

The Piper's Theatre Pipe Organ

THE THEATRE PIPE ORGAN had its beginnings in the early 1900's, when an English engineer named Robert Hope-Jones radically departed from the accepted methods of organ building in pursuit of an instrument that could do all that an orchestra could. These "orchestral organs" or "unit orchestras" caught on quickly, and found their ultimate niche in the movie theatre's of the 1920's.

THEATRES LARGE AND SMALL installed the organs as an alternative or augmentation to the expensive orchestras which had provided solo music as well as accompaniment to silent films.

THE ORGAN PIPER ORGAN was assembled from several vintage theatre pipe organs. The basic mechanical parts (including the windchests, regulators and tremulants) were all built by the Wurlitzer Company in N. Tonawanda, NY. Three smaller Wurlitzer organs were incorporated into this chestwork - a 2 manual 6 rank organ, a 3 manual 9 rank organ and a 3 manual 12 rank organ. Total ranks of chests 27 ranks.

THE PIPEWORK which is the "heart or sound" of an organ, and what actually creates the sounds that you hear, was built by the Wurlitzer firm, and also the Kimball Co. of Chicago. The Piper was fortunate in obtaining the nucleus of the famed Kimball Hall recital organ pipework. Kimball was especially known for the quality string and reed pipes that they built, and when the Piper's organists perform music in the classical vein, the basic ensemble heard is that of the Kimball Hall organ. The THEATRE ORGAN sound is comprised from the Wurlitzer pipework, and this builder was unsurpassed in the sobbing *tibias* and *vox humanas* they voiced, as well as the reeds that were built and voiced with great precision and quality.

THE CURRENT CONSOLE was built by the Kimball firm for the Sheepshead Theatre in Long Island, New York. The PIPER will be replacing this console with a larger Wurlitzer-style console.

THE ORGAN PIPER ORGAN has 27 ranks or sets of pipes displayed behind the glass windows. Percussion instruments and traps are mounted throughout the dining room. Wind is generated by a 10 horsepower turbine blower, and then is distributed through out large bellows (regulators), which may be seen at the bottom of the windows.

MAIN CHAMBER

Vox Humana (6" wind) - W

Tibia Clausa - W

Concert Fute - W

Flute Celeste - W

Oboe Horn - W

Style "D" Trumpet - W

Viol d'Orchestra - W

Viol Celeste - W

Musette - K

Clarinet - K

Horn Diapason - K

All other pipework pressure is 10"

TOY COUNTER LEFT

Crash Cymbal

Tap Cymbal

Fire Gong

Bird Song I

Doorbell

Horse's Hooves I

Castanets I

Wood Block I

Triangle

Ooh-gah Horn

Snare Drum

Tambourine I

Bass Drum/Tympani

Train Whistle

SOLO CHAMBER

Violin - K

Violin Celeste - K

English Horn - K

Brass Sax (prepared for)

Vox Humana (6" wind) - W

Tibia Clausa (15" wind) W

Tuba Mirabilis (15" wind) W

Quintadena - W

Lieblich Flute - W

Trumpet - K

Orchestral Oboe -K

Diaphonic Diapason (15" wind) K

Kinura - K

Violin Cello - K

Violin Cello Celeste - K

English Post Horn - Moller

TOY COUNTER RIGHT

Wind Chimes

Roll Cymbal

Chinese Gong

Cowbell

Bird Song II

Horse's Hooves I

Castanets II

Wood Block II

Choke Cymbal

Surf

Yoke Tambourine

Sleigh Bell

Finger Cymbals

PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS

Xylophone, Glockenspiel, Piano

Marimba, Chimes, Chrysoglott

Sleigh Bells and **THE DUCKS !**