

Curriculum Vita

JEFF WEILER

JEFF WEILER & ASSOCIATES, LLC

Pipe Organ Curators, Conservators & Consultants

Planning and Project Management

Voicing and Tonal Finishing

Restoration

EDUCATION:

(ABD) D. Mus. Northwestern University

M. Mus. Northwestern University 1982

B. Mus. Coe College, 1981

RECENT/ONGOING PROJECTS:

Retained by the City of Cedar Rapids to provide a post-flood inspection of the original Wurlitzer pipe organ (Opus 1907, 1928) installed in the **Paramount Theatre**.

Complete historic restoration of the four-manual, forty-four rank Skinner organ (Opus 548, 1925), **First United Methodist Church**, Oak Park, Illinois in collaboration with Spencer Organ Company, Waltham, Massachusetts.

Complete historic restoration of the three-manual Skinner organ (Opus 208, 1914), **Music Institute of Chicago**.

Retained by the **American Organ Institute** of the **University of Oklahoma** to survey the pipework contained in the former Philadelphia Municipal Auditorium (Convention Hall) organ and to draft suggested restoration treatments.

Retained by the **State of South Dakota Board of Regents** to survey the historic Skinner organ in **Slagle Auditorium** at the University of South Dakota, Vermillion, and to assist in planning for its refurbishment.

Retained for restoration of pipework, restorative voicing and tonal finishing of the one-hundred-forty-three-rank Aeolian Organ at **Longwood Gardens**, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania by Nelson Barden & Associates.

Retained for restorative voicing and tonal finishing of the 1936 Aeolian-Skinner Organ at **Church of the Advent**, Boston, Massachusetts by Nelson Barden & Associates, in collaboration with Jonathan Ambrosino.

Retained by **Coe College**, Cedar Rapids, Iowa for a complete survey of the four-manual Skinner organ (Opus 771, 1930), and restoration planning.

Named curator of organs, **St. James Cathedral**, Chicago.

Consultant to the **State of Oklahoma** in the design, restoration and engineering of the 1936 four-manual, fourteen-rank Kilgen theatre organ formerly installed in radio station WKY, Oklahoma City, for installation in the new Oklahoma History Center.

Retained for restorative voicing and tonal finishing of the 1935 Aeolian-Skinner Organ of **The Groton School**, Groton, Massachusetts, in collaboration with Jonathan Ambrosino.

Retained for restorative voicing and tonal finishing of the 1936 Aeolian-Skinner organ at **Calvary Episcopal Church**, Memphis, Tennessee in collaboration with Jonathan Ambrosino.

Retained by Nelson Barden & Associates for voicing the recent Choir addition to the organ of **The Chapel of the Transfiguration, Community of Jesus**, Orleans, Massachusetts.

Retained by the **Detroit Symphony Orchestra** to investigate the options of returning a pipe organ to Orchestra Hall.

Retained by **Northwestern University** to do a complete survey of the Aeolian-Skinner organ in Alice Millar Chapel. The document included a report of existing conditions as well as a critical path for moving forward with a restoration of the organ.

Organ Consultant to the **John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts**, Washington, DC: Initial assessment of Concert Hall organ. Moderated discussions between Kennedy Center officials, the National Symphony, and other users to establish musical objectives and a means for achievement.

Organ Consultant to the **Chicago Symphony Orchestra**: Responsible for the technical development and specification of a new instrument incorporating reworked components and pipework from a previous organ. Draft documentation and administer proposal process. Coordinate with Owner, Architect, Acoustics Consultant, and Organbuilder.

Named Organ Curator to the **Chicago Symphony Orchestra** in 1998.

Organ Consultant to the **Cleveland Orchestra**: Document, develop and coordinate initial planning for the restoration of Severance Hall's historic E.M. Skinner pipe organ. Revived organ, assisted with fund raising, and presented a series of lecture/demonstrations.

Organ Consultant to the **Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra**, Jacksonville, Florida: Responsible for project definition and development. Coordinate national search and review of extant available symphonic organs. Coordinate purchase of historic Casavant organ, draft documentation and administer request for proposals process, assisted with fund raising, media coordination, planning with Owner, Architect, Acoustics Consultant, and Organbuilder.

Organ Consultant to **The University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor, Michigan: Worked with Project Architect and Acoustics Consultant in identifying impact of redevelopment plans for Hill Auditorium on the Aeolian-Skinner organ.

Organ Consultant to **Heritage Services**, Omaha, Nebraska: Establish programming and protocol for including a pipe organ in plans for a new symphony hall.

Assisted Jonathan Ambrosino in a complete survey of existing conditions of pipework contained in the 1929 Aeolian Organ installed in **Longwood Gardens**, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania.

Organ Consultant to **The Cathedral Church of St. John**, Wilmington, Delaware: Surveyed the Cathedral's existing instruments and established long range plans with short term and intermediate goals. Continued work with the Dean of the Cathedral and Cathedral musicians on implementation.

Organ Consultant to **Unity Temple on the Plaza**, Kansas City, Missouri: Survey Skinner Organ, Develop phased plan of restoration of extant materials, and enlargement using original Skinner materials.

Organ Consultant to the **San Jose Symphony**, San Jose, California: Develop initial structural, mechanical, and environmental criteria for proposed concert organ installation. Coordinate with Acoustics Consultant.

Organ Consultant to **Petronas Concert Hall**, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: Responsibilities include review of architectural documentation, review of organ proposals. Co-consultant: Dr. John Obetz.

Organ Consultant to the **Community of Jesus**, Orleans, Massachusetts: Responsibilities included the survey and inventory of Owner's collection of pipework and parts, drafting of architectural, mechanical, structural, and environmental criteria, initial development of mechanical designs and specifications, coordinate national search for additional vintage materials.

Organ Consultant to **Episcopal Church of the Ascension**, Clearwater, Florida: Develop long range plans for pipe organ installation. Review architectural documentation.

Organ Consultant to **St. William Church**, Naples, Florida: Survey and remedial tonal finishing.

Organ Consultant to **Perot Theatre**, Texarkana, Texas. Assess components of original Robert Morton organ, and conducted feasibility study for the reinstallation of the organ.

LECTURES AND SYMPOSIA:

Jeff Weiler has lectured and presented at various organ-related conventions such as the American Guild of Organists, Organ Historical Society, American Theatre Organ Society,

professional organizations such as the American Institute of Organbuilders, as well as presenting pre-concert lectures for symphony orchestras at concerts featuring organ performances. Recent lectures have included the topics of Ethics of Organ Restoration for the American Theatre Organ Society, an overview of the Rudolph Wurlitzer Manufacturing Company for the Organ Historical Society, lectures on organbuilding and design at Northwestern University, a lecture on organ restoration given at the 2006 national convention of the American Guild of Organists, and lectures on Wurlitzer pipe organs presented at the former Wurlitzer plant in North Tonawanda, New York.

Weiler has been invited to lecture on the relationships between theatre organ consoles and theatre architecture at the "Organs in Art/Organs as Art" symposium in New York City, October 2008.

ARTICLES/WRITINGS:

Articles and reviews authored by Jeff Weiler have appeared in *The American Organist*, *The Diapason*, *Theatre Organ*, *In League*, and *Choir and Organ*. He assembled and edited the 800-page book, *The Wurlitzer Pipe Organ: An Illustrated History*, published by the American Theatre Organ Society in 2005 and nominated for the Bessaraboff Prize for best book on a musical instrument in English in 2006.

Weiler is editor of *The Journal of American Organbuilding*, published by the American Institute of Organbuilders, and *Theatre Organ*, published by the American Theatre Organ Society.

COMMENTARY:

Weiler has been interviewed on organ related subjects by numerous publications and media including *The New York Times*, *Symphony Magazine*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *Pipedreams*, airing over National Public Radio Affiliates

BACKGROUND EXPERIENCE:

Jeff Weiler has acted as project superintendent, installation supervisor, voicer, tonal finisher and curator for numerous new or historic pipe organ installations Jeff Weiler and restorations throughout the United States for builders including Casavant, Randall Dyer, Quimby Pipe Organs, Schlicker, Nelson Barden & Associates et al., and works jointly with Jonathan Ambrosino on many restorative and remedial voicing projects.

In 2007-08, Weiler served on a committee charged to review and revise the Organ Historical Society's *Guidelines for Conservation and Restoration*.

MUSICAL PERFORMANCES:

As an adjunct to his work as an organ consultant, voicer, and tonal finisher, Jeff Weiler has composed 32 silent film scores for organ which he frequently performed throughout North America. Invited to play the Wurlitzer Organ for the grand reopening of the famous

Chicago Theatre, he has also been featured at the centennial celebration of Symphony Hall, Boston, as well as the Calgary Organ Festival, and the prestigious Gilmore Keyboard Festival. Other appearances have taken him to the Paramount Theatre, Oakland, California, Carnegie Hall Cinema in New York, the Ohio Theatre in Columbus, Tampa Theatre, Detroit Institute of the Arts, Merrill Auditorium in Portland, Maine. Jeff Weiler is represented by Artra Artist's Management, Inc., Chicago, Illinois.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS/DIRECTORSHIPS:

American Institute of Organbuilders (Secretary 1998-2000, 2000-2002)
American Theatre Organ Society (Director 1992-1995, 1995-1998, 2000-2003, 2003-2006)
Organ Historical Society
American Guild of Organists

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST