



COLUMBIA RIVER CLARION

Columbia River Theatre Organ Society

Columbia River Clarion | February/March 2013 | Volume 20 | Issue 2/3 | www.crtos.org



The 1st Annual Academy Awards Presentation

Our first film series The First Oscars was a success. We had two great screenings of two great films accompanied by two great artists. Early reports suggest we nearly doubled the usual Monday night crowd at the Hollywood Theatre. I saw many regulars in attendance, but more importantly, I saw several new faces as well. There is a lot of room for this to grow! I can't wait to see what our next series has to offer. Before we leave this theme behind though, I thought a little more information about the very first Academy Awards ceremony was in order as well as some of the reason this series was cut short.

The first Academy Awards took place on May 16, 1929 by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS). AMPAS President Douglas Fairbanks hosted the show, a private dinner party attended by some 270 guests. The actual presentation of the awards took about 15 minutes. It is the only Academy Awards to not be broadcast on either radio or television.

Louis B. Mayer of Louis B. Mayer Picture Corporation (later joined into MGM) and one of the founders of AMPAS came up with the idea of the Academy Awards in an attempt to drive the quality of movies in a direction he preferred. He was quoted as saying "I found that the best way to handle [filmmakers] was to hang medals all over them ... If I got them cups and awards they'd kill them to produce what I wanted. That's why the Academy Award was created". Mayer requested the art director of MGM to design and develop the actual trophy, and the now famous statue was born.

The First Oscars® Silent Film Series: **It's a Wrap!**

The first Academy Awards were presented in 12 categories which I've listed at the end of this article along with the winning film(s) beside them. This is the only Awards ceremony that allowed for more than a single winner in any categories which meant something like 16 actual trophies were handed out.

Now, you might assume with so many winners, it would be easy to present a longer series. Unfortunately there are a couple reasons this did not happen despite our best efforts. The first being that not all of these films have survived intact. A couple remain in fragments only and at least one is considered lost completely. Of the remaining films, three are currently controlled by Fox Film Corporation and three by United Artist. Both of these companies have begun requiring all screenings of ALL of their titles (including silent films) on newer digital projection equipment - which the Hollywood Theatre does not have at this time. To truly explore and explain this issue requires an article dedicated to the topic alone. Suffice to say, without \$150,000 worth of brand new equipment, we will not be showing these studios' films any time soon. Thousands of small theatres across the country face this same issue and the film companies appear unwilling to waiver or make exceptions.

As this was our first series, we learned a lot about putting one on. I look forward to continuing the momentum we began here and have many more successful series with an ever-growing audience.

Below is a list of all 12 categories and the winners of each. While some films are lost to time, several can be rented and watched to fill in the remaining gaps for that First Oscars experience.

1929 Academy Award Winners

1. **Outstanding Picture** - *Wings*
2. **Unique and Artistic Production** - *Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans*
3. **Best Director, Comedy Picture** - Lewis Milestone - *Two Arabian Knights*
4. **Best Director, Dramatic Picture** - Frank Borzage - *Seventh Heaven*
5. **Best Actor in a Leading Role** - Emil Jannings - *The Last Command* and *The Way of All Flesh*
6. **Best Actress in a Leading Role** - Janet Gaynor - *Seventh Heaven*, *Street Angel*, and *Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans*
7. **Best Writing, Original Story** - Ben Hecht - *Underworld*
8. **Best Writing, Adapted Story** - Benjamin Glazer - *Seventh Heaven*
9. **Best Cinematography** - Charles Rosher and Karl Struss - *Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans*
10. **Best Art Direction** - William Cameron Menzies - *The Dove* and *Tempest*
11. **Best Engineering Effects** - *Wings* - Roy Pomeroy
12. **Best Writing, Title Writing** - Joseph Farnham - (No specific film)

Honorary Awards

Charlie Chaplin "For versatility and genius in acting, writing, directing and producing *The Circus*".

Warner Brothers Production "For producing *The Jazz Singer*, the pioneer outstanding talking picture, which has revolutionized the industry".

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

3/26/13

CRTOS Board Meeting, 7 pm
Izzy's at Gateway

4/23/13

CRTOS Board Meeting, 7 pm
Izzy's at Gateway

Directors (Current Term)

President

Jack Powers (2013)
president@crtos.org

Vice-President

Stuart Hall (2015)
vicepresident@crtos.org

Treasurer

Lou Paff (2014)
treasurer@crtos.org

Secretary

Max Brown (2015)
secretary@crtos.org

Directors

Rob Kingdom (2013)
Paul Tichy (2013)
Max Brown (2014)
Bob Hinson (2014)
Jonas Nordwall (2015)
Bo Vernier (2015)

Activities

Terry Robson

Communications

Carol Brown
carolmaxb@comcast.net

Webmaster

Paul Tichy
webmaster@crtos.org

Newsletter Ed.

Steve Jarvis
newsletter@crtos.org

CRTOS Board Meeting Minutes

2/26/13

President Jack Powers called meeting to order at 7pm. fund raising for various activities and causes.

Present were: Bo Vernier, Gary Nelson, Rob Kingdom, Ron Deamer, Mike Bryant, Jack Powers, Dick Lawson, Paul Tichy, Lou Paff, Stuart Hall, and Max Brown.

The Treasurer's report and Secretary's minutes were approved as presented and published.

The attendance at "Wings" the first of our Silent Film Series was 120-150. The next film in the series "The Last Command" will be March 11, 2013 and be accompanied by Jonas Nordwall.

We voted to donate \$300.00 to ATOS National's "Tech Series" which is part of the annual

We discussed at length the operating agreement between CRTOS and the Hollywood Theatre. With a small added change, we voted to approve the agreement.

We voted to sell an extra 5-horse blower for whatever we can get for it.

There was discussion of the upcoming election for the board of directors and annual membership meeting.

We voted to remove Bob Hinson from the board for lack of attendance per the by-laws.

Meeting was adjourned by Jack Powers at 8:20pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Max Brown, Secretary*

Wind Supply

Your Society's annual election is almost upon us, and you will have a new President and several new Directors shortly. This last year has been a busy one, with two parties, IYSFF*, a film series, 11 Board meetings, work parties (scheduled and otherwise), Open Consoles, and more. Please join me in thanking all the dedicated members who make these things happen.

A project which has been in the works for some time recently bore fruit. We now have a contract with the Hollywood Theatre which defines our relationship and covers a number of important subjects such as ownership, insurance, procedures, and other important

items. Now that this is signed, we can proceed with them on new projects such as putting the first pipes in place, which is now under review by their Architecture Committee.

Our friends at the Hollywood have been great partners during my time as President, and we can look forward to even better times ahead.

I wish our new Board and officers great success as the Society moves forward.

Jack Powers

**Festival Screenings for 2013
May 21, 22 and 23, 2013 at 7:00 pm
www.makesilentfilm.com*

Annual Elections to the Board of CRTOS

Board members are elected to 3 year terms with the positions of 3 of the 9 members of the board needing to be replaced annually. Candidates from the same family are not eligible for nomination. The By-laws require that candidates be nominated prior to February 10 with elections taking place by mailed ballot to the membership. If there are no more than 3 nominees, the Board is empowered to declare nominations closed and those three nominees elected without balloting.

This year, there is one 3 year position for which there is no nominee, plus an additional 2 year position that has been declared vacant by the Board based on the By-laws.

If there are not enough nominees to fill the expiring seats, again, based on By-laws,

those whose terms would have expired may continue until a candidate is found to fill that position.

If you are a member of CRTOS and ATOS, you are eligible to serve on the Board and should contact us through the web site or a member of the Board. The Board is willing to consider arrangements for those that may not be current members of ATOS. Board meetings are monthly, the 4th Tuesday of the month at Izzys Restaurant at the Gateway Center Mall at SE 122nd and Halsey.

All members of CRTOS are welcome and encouraged to attend Board meetings. Come join us and realize what we have and expect to accomplish with the installation which is in place and in use at the Hollywood Theatre.

Monthly CRTOS Board Meeting

4th Tuesday of the month

Izzy's Restaurant at
the Gateway Shopping Center
1307 NE 102nd. Ave., PDX
7 PM (no-host dinner at 6:30)

All members are encouraged to attend.

The Columbia River Theatre Organ Society is a non-profit, educational organization dedicated to the preservation of the theatre organ and its music.



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FOR SALE - Small 2 manual/5 rank theatre pipe organ/hybrid. Pipe work consists of 16' flute, 8' vox, 8' salicional, 8' t.c. Diapason, 8' t.c. Tibia, chimes (18 notes), xylophone (37 notes), plus extra parts, relay, solid state, switches, Reisner electric, blower, Spenser Orgoblo, 1-1/2 horse power, console, Gulbransen Rialto - k. Currently playing, mostly Wurlitzer, no shipping, pickup only. Will fit in very small space. Selling due to health issues. Call Fred Porter at 503-591-1559 for details. \$1500.00 OBO. Organ is in Hillsboro, Oregon area.