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P.O. Box 667 Lyons, Illinois 60534 / Online www.catoe.org

The Newsletter Voice of the Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiasts

August Social Showcases Youth

Once again, CATOE is proud to present another rising young organist to our members. Join us on **Saturday, August 15th at 10AM** as **Emily Seward** performs at CATOE's Wurlitzer theatre organ installed in the **Classic Cinemas'** flagship **Tivoli Theatre**, in Downers Grove.

Very special thanks to **Shirley and Willis Johnson** and the **Classic Cinemas** team for hosting this event and sponsoring Emily's performance. We couldn't do it without their generous support!

Please bring along your favorite cookies, cakes, and other sweet treats to share. The Tivoli concession stand will also be offering traditional theatre fare!

For more info about Emily and the Tivoli, please see page 2.



Emily Seward at the (Detroit) Redford Theatre 3/10 Barton.



Yes, that's the glamorous **Paris Hilton** posing with a CD entitled "Glamorous" recorded on the "Haarlem" Compton Theatre Organ. This photo, snapped at an event in the Netherlands, was sent in by CATOE member Mark Herman who remarked, "In the Netherlands, the organ societies seem to take a different approach than us in promoting theatre organ CDs." (No kidding!!!)

More about this organ can be found online at: <http://www.comptonhaarlem.nl/engels/index.htm>

About the August Artist

When Emily was four years old she told her parents that she was going to be an organist. From age 6 to 9 her piano teachers and parents fielded frequent requests to switch to organ. "Not until your feet can reach the pedals" and "you have to learn piano before you start the organ" did nothing to dissuade her from her quest. At a pipe organ demonstration by Wayne Leupold at Marygrove College in Detroit, Michigan she met classical organ teacher Elaine Grover and began her formal organ studies.

About a year later Emily attended a movie and organ overture at the Redford Theatre in Detroit and heard their 3/10 Barton. After hearing Tony O'Brien, Lance Luce, and John Lauter (who is her current Theatre Organ teacher) she was "hooked" and determined to master the Theatre Organ.

Emily attended the 2007 and 2008 Young Theatre Organ Camp in Chicagoland. In the spring of 2008 she became a regular overture organist at the Redford Theatre. She was honored to be nominated and win the Young Theatre Organist of the Year award in 2008.

In addition to her overture duties at the Redford, Emily is slotted to begin to play before the movies at the Michigan Theater in Ann Arbor, MI with their 3/13 Barton and Hammond C-3 in the screening room. Emily plays pre-concert music at the Collingwood Center Theatre in Toledo, Ohio on a 9 rank instrument with a Kimball console, and enjoys practicing and performing at member events on the 4/34 Wurlitzer at the Senate Theater in Detroit.

On the Classical side of the tracks, Emily currently plays as an intern at Ss. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church in Detroit under the tutelage of Mr. Johnny Kash. In addition to Ms. Grover, Emily most recently studied with Tom Trenney, now of Nebraska, and has enjoyed several master classes with Juilliard Organ Teacher Paul Jacobs.

This year she attended AGO sponsored Pipe Organ Encounters in Evansville, Indiana and in Wheaton, Illinois. While in Wheaton she was able to get a few more minutes of console time at the Tivoli and is honored and excited to be able to present a program at the August CATOE Social.

A Blast from the Past

Thanks to CATOE Member and Mundelein alumnus Father Thomas Franzman for sending in these historic Kodachrome images (from his personal collection) of Monsignor Charles Meter playing the Mundelien Auditorium Wurlitzer. Note the original wood grain on the console... it was painted over (and the lights removed) when the organ was 'altered' in the 1960's.



Getting to the Tivoli Theatre

The Tivoli is located one block east of Main Street at **5021 Highland Avenue**. Main street is called Le-mont Road on the south end, is easily reached from Ogden Avenue on the north, I-55 (Stevenson) on the south, and is a few miles east of Route 53 / I-355 tollway. The theatre is handicapped accessible and is adjacent to the Downers Grove stop on the Metra Burlington Northern line. Street parking is available.

About the organ: Wurlitzer Opus 942, (3M/10R) was originally installed in the Indiana Theatre in East Chicago, Indiana, in 1924. The organ was first played by Ambrose Larson, a Wurlitzer demonstrator and close personal friend of another organist, John Muri.