arranger, he released his first recorded collection of original music in 1993. Richards is passionately committed to arts programming for young people and is well known for his concerts introducing children to the theatre organ. A special afternoon concert for youngsters in the Greater Lafayette area will precede his regular evening concert on Oct. 20.



## Youngsters Get Lessons on the Mighty Wurlitzer!

Four young piano and organ students in Greater Lafayette got a chance for some hands-on playing at the Mighty Wurlitzer in June. Ken Double came in early and spent an afternoon with the four young people, explaining the history of the organ, the mechanics, and then giving the four young people a chance to play. Each of the four participants received an "official" "I Played the Mighty Wurlitzer" certificate. **From left** are Candace Murphy, Micah Murphy, Ken Double, Ashley Chew, and Ben McCartney. Ben has since become the youngest member of LCTOS! Congratulations, kids!!!



# Meet Your New Board . . .



Ken Double



Nancy Burton



Jay Mermoud



Robert Mertz



Joe Bumbleburg



Bill Farner



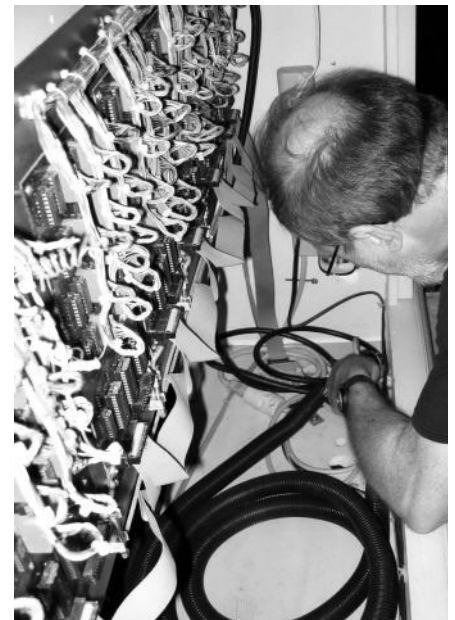
Paul VanCleaf

*LCTOS board members elected at the Annual Meeting in June are, from left, Ken Double, president; Nancy Burton, vice president; Jay Mermoud, secretary; Robert Mertz, treasurer; and Joe Bumbleburg, Bill Farner, and Paul VanCleaf, directors-at-large.*

## LCTOS Accomplishments 2005-2006

The 2005-2006 year has been a very good one for LCTOS.

- ★We launched *Vox Wurlitzer*, a newsletter to be published at least twice a year.
  - ★We scheduled a full 4-concert season for 2006-2007.
  - ★We now have a working web site: [www.lctos.org](http://www.lctos.org).
  - ★We had our first young musician's clinic and plan a repeat in June next year.
  - ★Our tibia chests have been repaired, thanks to SIA and their generous grant.
  - ★You have a new and energetic board with lots of ideas.
  - ★We have a new database to track and record memberships, gifts, and ticket sales.
  - ★We have a membership of a little more than 100 as we near the end of this fiscal year. *(Have you renewed your membership yet?)*
- With your continuing support and assistance, 2006-2007 will be an even better year!



**INSIDE the Mighty Wurlitzer** . . . ever wonder what the inside back of the console looks like? Above, Dan Becker, our technician, connects all the wires and tubes to ready the organ for playing.

**ROBERTA Deagan**, photo on left, presents a post-concert bouquet to Ken after his June performance.

*Concert Photos by Shirley Sereque*



**STATE REPRESENTATIVE** Sheila Klinker presents Ken Double with an Indiana flag that flew over the Statehouse in recognition of his many contributions to music culture in Indiana, one of many accolades given during Ken's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert at the Long Center.

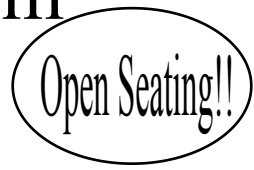


**TIM NEEDLER**, left, a life member of the Long Center Theatre Organ Society and long-time active member of the Central Indiana Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society, recently gave a mini-concert on the Grand Barton theatre organ at the Warren Center for Performing Arts in Indianapolis.

# Ticket Order/Membership Form

## ★ Ticket Orders

**Season Tickets** No. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$40.00 each TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(includes all 4 performances listed below)*



### Individual Event Tickets

Silent Film Sept. 1, 2006	No. _____	@ \$10 each <i>(stdts. \$5)</i>	\$ _____
Rob Richards Oct. 20, 2006	No. _____	@ \$12.50 each	\$ _____
Jelani Eddington Mar. 31, 2007	No. _____	@ \$12.50 each	\$ _____
Ken Double June 16, 2007	No. _____	@ \$12.50 each	\$ _____

*Note: Student tickets are \$7.50 each for Oct., Mar., June events.*

**NOTE: Long Center Theatre Organ Society** is incorporated under the laws of Indiana and is certified by the IRS as a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization. Within IRS guidelines, your gifts may be tax deductible if you itemize your tax returns.

If you are employed by or retired from a "matching gift" company, your gift may qualify for a company match. Check with your employer's personnel office for information about the matching gift program.

Checks should be made payable to **Long Center Theatre Organ Society**.

## ★ Membership

___ General Membership	\$25	\$ _____
___ In Tune Membership	\$100	\$ _____
___ Key Contributor	\$250	\$ _____
___ Pipes Partner	\$500	\$ _____
___ Life Membership	\$1,000	\$ _____
___ Other		\$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED:		\$ _____

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Notes/Comments/Corrections** \_\_\_\_\_

*Mail checks to: LCTOS, P.O. Box 177, Lafayette, Indiana 47902-0177  
 Make checks payable to Long Center Theatre Organ Society*

## June Event a Smashing Success!

# 450+ Turn out for Double Concert

Ken Double's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary trip to Lafayette in June turned out to be an extraordinary one. His Saturday night concert was interrupted three times with special recognition of his long years of dedication to musical arts in Lafayette. He was cited with a plaque by the City of Lafayette, and State Representative Sheila Klinker read a proclamation from the State Legislature thanking him for his musical contributions and presented him with an Indiana State Flag that had flown over the State House. At the end of the program, Roberta Deagan, widow of LCTOS founder Ernie Deagan, presented a bouquet of flowers in appreciation from LCTOS and Double's many friends. Additionally, the City of West Lafayette issued a proclamation honoring him earlier in the week.

With typical humor, Double said at one point, "I may have to rent a van to haul all this stuff home!" On a more serious note, he added "The surprises, the commendations and the awards are all wonderful, and I am most grateful. The honors pay tribute as well to those who also made the organ series successful all these years. The late Carroll Copeland and Ernie Deagan, along with LCTOS officers and board members like Paul Van Cleef, Bill Farner and Pam Craig-Wilson...all these people also worked hard to create our years-long success, and these awards are a tribute to their efforts."

Double closed his program with an emotional rendition of "Back Home Again in Indiana," which brought him a standing ovation.

The concert attendance was more than double that of last year's June concert for Ken and signals the beginning of a strong upswing in attendance and interest in the theatre organ concerts at Long Center.



Long Center Theatre Organ Society  
P.O. Box 177  
Lafayette IN 47902-0177

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 400  
Lafayette, Indiana

# What Makes a Theatre Organ a Theatre Organ!!

By Ken Double, LCTOS President

The theatre pipe organ, be it Wurlitzer, Kimball, Barton, Page, Morton or whatever, like its historic church counterpart, needs wind pressure and pipes to make music. And pretty much, the similarity ends there. In this issue we will identify the basic differences between the two instruments, and then explore these more fully in future newsletters.

**LOOKS:** The theatre organ was often gaudy in color and decoration, and the distinctive curved “horseshoe” stop rail is totally different from the straight-railed church organ.

**VOICES:** The theatre organ draws its main voice from the Tibia stop (the deep-throated big flute) whereas the church organ foundation is the diapason stop. And the percussion stops (bells, xylophone, drums, etc.) are clearly unique to the theatre organ.

**WIND PRESSURES:** To fill the cavernous theatres with the wide range of volume, theatre organs play on much higher wind pressures. Measured in inches, the Long Center Wurlitzer plays on as much as 15” of pressure, double that of many church organs.

**TREMULANTS:** The “vibrato” in the theatre organ is rich and wide in its scope, with the Tibia stop in particular played on a strong, wide vibrato. This is almost totally opposite most church organs.

That’s the “short version” of what makes the theatre organ unique. Much more to come!

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**Upcoming Events Elsewhere** . . . Sunday, Sept. 10, 2006, 2:30 p.m., Ken Double on the Grand Barton at the Warren Center for Performing Arts, Indianapolis . . . Sunday, Oct. 22, 2006, 2:30 p.m., Rob Richards, Hedback Community Center, Indianapolis. For further information on statewide theatre organ events, check out the website of the Central Indiana Chapter at [www.cicatos.org](http://www.cicatos.org).

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