

The Organ Spiel

NEWSLETTER FOR THE SIERRA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY

SILENT MOVIE FROM 1920



July - August, 2013



Sunday,
August 11
GRANT UNION
High School
2:00PM



The Mark of Zorro

1920

GUEST ARTIST

CHRISTIAN ELLIOTT

In old Spanish California, the oppressive colonial government is opposed by Zorro, the masked champion of the people, who appears out of nowhere with flashing sword and with an athletic sense of humor, scarring the faces of evildoers with his Mark! Meanwhile, the very beautiful Lolita is now being courted by villainous Captain Ramon, rich but effete Don Diego... and dashing Zorro, who is never seen at the same time as Don Diego. As Zorro continues to evade all pursuit, Ramon puts the damsel in distress...

(Adapted from the writing of Rod Crawford)

THE MARK OF ZORRO is a masterpiece for any filmmaking era and is the perfect film to use to introduce people to silent films. Always a shrewd showman, Fairbanks pounced on the rights to Johnston McCulley's 1919 book, *The Curse Of Capistrano*, the tale that introduced "The Robin Hood of Old California" to the world. No matter what heights he'd go on to scale in his later films, this one film may represent Fairbanks' artistry in its purest form. So much praise is heaped on the action scenes in this classic that often viewers overlook Douglas' terrific job of portraying both the foppish Don Diego and his more athletic alter ego El Zorro.

Younger viewers, who might otherwise sneer at silent movies like this, might be persuaded to give it a chance by pointing out to them that action star Jackie Chan often praises Douglas Fairbanks in the same breath with Buster Keaton as one of his influences.

The Mark of Zorro all by itself earned Douglas Fairbanks his title as cinema's Swashbuckler-In-Chief.

(above adapted commentary courtesy
of ixtab9 on imdb.com)

Christian Elliott has done extensive silent film accompaniment, including the Stanford Theatre, UCLA, the Cinequest and San Francisco Silent Film Festivals. A frequent performer at the American Theatre Organ Society's national conventions, he has also performed for the American Institute of Organ Builders, BBC Radio and at the famed Hollywood Bowl.

In addition to his classical and church organ training, he was privileged to be mentored by several world-renowned theatre organists, being particularly identified for his association with legendary organist Gaylord Carter, the 'dean' of silent film accompaniment. A California native, Christian graduated with honors from Vanguard University of Southern California with degrees in Music and Business Administration.

For nine years he was a guest artist for summer noon organ recitals at the Crystal Cathedral where he also coached with Frederick Swann. After moving to the San Francisco Bay Area in 1988, he studied with celebrated organist and composer Richard Purvis. He continues to perform solo organ engagements and silent film presentations all across the United States, and was named "Organist of the Year" by the American Theatre Organ Society in 2009.



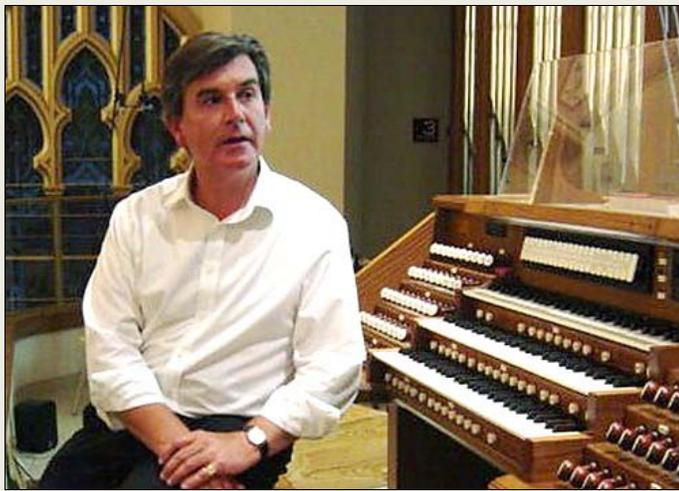
FREMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH EVENT

5770 Carlson Dr. Sacramento

Sunday, August 25 4:00PM

Free Admission (Free-will offering will be taken)

Join Dr. Antony J (Tony) Baldwin for a very engaging time of music as he plays a variety of pieces on the Fremont Presbyterian Church Reuter organ. Dr. Baldwin, at age 17, was awarded the Associateship Diploma of the Royal College of Organists, winning the prize for harmony and counterpoint. He has composed many anthems, carols and special arrangements of music for the organ. The Reuter organ is the second largest in the Sacramento area, with 4 manuals, 67 ranks and 3,901 pipes.



Allen - MDC Theatre 32 Organ

Currently listed for sale on E-Bay

Location - North Highlands

<http://www.ebay.com/itm/310708518148>

**Claramae Turner Hoffmann Organ
needs a home**

I left My Heart in SF was written for Claramae - She was an opera singer at SFOpera, the Met, and many Opera Houses across the USA. SFO was her parent Company (she recently died). AFTER retirement her Hammond Concord organ was her DELIGHT! She practiced many hours; had many great teachers - and put on private organ recitals :- (I have seen in her writings)

BOTTOM LINE - Do you know of anyone that might like to have her beloved organ? Right now our Music Center is offering to haul it to Salvation Army for \$125. However, it seems there must be SOMEONE that would love to have her organ. It also has a Leslie Speaker.

They are currently in the process of selling the house.

Please let me know if you are interested.

Hammond Concorde Model 2107 - and Leslie speaker.

Sincerest Thanks, Joan Perry Ryan

Contact info for Joan can be obtained from Chris Nichols:

cchrisnichols@sbcglobal.net



**Golden Era Productions Presents
Music At Noon**

Westminster Presbyterian Church 4/60 Moller Pipe Organ
1300 North N Street, Sacramento

**August 21, Wednesday - Noon Free Concert
(bring your lunch) 12noon-1pm. (916)442-8939**
Silent Comedy Films.....

Accompanied by **Dave Moreno**

"Angora Love" (1929) Laurel & Hardy

"Hot water" (1924) Harold Lloyd

Chapter Officers

President/Publicity

1st term expires Dec 2013
Randy Warwick
661/392-0269
Email: rwarwick@bak.rr.com

Vice President

1st term expires Dec 2014
Carol Zerbo
916/624-9182
Email: cazbo@sbcglobal.net

Secretary

1st term expires Dec 2014
Joan Grootveld
916/635-4160
Email: joanie52@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer

Term expires Dec 2013



Terry Clifton
916/863-6344
E-Mail:

Email: terry@elegantminis.com

Webmaster

Dave Sauer
916/925-7440
Email: davesauer@comcast.net

Board Member/Facebook

2nd term expires Dec 2014
William Coale, Ph.D.
510/778-9117
Email: wmcoale@comcast.net

Historian & Recording Library

Beverly Harris
916/332-2837

Board Member

1st term expires Dec 2013
Gary French
916/726-4516
Email: garyf8201@comcast.net

Board Member

1st Term expires Dec 2014
Paul Brown
916/632-1093
Email: psnrbrown@gmail.com

Board Member/Program Dir

Term expires Dec 2013
Craig Peterson
916/682-9699
Email: peterson59@comcast.net

Membership

Terry Clifton
916/863-6344
Email: terry@elegantminis.com



Newsletter Editors

Sherry & Terry Clifton
916/863-6344
Email: sherry@elegantminis.com

Organ Technician

Dave Moreno
916/484-7356
Email: davem@lanset.com

Music Librarian

Gary French
916/726-4516
Email: garyf8201@comcast.net



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE—Randy Warwick



Many kudos to the Atlanta Chapter for putting together a terrific convention. Except for one or two bus breakdowns (and replacement buses were sent in a timely manner), everything went very well. For those attendees who added the "pre" and "post" extra days, they were in three states and traversed a major part of Georgia. The concerts and artists were all terrific, and the highlight venue, the Atlanta Fox Theatre, is truly spectacular both as to its style details and its current condition. This nearly 5000-seat theatre and its 42-rank "Mighty Mo" Moeller organ make it among the top six or seven in-theater venues for theatre pipe organ presentations.

I must state that Sierra Chapter was very well repre-

sented at the convention. A verified tally is not yet available, but we may have had more members in attendance than any of the other West Coast chapters. We saw **Terry and Sherry Clifton, Bill Coale, Pat Fitzgerald, Geoff Hansen, Wendell Jacob, Troy Killorn, Dave Moreno, Tom Norvell, Craig Peterson, Mark Sammut, Dave Sauer, Dave Schutt, Bob Suffel, Dick Taylor, Randy & Adele Warwick, Bob Wilcox, and Carol Zerbo.** I apologize to anyone that my 66-year-old memory is likely to have missed.

Many thanks to Charlie Metcalf and Kathy for volunteering at the Fair Oaks Parks Day. Charlie said that he painted curbs. Well, on behalf of the Chapter, his painting skills were much appreciated.

Hope to see everyone at Grant High to see the *Mark of Zorro* and hear Chris Elliott's wonderful skill at film accompaniment.



2013 Sierra Chapter Attendees at the National ATOS Convention in Atlanta
 Top l-r: **Tom Norvell, Dick Taylor, Mark Sammut, Bob Wilcox, Bob Suffel**
 2nd row: **Craig Peterson, Carol Zerbo, Bill Coale, Dave Schutt**
 3rd row: **Troy Killorn, Adele Warwick, Dave Moreno, Randy Warwick**
 Front: **Wendell Jacob, Geoff Hansen, Pat Fitzgerald, Sherry & Terry Clifton**

Photo by Bill Coale

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Renewing at the Benefactor Level:

Edward M Stout III

Patron Level:

Neal Wood

Contributing Level:

Neil & Kathryn Morefield

BOARD MEETING

Saturday



August 3

10:00AM

**East Lawn Memorial Park
43rd and Folsom
Sacramento**



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

www.sierrachapterATOS.org

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

Twitter twitter.com/sierrachapter

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First Class
Postage
Stamp

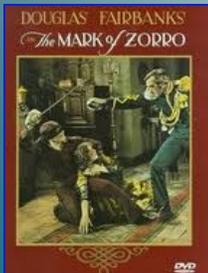
MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR EVENTS

SIERRA CHAPTER/ GRANT ALUMNI EVENT

Grant Union High School
1400 Grand Ave
Sacramento, CA

**Sunday, August 11
2:00PM**

Silent Movie *The Mark of Zorro*
(1920)

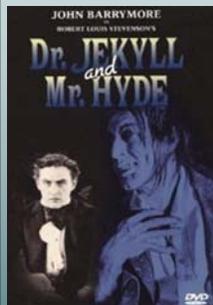


Artist:
**Christian
Elliott**
\$10
Students Free

FAIR OAKS EVENT

Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse
7997 California Ave

Friday, October 25th



DR. JEKYLL and MR. HYDE
(1920)

Artist:
**Paul
Quarino**

\$20 Admission

Includes

**Appetizer, Dinner, Dessert,
Drinks, Movie and Popcorn**

STOCKTON FOX EVENT

242 East Main Street
Classic Movie

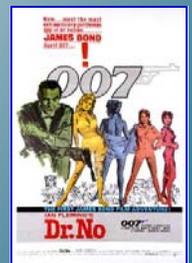
Sunday, August 18

Preshow concert 1:30PM

Dr. NO

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