

DETROIT THEATER ORGAN SOCIETY

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

Senate Theater • 6424 Michigan Avenue • Detroit, MI 48210

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What's New?

WE'RE BACK!

(Kevin Werner)

After months and months of mandatory closure by the State of Michigan, we and all the Theaters in Michigan have finally been allowed to re-open on a limited basis. Social distancing marks, hand sanitizing stations, the requirement of mandatory mask wearing and many disinfecting procedures have been put in place to ensure the safety of our patrons and volunteers. Custom made safety partitions by our own President Lance Luce have been put in place to separate the volunteers from the patrons. Thanks, Lance! Volunteers spent the whole day at the theater cleaning, sorting through inventory, and putting in place all the required safety precautions in preparation of our re-opening movie that took place on Oct. 17th, "Carnival of Souls" (1962). Our next movie will be on Oct 24th at 8pm and will be the silent "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari" (1920) 100th anniversary. This will be accompanied by our own Stephen Warner. Remember, members come for free! The rest of the movie schedule as well as the concert series is rapidly being worked out and will be available shortly. Stay tuned.



Our new look



New Mural in the Senate Coney Lot (Nick Baldwin) (Photos, Nick Baldwin)

Over the summer, like many theaters around the country, the Senate movie committee had to find a

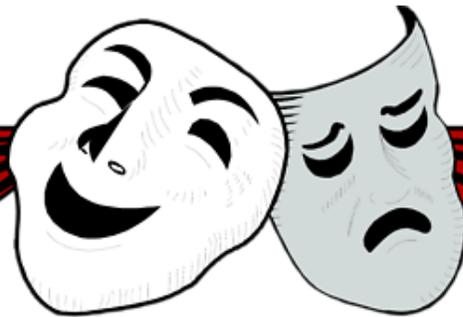


way to continuously engage our audience while not allowing anyone to visit the theater.

Restrictions had begun to loosen and small

groups of people were allowed to gather. We had been having online Facebook “watch parties” during the early parts of quarantine, with some success, but with summer coming, it was clear that people wanted to finally get out of their houses and off their computers. Naturally, we thought we should put to use the empty Senate Coney lot and have outdoor film screenings. First, we attempted to hang a stretched painted canvas across the brick wall. This failed miserably, after a multitude of attempts. It was clear we had to find a different way. Over the course of quarantine, one of my personal favorite artists, David Lynch, had started a YouTube channel and was screening some of his new and old short films. Each of these videos, presented as David Lynch Theater, started in a black and white, hand drawn theater and, gradually, zoomed in towards the film you showed up to watch as it was being “projected” onto the screen. I realized, I could take this same concept and put it on the wall in the Senate Coney lot. We could project into a painting of a screen. I reached out to local artist, Blight Hernandez, who had displayed at Senate art shows in the past, because I thought he had a style that would perfectly match the needs of the mural. He and other local artist, Naye Taye, spent over a month (and many, many hours in that month) hand painting the 400 square foot mural that would serve as our outdoor screen for future out door screenings. The mural was completed in the first few days of October and the process of setting up an outdoor screening venue took longer than expected. Obviously, we had missed summer and the Governor had recently lightened movie theater restrictions previously in place because of the COVID-19 pandemic. We’re now able to open at 20% capacity and, therefore, we no longer needed an outdoor screening venue. Nevertheless, an amazing mural now adorns one of the bare brick walls in the Senate Coney Lot and the plan is to have outdoor screenings next Spring, when the weather begins to warm back up. Special shout out to artists Blight Hernandez and Naye Taye who donated their time and talents to the completion of this project at no charge. In the future, make sure to check out senatetheater.com and the Senate YouTube channel for more pictures and a short video of the mural painting process.

Back stage happenings. (Kevin Werner)



Work to prepare for the front wrap around portion of the façade has been completed and the new material will be installed very soon. We have received donations for this work but we're still going to fall short. Soooo, please keep your donations coming. We are also still taking donations for the rebuilding of one of the regulators on the Wurlitzer. This work is planned for January so there's still plenty of time to get your donations in for that work as well. As a 501C3 non profit organization we rely largely on donations to continue to operate. Please consider this as we approach the end of the tax year. Your donations are tax deductible. I will also take this opportunity to suggest that you consider the DTOS in your estate planning. Talk to your tax expert to find out the many ways you too can make sure the Detroit Theater Organ Society will be around for years to come so future generations can be a part of the music where the music is part of you, or in this case them.



(Photo Chris Dengate)



(Photo Lance Luce)



Oh, And Happy Halloween everyone!





Coming in 2020

Oct 24	8pm.	"The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari"	(Stephen Warner)
Oct 31	8pm.	"They Live"	
Nov 21	8pm.	"Metropolis"	(Scott Smith)
Dec 6	3pm.	Holiday concert.	(Lance Luce)

We'd love to hear from you. Questions, Suggestions... We even take requests!!
Our Board of Directors are here to serve you. Email them at:

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