



2011
Winter
Issue

MUSIC HALL Marks

A Publication Of The Society
For The Preservation Of Music Hall
1241 Elm Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

SPMH - President's Message

Greetings from our beautiful, historic, Music Hall! I'm proud to report that SPMH has completed another successful year. Our activities and accomplishments were detailed by committee chairmen in

reports to SPMH members, at the Annual Meeting September 26th, and, I hope you were among the capacity crowd. Emphasizing our numerous marketing projects and other efforts promoting Music Hall, our popular Mighty Wurlitzer Concerts, and our funding of several tenant/patron initiatives, the reports took into

consideration the Revitalization projected to begin in about 18 months and our continued commitment to the support of activities worthy of our funding. It was a great evening during which five new Board Directors were introduced, retiring Directors were thanked for their dedicated serv-

ice, an update on the Revitalization was presented by Duncan Hazard, and guests were treated to the lively playing of Trent Sims on the Mighty Wurlitzer while enjoying light refreshments. This

newsletter will expand upon these topics, provide you with a little history, and address various topics such as the use of Music Hall and the 2012 World Choir Games.

Thanks so much to all our members for your support and financial contributions.

Know that we are sincere and diligent in our

efforts to serve the interests of Music Hall and we hope that you perceive that these efforts merit your continued support. Calendar year-end is soon upon us, and, I encourage you to renew your SPMH membership by using the enclosed envelope. For those new to SPMH, welcome and thank you



Don Siekmann

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for your donation!

Please join us for cheer and celebration in the Ballroom for the Wurlitzer Holiday Concert on December 15th! Best Wishes for the

Season! We look forward together, with optimism and enthusiasm, to 2012 and our beloved Music Hall!
- Don Siekmann

SPMH MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of The Society for the Preservation of Music Hall is to preserve, promote, improve, and provide education about Music Hall, funding special projects in addition to Music Hall management's operational and maintenance obligations, and facilitating communications among Music Hall management, owner, and tenants, in order to perpetuate Music Hall as the premier cultural center of the Region, and as a National Historic Landmark of international significance.

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Orchestra**

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2011 SPMH Annual Meeting

SPMH held its Annual Meeting on Monday, September 26th in the Music Hall Ballroom. More than 200 people, including Board members of several major arts organizations, attended. City officials were also present. The guests mingled over cocktails and a light buffet catered by the Phoenix, before the meeting was called to order by SPMH President, Don Siekmann.

Don introduced the evening's agenda and reminded the audience of SPMH's mission: "to preserve, promote, improve and provide education about Music Hall in order to perpetuate Music Hall as the pre-

mier cultural center of the region." Mr. Siekmann then asked several members of the SPMH Board to give committee reports on key ac-

tivities and accomplishments over the past year which served to fulfill that mission.

Peter Koenig, Chair of the Nominating Committee, thanked and recognized retiring Directors, Maureen Dillon, Meredith Down-

ton, Alan Sakalas, Sallie Wadsworth, Nancy Wagner, and Stacey Woolley. Peter introduced the newly elected directors who will serve a three year term: Adrienne Beaudet Cowden, Jodi M. Geiser, Melissa Godoy, Ken Jones, and



Don Siekmann, SPMH President



(L to R) Peter Koenig, Nominating Committee Chair, Ed Rider, Finance/Corbett Endowment Committee Chair and Kathy Janson, Newsletter Editor

Jim Tarbell. Peter also reviewed the roster of officers who have been elected to serve for another year:

President;

Don Siekmann;

Vice-Presidents:

Joanne Grueter, Kathy Janson, Mace Justice,

Ed Rider; Recording

Secretary: Karen

McKim; Corresponding

Secretary: Marcella

Hsiung; Treasurer:

Mark Weadick.

Mr. Keonig completed his report by recognizing Norma Petersen, who, as the previous Board President, automatically holds an officer position.

Ed Rider, Chair of the Finance/Corbett Endowment Committee, reviewed the projects

funded by SPMH in the past year including new gift shop software, ballroom seating spacers, the re-

pair and refurbishment of all three water fountains, and restroom repairs and improvements.

SPMH also partially funded an upgraded universal ticketing system for all arts partners. Notably, SPMH will be a contributor to the Revitalization Project and will continue to fund Music Hall projects in

the future.

Mr. Rider introduced Kathy Janson, Editor of the Newsletter *Music Hall Marks*. Kathy shared that more than 2,500 copies were



Lisa Allison, Marketing Committee Chair



Jack Rouse and Duncan Hazard

5 *MUSIC HALL Marks*

mailed bi-annually and over 400 copies were distributed via Music Hall displays. (Past issues are archived at www.SPMHcincinnati.org) She stated that *Music Hall Marks* provides information concerning “all things Music Hall.” It informs readers about SPMH activities and gives details about topics such as

architecture, history and events associated with Music Hall. While relating the wonderful life-long Music Hall memories of Karen Schulman-Bear, as retold in the “I Remember When” feature of the spring issue, Kathy invited everyone in attendance, to write down a favorite memory of Music Hall for possible



Miko Tanaka and Barbara Boyd



Tony Lang and Mike Janson



Mace Justice and Scott Santangelo



Stacey Schmidt with her Mom Sue Sommer



Brian Siekmann with his Mom Linda

inclusion in future Newsletter issues.

Lisa Allison, Chair of the Marketing Committee, recapped SPMH's efforts in that area. In addition to tours given throughout the year, SPMH launched marketing initiatives including the new logo, newly designed posters, and the

website redesigned and maintained by Board Director, Joanne Greuter. Ms. Allison announced the introduction of a new SPMH sponsored crystal ornament, featuring a delicate, etched rendering of the Rose Window, for sale at the Bravo Shop. Proceeds will fund SPMH projects. Lisa also shared highlights



Susan Westrick, Carol Kruse and Virginia Cox



Steve Sunderman and Ramon Rodriguez



Trey Devey, Rosemary Schlachter

from the popular Mighty Wurlitzer Concert series, sponsored by SPMH. Over the past year, SPMH presented "Happy Holidays" and "Salute to Broadway" programs. Through these concerts, SPMH has drawn over 2,000 patrons to Music Hall.

Following this SPMH business, Don again took the podium

and introduced Jack Rouse, president of the Music Hall Revitalization Company. He, in turn, introduced Duncan Hazard, Ennead architect partner-in-charge of the project to present an update on the Revitalization Project. As with last year's presentation, the audience was enrapt as Mr. Hazard provided details of plans and ren-



Mary Coyne selling Ornaments



Trent Sims, Joe Hollmann, Ron Wehmeier



SPMH Board Directors and Liaisons with the Mighty Wurlitzer

derings of Music Hall's restoration. (See Mary Elyn Hutton's recap of the presentation in the following article.)

President Siekmann thanked Mr. Hazard for the stimulating and exciting presentation. He then announced, with great enthusiasm, a continuation of SPMH's Mighty Wurlitzer Organ Series! The holiday concert "Happy Holidays with the

Mighty Wurlitzer" will take place on December 15th. Don introduced guest organist, Trent Sims, to lead the audience in an all American sing-a-long, sending everyone home with the knowledge that SPMH is indeed an organization with a mission, dedicated to the conservation of Music Hall's legacy.

- Lisa Allison



Trent Sims and the Mighty Wurlitzer



To learn more about MUSIC HALL,
Past, Present and Future,
visit the SPMH Website

<http://www.spmhcincinnati.org/>

Revitalization Presentation

Cincinnati's Music Hall has been evolving to meet the needs of the community since it was built in 1878. "It was originally just an enormous room," said Duncan Hazard, founding partner of Ennead Architects of New York, chief architect of the Music Hall Revitalization Project. "There was no stage, no proscenium. It held 6,000 people and remained in that configuration until 1895."

Hazard recalled the history of Music Hall as he revealed plans for its "revitalization" at the annual meeting of the Society for the Preservation of Music Hall Sept. 26 in the Music Hall Ballroom. Plans include moving the stage out into the hall, reducing seating to between 1,900 and 2,300, creating a unified entrance on Elm Street with a café and retail space, bringing in the side and back walls to Springer Auditorium and reopening the old carriage ways between the main hall and the north and south wings.

"The clear intention of the architect (Hannaford) was that this was to be a destination," said Hazard. Pursuant to that, the hall will be "opened up," he said. The many bricked-up windows will be uncovered and the lobby of Music Hall will be restored to a single level.

"Our plan is to raise the floor of the north and south wings to the same level as the main lobby. We want to



Duncan Hazard

remove the existing glass and metal walls, which separate the main lobby from the stair halls on each side, to make them function as one space. The escalator in the south wing will be replaced by a grand staircase as per the original design," he said. "We want to return the

whole front to a public space facing the (Washington) park."

"The old carriage ways and garden courts, areas between the buildings that once served as drop-off points for Music Hall, will be reopened. The garden courts would be accessible so that Music Hall attendees could visit them during intermissions," Hazard said. In the north lobby "we will be creating a consolidated box office operation, a consolidated retail operation and a café which will be open all day (closed during the evening). Here we will also have what we call the second rehearsal hall, which we are hoping will double as a smaller performance venue, perhaps for more experimental, smaller scale works. The exterior doors in the main lobby will be returned to their former height and some original

light fixtures will be restored," he said.

Mark Holden of Jaffe Holden Acoustics has done an acoustical analysis of Springer Auditorium with some perhaps surprising results. "Everybody knows that Music Hall has this wonderful, mellow open sound, but there are areas where the sound falls off (under the balcony on the orchestra level and under the gallery in the back). Also, there are some hot spots on the orchestra level. He asked us to look at some architectural means to adjust these two extremes. One way is by decreasing the width of the hall," said Hazard. "If you look at the great halls -- Musikverein in Vienna (65 ft. wide), Concertgebouw in Amsterdam (88 ft.), Symphony Hall in Boston (75 ft.) -- Music Hall is wider (110 ft.) than what seems to be the ideal dimension of a concert hall. Mark Holden asked us to look at bringing in the side and back walls. In effect, they would reflect the sound faster and distribute the sound better across the orchestra and across the balcony."

"The orchestra pit also has problems," said Hazard. "There have been complaints that when the pit is in place and the CSO is in opera mode, they played so loudly that they drowned out some of the performers. On the other hand, the musicians say, 'we have trouble hearing ourselves.'" The solution is apparently a matter of degree. "If you look, you will see that the

proscenium surround is slanted. When the sound comes out of the pit, it hits that angle and all the sound is sent out into the house. If you look at the great opera houses the ceiling area over the pit is flat. We looked back at some of the old Hannaford drawings and one of his studies included squaring off the proscenium crown. We have suggested as part of our design to take the existing proscenium and square it off at the top."

"Seating capacity in a refurbished Music Hall will be variable," said Hazard. The stage will be extended 39 ft. out into the hall and a system of hydraulic lifts installed in the floor. "There are three separate lifts that can be configured depending on the use of the hall. In concert mode (CSO, Pops, May Festival), all of the lifts are up. For the first time, the orchestra will be right there in the room with you. They will be sitting on these lifts in front of the proscenium, and the acoustical towers will be placed at the proscenium arch instead of the back wall. In theater mode (Opera, Ballet), two lifts will be down. In touring group mode, all of the lifts would be down and seating would continue across the floor. Concert mode would have the fewest seats, about 1,900, Opera and ballet would have 2,200 and touring groups that do not need an orchestra pit 2,300," Hazard said.

"There are many concerns yet to be addressed in revitalizing Music Hall," Hazard said. "One of

Proposed changes for Music Hall seating

Three-lift pit/stage

Three sections would rest on hydraulic lifts that can be raised up, lowered or left at floor level for additional seating.

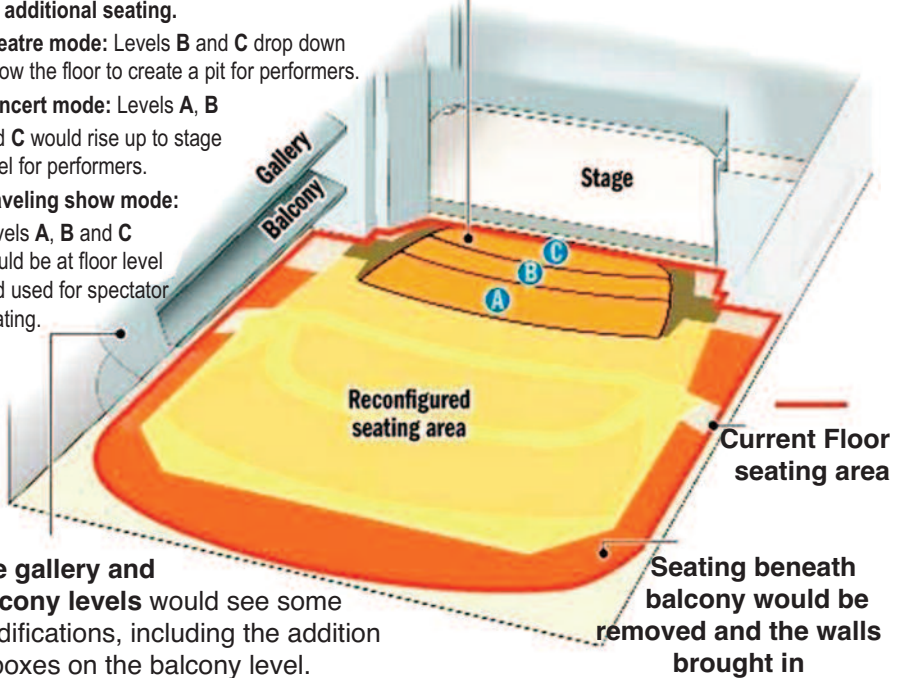
Theatre mode: Levels B and C drop down below the floor to create a pit for performers.

Concert mode: Levels A, B and C would rise up to stage level for performers.

Traveling show mode:

Levels A, B and C would be at floor level and used for spectator seating.

A renovation plan for Music Hall would improve acoustics and make total seating between 1,900 and 2,300.



The gallery and balcony levels would see some modifications, including the addition of boxes on the balcony level.

Source: Ennead Architects

The Enquirer / Mike Nyerges

them is the two-ton crystal chandelier that hangs above the center of Springer Auditorium. Installed in 1969 as part of a major Corbett Foundation renovation, it obscures the ceiling mural, “Allegory of the Arts” by Conrad Arthur Thomas. It’s quite beautiful, but a little difficult to see with the big chandelier.” “There are millions of details yet to come,”

said Jack Rouse, president of the Music Hall Revitalization Company. “Music Hall was a public palace, a place where people came together for all kinds of arts and culture and entertainment. We are committed above everything else to making sure that’s what it is going forward.”

-- Mary Ellyn Hutton

*“We have within ourselves
Enough to fill the present day with joy,
And overspread the future years with hope.”*

- William Wordsworth, poet

All About Tradition

The World Choir Games and Music Hall

As the days remaining to the 2012 World Choir Games (WCG) are decreasing, the planning activities keep increasing.

Recently, I met with Gabor Hollerung, senior artistic director and one of the founders of the World Choir Games. As senior artistic director, he is involved in helping the Cincinnati Organizing Committee in planning the 2012 games, and is especially involved in the Celebration Concerts, Awards Ceremonies and the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. Gabor has great credentials for this role. As a choral director in Hungary, his choirs have won numerous competitions and worldwide attention, and as a symphony conductor, he has 'guest conducted' around the globe. Hollerung was in

town in September, from his home in Budapest, Hungary, to work with the Cincinnati Organizing Committee in helping to match the choir competitions, performances and concerts with appropriate venues.



Gabor Hollerung

Although not all plans are finalized, Music Hall has already been chosen as the site of one of the prestigious "Champions Concerts", featuring "Champions of the World Choir Games" from various musical categories. Music Hall will also host at least one "Celebration

Concert", an evening performance by some of the best choirs in the world as selected by the World Choir Games' artistic committee. Music Hall stage will be filled with prize winning choral groups from around the world with their beautiful voices filling the hall. These will



Gabor Hollerung conducting the 6th World Choir Games in China

be “hot tickets.” More concerts/events, along with their locations, will be announced later.

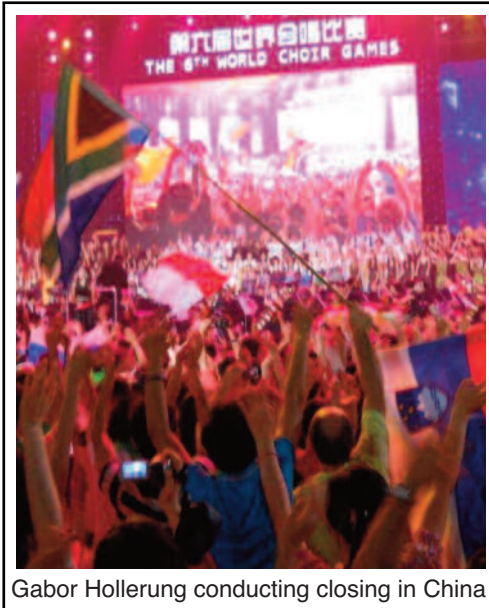
I asked Gabor why he thinks INTERKULTUR, the German-based organization that founded and operates the World Choir Games, originally chose Cincinnati as its first U.S. host city and how Music Hall was part of that decision. “Very simple,” he said, “it’s all about tradition.”

INTERKULTUR saw and felt the deep choral traditions here in Cincinnati. Cincinnati and Music Hall are closely linked in that tradition, beginning with our 150 year Saengerfest history which in turn, resulted in the construction of Music Hall for the May Festi-

val. Much of this choral tradition is on SPMH’s website and on the Music Hall DVD, which were both extensively used in the selection process.

Gabor also mentioned that he “feels right at home here.” He commented that Music Hall’s bright and open auditorium shares both American and European characteristics. American, in that it is “huge” compared to European concert halls, and European, with its “shoebox”

construction. He elaborated that “shoebox” is a term used to describe some of the best concert halls in the world. These halls were built long before the scientific development of acoustics and featured long, tall, and, narrow halls. He compares our hall to the Musikverein in Vienna, Berlin’s Konzerthaus and the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam.



Gabor Hollerung conducting closing in China

He was especially pleased with the selection of the “Cincinnati Pops” as the “Host City Orchestra”. The Pops, together with the May Festival Chorus and John Morris Russell will celebrate our Independence Day in connection with the Spectacular WCG Opening Ceremony on

July 4. The Pops will also be a major part of the equally spectacular closing ceremony.

What an unbelievable treat this event will be for the entire city. The talent, color, enthusiasm, spectacle and overall excitement will be astounding! To have music Hall as a focal point of this once-in-a-lifetime experience is very appropriate, so stay tuned for more information about the games and Music Hall.

- Don Siekmann

JMR Meets SPMH

John Morris Russell, who recently took the baton as the Conductor of the Cincinnati Pops, was a welcomed guest of SPMH at the September 12th Board meeting. JMR, as he is now affectionately known, took the opportunity to

speak about his delight in returning home to Cincinnati and of his hopes and dreams for the future of the internationally heralded Cincinnati Pops. Maestro Russell shared his vision of maintaining the legacy of his revered predecessor, Erich Kunzel, which includes free public concerts in the greater Cincinnati area, international tours

and of course, recordings with the Pops own music label at Telarc.

Additionally, JMR, like all influential artists, has some ideas about making his own mark on the direction of the Pops. "Cincinnati has such a rich musical history," declared the Maestro. "I would love to create programs that recall those historical and cultural periods in the Queen City's past." Mr. Russell cited Cincinnati's location on the Ohio River as a pivotal transition point between North and

South. He noted that this unique placement brought a legacy of classical spiritual and blues music to the area. JMR also shared that in the 1950's, Cincinnati witnessed the birth of rock and roll with the seminal recording company, King

Records. (King Records had its beginning in 1939 with a store front one block from Music Hall. It was here that the legendary James Brown started his career.) These are just a few ideas milling in JMR's head as he contemplates bringing the best of Pops classics along with innovative programming to his audience.



John Morris Russell, Music Director
of The Cincinnati Pops

Mr. Russell acknowledged the important role that SPMH plays in the life and future of Music Hall and thanked the Board for their work. At the conclusion of his talk, Maestro Russell revealed to the SPMH Board that the Cincinnati Pops had been appointed the official orchestra of the 2012 World Choir Games. SPMH was the first to learn of this exciting announcement!

- Lisa Allison

They flit and twitter among the passion flowers, between the stems of the trumpet vines. In near obliv-

Passion Flower,

ion, in the cloistered shadows of the North Stairs, the sparrows watch as patrons ascend in diffident haste, unknowing, unaware. It was not always so. The two carved panels, so vivid in detail, one can almost hear the rustling of the leaves and the chirping of the birds, once adorned Music Hall's magnificent Hook and Hastings Organ. This largest of all organs in America was one of the most celebrated organs in the world. Describing these two panels, George Ward Nichols, in his 1878 book "The Cincinnati Organ" wrote "it is not faint praise to say that the Middle Ages, so fruitful in carvings, nor modern days with its culture have produced such noble work. It never occurs to the beholder that this is stiff hard wood with difficulty fashioned into the desired shape. It has the texture of leaf and stem, the flexibility of foliage, the fragrance of the forest."

Their place in the shadows belies the significance of these panels as excellent representatives of the Cincinnati Art-Carved Furniture Movement, one of the most important manifestations of the Aesthetic Movement in the United States. Begun by British expatriates, Henry and William Fry, the Cincinnati Art-Carved Furniture Movement drew from the wealth of artistic talent cultivated in the Cincinnati public schools and it flourished in Cincinnati, a major center for the furniture manufacturing industry in the 19th



The Trumpet Vine

Trumpet Vine

century. Henry, with experience working on carved screens in both Westminster Abbey and in the Houses of Parliament was well qualified with his son William, to open in Cincinnati, a private school dedicated to the art of wood carving, in the early 1870s. In 1873 another British expat, Benn Pitman, established the Department of Wood Carving at the University of Cincinnati's School of Design. Pittman and the Frys were followers of such philosophers as John Ruskin and Ralph Waldo Emerson. They adhered to a return to the craftsman ideal, to reunite the useful and the beautiful, to look to nature for inspiration.

Students of these master carvers were principally women; many were affluent and socially prominent. They prescribed to the belief that the receipt of payment for a pastime which they enjoyed would diminish their class respectability and as a result, almost all of their work, including the carving of the Music Hall Organ screen was volunteered. "We will work with hands and brains and heart, and offer the results of our labor as our contribution toward the people's organ" they stated. The organ screen carving, following the general architectural design of artist and artisan Robert Rogers, was begun in the fall of 1877 and was completed by the first May Festival in 1878. Over 20,000 hours of work were estimated to

have been contributed by Pittman's 108 students alone. The vast sections of the organ screen between the two grand towers were carved by the Frys and the pupils of their school. The 'Trumpet Vine' and the 'Passion Flower' were designed and carved by William Fry. Admiring Fry's work, Benn Pittman said "I have seen much fine carving in the churches and at the principal decorative establishments of New York but nowhere have I seen carving equal to that of Mr. William Fry of this City." All of the surrounding sections of the screen including the towers were executed by the students of Pittman. Typical of Cincinnati Art-Carved Furniture, the organ screen glorified nature in great detail with delicately carved birds, flowers, vines, and grasses. There were panels, depicting Morning, Noon and Evening, the Seasons and, significantly, names and floral representations of 15 of the most beloved composers. Carved in native wild cherry and treated with oil rather than varnish, the resulting color and patina rivaled that of the richest mahogany.

The reputation of Cincinnati as a center of decorative wood carving soared to international status as a result of the efforts of these 'students'. Their work on three large public projects, the wood carving display at the 1876 Centennial International Exhibition held in Philadelphia (the first official World's Fair), the carving of the Music Hall Organ screen in 1878 and the display at the

1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, bolstered this reputation. The Cincinnati Art-Carved Movement was held in such high regard that the 'amateur' carvers from the studios of the Frys and Pittman merited a special room in the Women's Pavilion at the 1876 Centennial. Over 200 examples of mostly carved wood from the studios in Cincinnati were rated the best of the nation's artistic entries.

The Cincinnati Art-Carved Furniture Movement lasted over 50 years but the Music Hall Organ with its famously magnificent screen stood as a testament to the art form until 1974 when it was dismantled. Sections were dispersed to the Historical Society, the Cincinnati Art Museum (the panel 'Morning' is displayed with honor and proper signage in the Cincinnati Wing) and many of the panels were given away to supporters of Music Hall. The remaining few line the orchestra pit below the stage, invisible to the general public. And the 'Passion Flower' and the 'Trumpet Vine' hang in the shadows of the North Hall Stairs. Questions: Why, and What Now?

Answers: Dust them

off. Put these and the other panels in a place of honor with light and signage, appropriate for these examples of our Cincinnati Art, our Cincinnati History, our Cincinnati Heritage. They belong to this Music Hall -- they are as important as are the bricks and mortar. (Information Sources *Cincinnati Art-Carved Furniture* by Jennifer L. Howe, *The Cincinnati Organ* by George Ward Nichols.)

- Kathy Janson



Detail of The Passion Flower

Meet New SPMH Board Members: Adrienne Cowden, Jodi Geiser, Melissa Godoy, Ken Jones and Jim Tarbell

SPMH has a tradition of attracting talented members of our community to serve as Directors. It is with pleasure that the five newest members of the Board are introduced.

Adrienne Cowden, founder of 720 Consulting, has worked as an Architectural Historian and Historic Preservation Consultant in the private and public sector for over 16 years. Her professional experience includes work in the Technical Preservation Services division of the National Park Service in D.C., the City of Cincinnati Historic Conservation Office, and as staff at private cultural resource management firms. She earned a B.A. in History from Smith College, holds a master's degree in Historic Preservation Planning from Cornell University, and is listed as a qualified consultant by the Ohio Preservation Office. Ms. Cowden has conducted independent research and survey work in numerous states including Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, New York, Maryland, Pennsylvania, California and Vermont. She has worked on a wide variety

of projects including the preparation of the National Register nominations and local historic designations in the City of Cincinnati. She has been involved in architectural surveys for transportation and gas pipeline projects as well as state and locally funded inventories and National Register assessments of cultural resources. Adrienne has documented and/or assessed the



Jodi M. Geiser

National Register eligibility of over 10,000 architectural resources.

Jodi M. Geiser is Partner of and has more than 20 years of professional experience with the Accounting Firm of Ernst & Young in both industry and tax functions. She currently serves as Ernst & Young's East Central Sub-Area Reporting and Compliance leader managing the tax functions of 12 cities in Ohio, Pennsylvania, D.C., Virginia, Maryland and Kentucky. She also serves as the lead Tax Partner for several Cincinnati based Fortune 500 companies. Jodi is very involved in Community and the organizations which she currently serves include United

Way, for which she has won the New Century Community Service Award, Women's Leadership Council Steering Committee; Cincinnati Women's Executive Forum; Founder and Committee Chair; Cincinnati Women's Business Resource Group;

Founder and Steering Committee; Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber; American Heart Association; Arts Wave. She has also channeled her energies to United Way, Gold Star Family Grief Resource, Cincinnati Opera as a Trustee and Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra as a Trustee.

Jodi graduated Summa Cum Laude with a B.S. in Accounting from Ohio State University.

Melissa Godoy develops independent film and programming for public television. "I have been working in this field for 25 years, on projects spanning from award-winning PBS documentaries, to 30 second commercials, to improvisational comedy and new theatre. My current work includes shooting a documentary called the Rebirth of Over-the Rhine, about current redevelopment in Cincinnati's historic core neighborhood. I was also recently Line Producer of *The Last Truck: Closing of a GM Plant*, an HBO Documentary. I enjoy experimenting with film and have worked

on arts pieces such as the HD exhibit in the Cincinnati Wing of the Cincinnati Art Museum. Other recent professional work has included a documentary about creative aging narrated by Walter Cronkite called *Do Not Go Gently*. My work

is interdisciplinary, incorporating principals of visual fine arts, music, literature, theatre, and journalism. My method is to pull a team together in the telling of one eloquent story that is personal and meaningful to the participants, allowing for discoveries that are possible only in the arts. Imagination, sense of humor and



Melissa Godoy

ability to solve problems collaboratively are the most important tools of this journey." Among recent awards are a Best Electronic Media Award from the American Society on Aging, Gold World Medal in Humanities at the New York Film and Video Festivals, Susan Shinagawa LiveSTRONG Cancer Leadership Award, and Emmys. Melissa earned a B.S. from Northwestern University in Theatre/Creative Writing for Media. She currently teaches college level scriptwriting.

Ken Jones has practiced architecture in the Cincinnati area for over 35 years, specializing in complex restoration and sensitive reuse projects. As founder and principal of Ken Jones and Associates, his

firm has successfully restored historic churches, industrial, commercial and residential buildings,

cultural institutions and entertainment venues. In addition to restoring buildings, Ken is equally adept in designing contemporary homes from single-family to luxury penthouses. Some of the well-known structures which have been renovated by his firm are Old St. Mary's Church, Memorial Hall and the

original Diner on Sycamore. As an architect, Ken focuses on delivering unique solutions designed to suit a client's goals. He is an advocate of conservation and restoration of Over-the-Rhine where he lives and works and he believes in preserving OTR's architecture and detailing which embody Cincinnati's unique history and heritage. Ken promotes his goals by serving on the City's Historic Conservation Board among other

like-minded organizations. He has a B.S. in Architecture from the University of Kentucky. The awards which Ken Jones and Associates have earned are impressive. Ken's

professional and civic affiliations and examples of civic participation and leadership are extensive indicating the energy of an individual who is committed to promoting his community.

Jim Tarbell, by mayoral proclamation, holds the title "Mr. Cincinnati" for life. He is a passionate and experienced leader in southwest Ohio and Hamilton County. He has served on the Hamilton County Regional Planning Com-

mission and on the City of Cincinnati Planning Commission. He is a founding member of the Hamilton County Planning Partner-

ship. His service also includes board membership on the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority. He was a council member for nine years and a vice mayor for two years in the City of Cincinnati. As a council member Jim was the founding chairperson of the city's Arts and Culture Committee. Numerous arts

and civic organizations have benefited from his work as board member. He owned and operated several small businesses including Arnold's Bar and Grill and Gram-



Ken Jones



Jim Tarbell

mer's German Restaurant. Jim's passion for improving civic involvement and rebuilding the inner city drove him to found the Over-the-Rhine Chamber of Commerce. In 1994 he received the Charter Committee's Charles P. Taft Civic Gumption Award that honors persons of independent thought, ingenuity and perspicacity, and in 1997

he was named Man of the Year by the Over-the-Rhine Chamber of Commerce. Born in Hamilton County, Jim was educated at St. Xavier and Withrow high schools and The Lowell Institute in Cambridge, Mass. He and his wife, Brenda raised their family in Cincinnati and currently live in Pendleton.

Now Available in the Bravo Shop!

This brilliant 3"-diameter lead crystal ornament, is available exclusively from SPMH and sells for \$25 in the Bravo Shop. Beautifully etched with the iconic Music Hall Rose Window and the words "Cincinnati Music Hall 1878" the scalloped-edge ornament comes with its own cord for hanging. Converted from the Philp Groshong photograph taken for SPMH, and designed by Kelly Pennington of Strata-G Communications, this stunning ornament is a 'keepsake'. Presented in its box it is also perfect for gifting!



SPMH would like to Thank you for your Support.
Happy Holidays to you and yours!

*“Deep in December it’s Nice to Remember”...
... On Broadway!*



The May 5th Mighty Wurlitzer Concert featuring Lisa Ericksen, Mark Hardy and organist Walt Strony, was a toe-tapping, finger-snapping, dazzling success!

Mark Hardy, Lisa Ericksen and Walt Strony at the Mighty Wurlitzer



Looking for the Perfect
Christmas Gift?

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“Cincinnati Finds its Voice”
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Double Your Pleasure



Ken Double

And yes, Double Your Fun, when Ken Double at the Mighty Wurlitzer, teams up with the angelic voices of Fairview-Clifton Kinderchor on December 15th in Music Hall's Ballroom! The word on the street is that 'Happy Holidays with the Mighty Wurlitzer', initiated in 2010, is the 'something new' that greater Cincinnati has longed for as an addition to tradition! We welcome back Ken Double, President/CEO of The American Theatre Organ Society, who played at the inaugural 'Mighty Wurlitzer Concert' for the SPMH annual meeting, September 2009. Be wowed by this fascinating and superb theatre pipe

organist, a sportscaster who spent 32 years in broadcasting before turning to his passion, the Theatre Organ! He has performed concerts around the country and around the world with awards and several CDs to his credit.

The Kinderchor of the Fairview German Language School is one of

the most popular and talented elementary school choirs in the city. They have performed at the Union Terminal, at Music Hall for the May Festival and for a number of Cincinnati businesses and organizations. The children are in grades 2-6 and participation in the program is acceptance by audition only with practices held after school hours. Be enchanted by their performance—a selection of German carols—Sweet!!

Relive your memories of yesterday as you create new memories of tomorrow with your friends and family!



**To get a unique look
at Music Hall and learn
about its rich history of
treasures untold, call
744-3344
to schedule a Tour!**

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF MUSIC HALL
presents

*Happy
Holidays*
with the

MIGHTY WURLITZER

Thursday, December 15, 2011, 10:30 am & 7:00 pm
Cincinnati Music Hall Ballroom



featuring:
theatre-organist
Ken Double
with special guest,
**Fairview-Clifton
Kinderchor**

Performance Sponsor:
**The Walter and Olivia
Kiebach Charitable
Foundation**

All Seats Now Reserved - \$25
**(\$20 for seniors, students,
groups of 10 or more)**

In cooperation with the Ohio Valley Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society

TICKETS: CincinnatiArts.ORG. (513) 621-ARTS (2787)
Aronoff Center / Music Hall Ticket Office / Group Discount (10+) (513) 977-4157

SPMH Members

Since the early days of SPMH in 1992, Members have proudly shown their community support for preserving, improving and promoting Music Hall. They know that by way of supporting Music Hall, they are assuring that this historic venue remains an attractive one for Arts and Entertainment Groups, as well as for private groups who use the Ballroom, Lobby and Corbett Tower for social gatherings.

In addition to receiving biannual Newsletters, Members are kept informed of SPMH activities, at the Annual Meeting in September. The past two meetings have featured Progress Reports on the Revitalization of Music Hall presented by Duncan Hazard, chief ar-

chitect. The Annual Meeting, a catered event, is by invitation only and it presents members opportunities for mingling with Board Directors, City Officials and leaders of Arts and Community Groups. International Theatre Organists provide entertainment for the group with the ever popular 'Mighty Wurlitzer.' SPMH Members also have first opportunity, before the general public, to purchase tickets for the 'Mighty Wurlitzer' Concerts

Every Member contribution makes a difference, every donation helps keep Music Hall vibrant and a successful part of Cincinnati and the arts community. The following is but a partial list of the projects funded by Members' contributions:

- **Restored and Installed Mighty Wurlitzer Organ in Ballroom**
- **Installed and Illuminated a 50 ft. Flagpole & American Flag in Front of Music Hall**
- **Purchased American Flag for Stage**
- **Created and Installed a Timeline in the Central Parkway Entrance Corridor**
- **Added Chandelier Lighting in Music Hall Foyer**
- **Installed Lighting for Front of Music Hall**
- **Purchased Commercial Carpet-Cleaning Machine**
- **Restored the Oil Painting "Carmen"**
- **Purchased Draperies – Box Seat Area, Stage Front and Proscenium Valance**
- **Remodeled Critics' Club**
- **Repaired Coffered Ceiling**
- **Paid for Repairs for Water Fountains and Restrooms**
- **Contributed to Purchase of Universal Ticketing System and Gift Shop Software**

A Huge Round of Applause to All Our Members! Thank You!
If not already a Member, Please join us...
by supporting Music Hall!

Carl Henry Linder 1919 - 2011

SPMH member, known and loved, a friend to many.
Pictured with Erich Kunzel. **A JOB WELL DONE!**



He was an important man, and it's good to be an important man.
But it's more important to be a nice man. And he was the nicest man
I ever met." -Jeff Ruby

2010 - 2011 SPMH Members Listing

(September 2010 - October 2011)

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or misspelled your name (513) 744-3293

Chris Thompson, Photographer Springer Auditorium (cover)

Chris Thompson is an experienced creative designer and marketer specializing in the business to business arena. He graduated with a BFA in Graphic Design from Winthrop University in Rock Hill, S.C. in 2001. As the Graphic Designer/Marketing Coordinator for QC Industries, Chris has responsibility for a variety of functions including the design and development of the company's web site; the design of its catalogues, brochures, manuals and packaging; the writing and distribution of press releases and newsletters; photographing standard products and engineered specials; managing trade shows; managing pay per click and search engine optimization campaigns; creating and managing social network strategy; managing the company's distributor training program; etc.



Chris Thompson

Chris is the founder/editor of About Foursquare, the only blog devoted to covering the social network, Foursquare's news and information, including apps, tips and a Foursquare FAQ to answer all. In just a year this blog has grown to serve over half a million visitors each month.

Chris Thompson's photographs are stunning! His creative viewpoint, brilliance of color and effective use of light give a subject an added dimension, enticing the viewer to take a longer look. In 2008 five of his photographs were chosen for "Capture Cincinnati", with one the winner for the "Scapes of All Sorts" chapter. In 2007 six of his photographs were chosen for "Capture Cincinnati" with one the winner for the "Simply Cincinnati" chapter.

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