



Washington Center for the Performing Arts Olympia

BY **David Dahl**

WURLITZER'S OPUS 858, A "STYLE F SPECIAL," WAS SHIPPED to Olympia's Liberty Theatre on July 7, 1924. Sandy Balcom of Balcom & Vaughan Pipe Organs, Seattle, installed the organ. The Style F contained eight ranks and four tuned-percussion stops, with the "special" factory addition of a sixty-one-pipe Kinura and an upright pressure piano. The original installation was in two chambers in the proscenium. Directly below, the two-manual, mahogany-paneled console sat in the center of the orchestra pit, together with the matching piano. Organist Andy Crow recalls that the "tonal egress was marvelous with crisp articulation." This was largely due to the intimate placement within the 980-seat house, aided by forty-two seven-inch shutters. The theater remained mostly unchanged for many years, although it was later renamed the Olympic in 1949.

In 1962 Marshall Woodbridge (theater manager) asked organist Andy Crow what could be done with the ailing pipe organ. Andy began to work on the organ (releathering, checking wiring, etc.) and within a few years the organ was once again in excellent condition. In the late 1960s Les Lehne, who possessed considerable theater organ knowledge, began taking care of the instrument as well, continuing that work until 1995. In 1971 Woodbridge and Crow were able to purchase the theatre and, in 1973, install a tenth rank, a new English Post Horn. Voiced by Möller's reed expert, Adolph Zajic; this stop provided a new dimension to the instrument. Shortly thereafter, a scissors lift was installed, permitting the organ console to rise into the spotlight, where it would appear often at many movie intervals.

In 1979 Crow and Woodbridge sold the Olympic Theatre, which was eventually razed to make way for the Wash-

ington Center for the Performing Arts, completed in 1985. From the beginning it was planned to include the pipe organ in the new facility. As Andy Crow states, "I had been planning a larger instrument for the yet-to-be-built center. From time to time, as appropriate items became available, I purchased and stored them with the idea that the original organ would be the basic instrument, with the additions making a more versatile organ."

Les Lehne and Andy Crow worked closely with the architects and the Washington Center to design appropriate chambers for the organ and to work out details with the blower room and console garage, accessible from the orchestra lift. Ed Zollman of Colorado Springs was contracted to install the computer-controlled relay, as well as to perform the tonal finishing of the expanded organ. A three-manual console was acquired and sent to Ed Zollman. It was refitted to accommodate the new tonal additions, including a Uniflex 2000 System (Wilcox computer system), and a black satin finish. At its dedication on October 1, 1995, with Andy Crow at the console, the new instrument contained twenty-two ranks plus percussion. (The addition of a three-rank Mixture is planned for the future.) Andy Crow writes: "In its new surrounds, the tonal egress is excellent. The sound is gorgeous, and all of us at the Washington Center are proud of our Wurlitzer theater organ."

SOURCE

Crow, Andy. "Restored Again: A Mighty Wurlitzer Charms Another Generation." *Theatre Organ* (May and June 1996).

OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON CENTER FOR
THE PERFORMING ARTS
RUDOLPH WURLITZER
MANUFACTURING CO.
OPUS 858, 1924

PEDAL

Tuba Cornet [Res.]	32
Contra Bourdon [Res.]	32
Tuba Profunda	16
Diaphone	16
Tibia Clausa [M]	16
String	16
Bourdon	16
English Horn	8
Tuba Horn	8
Octave Open Diapason	8
Octave Horn Diapason	8
Tibia Clausa (Solo)	8
Tibia Clausa [M]	8
Kinura	8
Clarinet	8
Cello	8
Salicional	8
Oboe Horn	8
Flute	8
Lieblich Flute	8
Piano	8
Accomp to Pedal	8
Great to Pedal	8
Great Octave to Pedal	4
Solo to Pedal	8

ACCOMPANIMENT

English Horn	8
Trumpet	8
Tuba	8
Open Diapason	8
Horn Diapason	8
Tibia Clausa [M]	8
Saxophone	8
Clarinet	8
Viol d'Orchestre	8
Salicional	8
Oboe Horn	8
Quintadena	8
Concert Flute	8
Lieblich Flute	8
Vox Humana	8
Octave Open Diapason	4
Octave Horn Diapason	4
Principal	4
Piccolo [M]	4
Viol	4
Salicet	4
Flute	4
Lieblich Flute	4
Vox Humana	4

Twelfth	2½
Piccolo	2
Lieblich Piccolo	2
Piano	8
Piano	4
Sub Harp	
Harp	
Sub Chrysoglott	
Chrysoglott	
Accomp Octave	4

GREAT

English Horn	16
Trumpet	16
Tuba Horn	16
Open Diapason	16
Diaphonic Horn	16
Tibia Clausa (Solo)	16
Tibia Clausa [M]	16
Saxophone	16
Orchestral Oboe	16
Clarinet	16
String Ensemble [IV]	16
Bourdon	16
Vox Humana	16

Lieblich Flute	4
Tibia Tenth (Solo)	3½
Tibia Twelfth (Solo)	2½
Tibia Twelfth [M]	2½
Twelfth	2½
Piccolo (Solo)	2
Piccolo [M]	2
Principal	2
Fifteenth (Vd'O)	2
Flute	2
Lieblich Piccolo	2
Tibia Tierce	1¾
Fife	1
Mixture	prepared
Great Sub Octave	16
Great Unison Off	8
Great Octave	4
Solo to Great	16

SOLO

English Horn	16
Tibia Clausa (Solo)	16
Tibia Clausa [M]	16
English Horn	8
Trumpet	8

ACCOMPANIMENT

(Back Rail Left to Right)
Snare Drum
Tambourine
Castanets
Tap Cymbal
Chinese Block
Selective Traps

ACCOMPANIMENT

2ND TOUCH	
<i>(Back Rail)</i>	
English Horn	8
Trumpet	8
Tuba Horn	8
Open Diapason	8
Tibia Clausa	8
Clarinet	8
Piccolo	4
Piano	8
Sub Harp	
Octave Glockenspiel	
Cathedral Chimes	
Triangle	
Great Octave to Accomp	

GREAT

(TUNED PERCUSSIONS)	
<i>(Back Rail Left to Right)</i>	
Piano	8
Harp	
Chrysoglott	
Xylophone	
Glockenspiel	
Cathedral Chimes	
Sleigh Bells	

SOLO

<i>(Back Rail Left to Right)</i>	
Piano	8
Sub Harp	
Harp	
Chrysoglott	
Xylophone	
Glockenspiel	
Cathedral Chimes	

ACCESSORIES

(Back Rail Left to Right)
String Celeste Coupler
Flute Celeste Coupler
Solo to Great Pizzicato

TREMULANTS

<i>(Back Rail)</i>	
Main	
Main II	
Solo	
Solo II	
Tibia Clausa I	[Solo]
Tibia Clausa II	[Main]
Vox Humana I	[Solo]
Vox Humana II	[Main]
Tuba Horn	



English Horn	8	Tuba Horn	8
Trumpet	8	Open Diapason	8
Tuba Horn	8	Horn Diapason	8
Open Diapason	8	Tibia Clausa (Solo)	8
Horn Diapason	8	Tibia Clausa [M]	8
Tibia Clausa (Solo)	8	Saxophone	8
Tibia Clausa [M]	8	Kinura	8
Saxophone	8	Orchestral Oboe	8
Kinura	8	Clarinet	8
Orchestral Oboe	8	String Ensemble [IV]	8
Clarinet	8	Oboe Horn	8
Viol d'Orchestre	8	Quintadena	8
Salicional	8	Concert Flute	8
Oboe Horn	8	Vox Humana	8
Quintadena	8	Piccolo (Solo)	4
Concert Flute	8	Piccolo [M]	4
Lieblich Flute	8	Tibia Twelfth (Solo)	2½
Vox Humana	8	Piccolo (Solo)	2
Tibia Quint (Solo)	5½	Piccolo [M]	2
Octave Open Diapason	4	Tibia Tierce	1¾
Octave Horn Diapason	4	Tibia Larigot	1½
Principal	4	Solo Sub Octave	16
Piccolo (Solo)	4	Solo Unison Off	8
Piccolo [M]	4	Solo Third	6½
Viol	4	Solo Fifth	5½
Salicet	4	Solo Octave	4
Flute	4		

OHS SEATTLE 2008 ORGAN ATLAS

CHAMBER ANALYSIS: RANKS IN ITALICS ARE ORIGINAL FROM OPUS 858, 1924.

RANK	PITCH	W.P.	NO. PIPES	MANUFACTURER	PIPE COMPOSITION	TREMULANT
SOLO CHAMBER: Two chests, order front to back.						
<i>Kinura</i>	8'	10"	61	Wurlitzer	hoyt metal, open metal flues	Solo II Tremulant
<i>Tibia Clausa</i>	16'-2'	15"	97	Wurlitzer	stopped wood, leathered lips; open metal	Tibia I Tremulant
<i>Tuba Horn</i>	16'-4'	15"	85	Wurlitzer	zinc and hoyt metal, harmonic at c ⁴ , open metal flues	Tuba Tremulant
Orchestral Oboe	8'	10"	61	Wurlitzer	zinc basses, hoyt metal, open-metal flues	Solo II Tremulant
WALKBOARD						
Trumpet	8'	10"	61	Wurlitzer	spun-brass resonators, open-metal flues	Solo I Tremulant
Voix Celeste	8'-4'	10"	73	Unknown	spotted metal	Solo I Tremulant
Quintadena	8'	10"	61	Unknown	capped metal	Solo II Tremulant
Salicional	8'-4'	10"	73	Unknown	zinc basses, spotted metal	Solo I Tremulant
Saxophone	8'	10"	61	Wurlitzer	spun-brass resonators, open-metal flues	Solo I Tremulant
English Horn	8'	15"	61	M.P. Möller	zinc, spotted, open-metal flues	Untremulated
Vox Humana	8'-4'	6"	73	Wurlitzer	hoyt metal, open-metal flues	Vox I Tremulant
MAIN CHAMBER: TWO CHESTS, FRONT TO BACK.						
<i>Concert Flute</i>	16'-2'	10"	97	Wurlitzer	stopped wood, open wood, open metal	I Tremulant
<i>Viol d'Orchestra</i>	16'-2'	10"	97	Wurlitzer	narrow scale, zinc, spotted metal	Main I Tremulant
<i>Open Diapason</i>	16'-4'	10"	85	Wurlitzer	metal Diaphone 1-12, zinc, hoyt metal	Main I Tremulant
<i>Voix Celeste</i>	8'-4'	10"	73	Wurlitzer	narrow scale, zinc, spotted metal	Main I Tremulant
<i>Clarinet</i>	8'	10"	61	Wurlitzer	hoyt metal, open-metal flues	Main I Tremulant
WALKBOARD						
<i>Tibia Clausa</i>	8'-2'	10"	85	Wurlitzer	stopped wood, leathered lips; open metal	Tibia II Tremulant
Principal	4'-2'	10"	73	M.P. Möller	zinc, spotted metal	Main II Tremulant
Horn Diapason	8'-4'	10"	73	M.P. Möller	zinc, spotted metal	Main II Tremulant
Oboe Horn	8'	10"	61	M.P. Möller	zinc, spotted metal, open metal flues	Main II Tremulant
Lieblich Flute	8'-1'	10"	97	M.P. Möller	stopped wood, open metal	Main II Tremulant
Flute Celeste	8'	10"	73	Wurlitzer	open wood, open metal	Main I Tremulant
<i>Vox Humana</i>	8'	6"	61	Wurlitzer	hoyt metal, open-metal flues	Vox II Tremulant
<p>✦ The original 2-manual console is now controlling the instrument Mr. Crow installed in his residence.</p> <p>✦ A new 3-manual Wurlitzer console of unknown origin was purchased, renovated and is now installed in the WCPA.</p>						

DETAILS

PLACE OF MANUFACTURE: North Tonawanda, New York.

ORIGINAL INSTALLATION: Liberty Theatre, Olympia, Washington.

SIZE: Original organ - two manuals and pedal, nine ranks; present organ - three manuals and pedal, twenty-three ranks.

WIND PRESSURE: *Voces Humanæ* 152 mm (6"); Main and Solo 254 mm (10"); Tuba Horn, English Post Horn 381 mm (15").

WIND SYSTEM: Twelve double-gusseted, parallel-rise, 3-valve regulators; beater tremulants.

BLOWER: Spencer Turbine Orgoblo - 10 h.p., 1750 rpm, 21" static wind pressure.

PITCH AND TEMPERAMENT: A440, equal.

KEY ACTION: Electro-pneumatic unit chests.

STOP ACTION: Uniflex multiplex relay.

LAYOUT: Main and Solo chambers.

KEYBOARD ORDER: I Accompaniment (with 2nd touch), II Great (with 2nd touch), III Solo.

MANUAL COMPASS: CC-c⁴, 61 notes.

PEDAL CLAVIER: CC-g⁴, 32 notes, concave and radiating.

COMBINATION ACTION: Uniflex multiplex.

THUMB PISTONS

GENERALS: 1-15

ACCOMPANIMENT: 1-10

GREAT: 1-10

SOLO: 1-10

TOE STUDS

1-6 (ASSIGNABLE)

4 FOOT-LEVERS (PIANO-TYPE, DOUBLE-TOUCH)

EXPRESSION PEDALS: Main, Solo.

CRESCENDO PEDAL: user-defined, with indicator.

DOCUMENTATION: Andrew Crow, Scot Huntington,

The Wurlitzer Pipe Organ/Junchen, Nye notebook.



ABOVE: Opening night at the Liberty Theatre, 1925.

**LIBERTY THEATRE
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON
WURLITZER HOPE-JONES UNIT
ORCHESTRA STYLE F SPECIAL
OPUS 858, 1924**

ORIGINAL STOPLIST

PEDAL

Ophicleide	16'
Bass	16'
Bourdon	16'
Tuba Horn	8'
Open Diapason	8'
Tibia Clausa	8'
Clarinet	8'
Cello	8'
Flute	8'
Octave	4'
Piano	16'

SECOND TOUCH

Bass Drum
Kettle Drum
Crash Cymbal
Cymbal

ACCOMPANIMENT

Contra Viole (t.c.)	16'
Vox Humana (t.c.)	16'
Tuba Horn	8'
Open Diapason	8'
Tibia Clausa	8'

Clarinet	8'
Kinura	8'
Violin	8'
Violin Celeste	8'
Flute	8'
Vox Humana	8'
Piccolo	4'
Viole	4'
Octave Celeste	4'
Flute	4'
Vox Humana	4'
Twelfth	2 $\frac{2}{3}$ '
Piccolo	2'
Piano	16'
Piano	8'
Piano	4'
Chrysoglott	
Snare Drum	
Tambourine	
Castanets	
Chinese Block	
Tom-Tom	

SECOND TOUCH

Tuba Horn	8'
Open Diapason	8'
Clarinet	8'
Cathedral Chimes	
Xylophone	
Triangle	

RIGHT: Andy Crow at the original Liberty Theatre console in 1967, now installed in Crow's residence.

SOLO

Ophicleide	16'
Bass	16'
Contra Viole (t.c.)	16'
Tuba Horn	8'
Open Diapason	8'
Tibia Clausa	8'
Clarinet	8'
Kinura	8'
Violin	8'
Violin Celeste	8'
Flute	8'
Vox Humana	8'
Clarion	4'
Octave	4'
Piccolo	4'
Violin	4'
Octave Celeste	4'
Flute	4'
Twelfth	2 $\frac{2}{3}$ '
Piccolo	2'
Tierce	1 $\frac{3}{5}$ '
Cathedral Chimes	
Sleigh Bells	
Xylophone	
Glockenspiel	
Chrysoglott	

SECOND TOUCH

Ophicleide	16'
Tibia Clausa	8'
Clarinet	8'

TREMULANTS

Main
Solo
Tuba
Vox

EFFECTS

(by toe pistons)
Bird Effect
Auto Horn
Fire Gong
Steamboat Whistle
Horse Hoofs
Surf
Door Bell-push button

GENERAL

Main and Solo Expression
Ten adjustable combination pistons for each manual
Three adjustable combination pistons for Pedal
Double Touch Sforzando Pedal (1st touch—all wind stops, 2nd touch tutti)
Double Touch Percussion Pedal (1st touch—Snare Drum, 2nd touch Bass Drum & Cymbal)

ANALYSIS

16'	Tuba Horn/Ophicleide
16'	Open Diapason with 12-note metal Diaphone [Bass] 16' extension
16'	Flute/Bourdon
8'	Tibia Clausa/Piccolo
8'	Clarinet
8'	Kinura
8'	Violin
8'	Vox Humana
4'	Violin Celeste



WURLITZER