

# The Windline

June 2025



*Susquehanna Valley Theatre  
Organ Society*

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

## PIERRE FRACALANZA SHOWCASE

“FROM HEART TO RODGERS AND HART,  
AND THE MAGIC IN BETWEEN”

**MONDAY, JUNE 9TH, 7:00 PM  
CAPITOL THEATRE, YORK, PA**

**PIERRE FRACALANZA** returns to play for SVTOS after his public concert in April 2019.

As an accomplished theatre organist, pianist, and vocal entertainer, he's performed for audiences across the United States and Canada. His introduction to theatre organ took place in Pontiac, Michigan where he became a staff organist for Theatre Organ Pizza and Pipes. Pierre's love of organ continued after that as a product specialist for electronic organ brands such as Rodgers, Hammond, Wurlitzer, Lowrey and Yamaha. He also did extensive work showcasing reproducing pianos from Yamaha and PianoDisc. But it was the Hauptwerk virtual pipe organ that piqued Pierre's curiosity in returning to theatre organ.

Hoping to add a touch of organ to his piano/vocal concerts, he gained attention doing a tribute to the late Buddy Cole at the 2014 ATOS Convention.



Among his various accomplishments, Pierre has “opened” for Carol Channing and played for celebrities of all sorts including then First Lady Hilary Rodham Clinton and the late Senator Ted Kennedy. In 2012, Pierre was added to the roster of Steinway Artists and in 2019 he was named the ATOS “Organist of the Year”.

Pierre retired from his Catholic Church Job after 30 years this past January. In that long tenure, he estimates he played a great deal of organ - some five hundred weddings, a thousand funerals and a whopping ten thousand services! One might say he's quite familiar with “sitting on the bench.”

Among his favorite hobbies are 3D and VR and AR technologies. But most of all, he loves audiences and sharing the magic of music.

The weather cooperated and everyone had an enjoyable afternoon at Opus 501's event. A big thank you to Barry Howard and Larry Fenner for hosting the SVTOS afternoon at their home, as well as to Ian Fraser for an afternoon of tunes remembering movies, popular melodies, and obscure tunes.

The next SVTOS meeting at the Appell Center's Capitol Theatre will be June 9th with organist Pierre Fracalanza. See details on Page 1 of this issue of the *SVTOS Windline*. I visited with Pierre a few weeks ago in Rochester, NY. Having now retired from a 7 day a week church music career, he is now enjoying the more leisurely pace and working on new media-oriented program material.

At our home, preparations have started for the annual SVTOS Picnic on July 5<sup>th</sup>. The flowers have been planted and deck cleaning to be a focus for June when warm weather returns. The artist will be Ben Forsthoffer. (Details in next month's issue.)

Andrew Moore reports that the Chambersburg Capitol Theatre's 3/19 Moller theatre organ is going to get a new UNIFLEX relay system this summer. Fall programs are being scheduled and we will have Andrew keep us aware when relay upgrade is completed. SVTOS will try and plan a visit as soon as the work is completed.

Hope everyone has an enjoyable Memorial Day Holiday.

Richard Neidich

President SVTOS



**SVTOS is a 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to the preservation and presentation of Theatre Pipe Organs. Proudly supporting the Mighty WurliTzer Theatre Pipe Organ in the Capitol Theatre in York, PA.**

### SVTOS OFFICERS

Richard Neidich - President 202-302-6320

Barry Howard - Vice President 717-274-2254

Roy Wainwright - Secretary, Treasurer, and Webmaster 717-619-7243

### LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Larry Fenner – "Windline" Editor & Membership

Ed Horvath - Hospitality

Bill Autry, Gary Coller, Ken Kline, Terry Nace, and Don Schoeps.



## SVTOS 2024-2025 SEASON

Monday, June 9  
7:00 PM

Pierre Fracalanza Showcase, Capitol Theatre, York, PA

\*Saturday, July 5  
Times to be announced

Annual SVTOS Picnic at the home of Richard Neidich and Ed Horvath, Lewisberry, PA. Featuring **Ben Forsthoffer** at the 3/51 Walker Theatre Organ.

*\* Indicates meetings NOT held on the usual second Monday of the month and/or at a different time or location*

### "SVTOS Plays For The Movies"

Hear these SVTOS members play the Wurlitzer 30 minutes before listed times at the Capitol Theatre. Consult the Capitol Theatre Website ([Click here](#)) for the details and admission prices.

- Friday, June 6, 6:30 PM, *Kubo and the Two Strings* (Frist Friday Free Family Film Series) – **BARRY HOWARD**
- Sunday, June 15, 3:00 PM, *Chimes at Midnight* - **JERR KEIM**

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

Sunday, June 8  
2:00 PM

Ben Forsthoffer Concert, [Theatre Organ Society of the Delaware Valley](#), Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville, PA

July 21-27

[ATOS Annual Convention 2025](#), Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Sunday, September 14  
Time ???

International Silent Film Day, "The Eagle" accompanied by Dennis James, [Theatre Organ Society of the Delaware Valley](#), Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville, PA

Sunday, October 26  
2:00 PM

Silent Film "Nosferatu" accompanied by **Ian Fraser**, [Theatre Organ Society of the Delaware Valley](#), Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville, PA

*Click on the underlined links to find additional information, including location and cost, for these events.*

### SVTOS Membership Directory

We have had some requests to recreate the SVTOS Membership Directory like the one we had years ago. This directory would include each members' Name, Address, Telephone Number, and email address. The directory would include the information provided with your annual membership renewal form, and would be available only to other SVTOS members.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you **DO NOT** want some or all of your information included in the directory, please contact Larry Fenner at [SVTOS@comcast.net](mailto:SVTOS@comcast.net) to indicate exactly what information should not be included. If you do not respond, we will assume that you have no objections to sharing the information. Thank You!

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