



COLUMBIA RIVER CLARION

Columbia River Theatre Organ Society

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The First Oscars® Silent Film Series Presents:

Wings

Winner of Two Academy Awards

Staring:

Clara Bow, Buddy Rogers, Richard Arlen, and Gary Cooper



The film opens with a young Jack Powell working on his sports car and dreaming of flying. His neighbor Mary is in love with him but he seems not to notice, having been smitten by the fair Sylvia, but he can't see that Sylvia has eyes only for David. The distant drums of war beckon, and Jack and David train to be pilots in the American Expeditionary Corp. Their rivalry soon evolves into camaraderie as they do aerial battle with the Germans in the skies over France. Meanwhile Mary has joined the Women's Motor Corp and despairs that Jack doesn't notice her.

Jack and David are billeted together. Their tent mate is Cadet White, but their acquaintance is all too brief; White is killed in an air crash the same day. Undaunted, the two men endure a rigorous training period, where they go from being enemies to best friends. Upon graduating, they are shipped off to France to fight the Germans.

The film was written by John Monk Saunders (original story), Louis D. Lighton and Hope Loring (screenplay), edited and produced by Lucien Hubbard, directed by William A. Wellman, with an original orchestral score by John Stepan Zamecnik, which was uncredited. The movie was shot at Kelly Field, San Antonio, Texas between September 7, 1926 and April 7, 1927. A sneak preview was shown May 19, 1927, at the Texas Theater on Houston Street in San Antonio. The premiere was held at the Criterion Theater, in New York City, on August 12, 1927.

The film was one of the first to show two men kissing: a fraternal moment during the death-bed finale. A heartbreaking scene that really brings out the bond that has grown through all these two had been through. It is also one of the first widely released films to show nu-

dividity. This film was released a few months before the MPPDA list of "Don'ts and Be Carefuls" was established.

Producer Lucien Hubbard hired director Wellman because of his World War I aviator experience. Arlen, Wellman, and John Monk Saunders had all served in World War I as military aviators. Arlen was able to do his own flying in the film and Rogers, a non-pilot, underwent flight training during the course of the production, so that, like Arlen, Rogers could also be filmed in close-up in the air. Despite the number of aircraft in the air, only two incidents occurred, one involving Dick Grace, a stunt pilot and the other was a fatal crash of a United States Army Air Corps pilot.

Wings was an immediate success, playing 63 weeks before being moved to second-run theaters. One of the reasons for its resounding popularity was the public infatuation with aviation in the wake of Charles Lindbergh's transatlantic flight. The critical response was equally enthusiastic as the critic of *The New York Times* noted that the realism of the flying scenes was impressive.

On May 16, 1929, the first Academy Award ceremony was held at the Hotel Roosevelt in Hollywood to honor outstanding film achievements of 1927 and 1928. *Wings* was entered in a number of categories but in contrast with later ceremonies, there were two awards that were seen as equally the top award of the night. These were *Unique and Artistic Production*, won by *Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans* and *Outstanding Picture* (later renamed *Best Picture*), won by *Wings* which went on to also win *Best Engineering Effects* for Roy Pomeroy. The following year, the Academy dropped the *Unique and Artistic Production* award, and decided

retroactively that the award won by *Wings* was the highest honor that could be awarded. The statuette, not yet known as the "Oscar", was presented by Douglas Fairbanks to Clara Bow on behalf of the producers, Adolph Zukor and B.P. Schulberg.

For many years, *Wings* was considered a lost film until a print was found in the Cinémathèque Française film archive in Paris and quickly copied from nitrate film to safety film stock. It was again shown in theaters. In 1997, *Wings* was selected for preservation in the United States National Film Registry by the Library of Congress as being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant".

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2/18/13

First Oscars - Wings, 7:30 pm
Hollywood Theatre

2/20/13

Open Console, 10:15 am - noon
Hollywood Theatre

2/23/13

Portland Chamber Orchestra,
Don Feely Silent Film, 7:30 pm
Scottish Rite Center, Portland

2/26/13

CRTOS Board Meeting, 7 pm
Izzy's at Gateway

3/11/13

First Oscars - Last Command, 7:30 pm
Hollywood Theatre

3/17/13

Bach Birthday Bash, 4 pm
Tabor Heights United Methodist Church

3/26/13

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
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Webmaster

Paul Tichy
webmaster@crtos.org

Newsletter Ed.

Steve Jarvis
newsletter@crtos.org

CRTOS Board Meeting Minutes

1/22/13

Meeting was called to order by President Jack Powers at 7 PM.

Present were: Bo Vernier, Jonas Nordwall, Dick Lawson, Ron Deamer, Paul Tichy, Jack Powers, Rob Kingdom, Max Brown, Steve Jarvis, Lou Paff, and Stuart Hall.

The treasurer's report and the November minutes were accepted as presented.

There was lengthy discussion about the silent film series. There are issues with license to show. One is not possible because of equipment. There was much discussion on publicity and advertising. Paul will assist Steve with advertising posters.

Dick Lawson will set up training of ushers, greeters, etc.

There is interest in the sale of Marimba bars and tubes only. We voted to authorize Rob to negotiate.

A motion was made and approved to pay the first year's membership to ATOS National for new board members that are not members of National.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Max Brown, Secretary*

Wind Supply

It's not too late to wish you a happy Chinese New Year, one full of promise and, I hope, prosperity. The next few weeks look like busy ones:

Plans for the First Oscars Silent Film Series have changed, due to a late change in management and surprises regarding the rights to show certain films. The good news is that we will have another great artist on the playbill and two of the best classic films ever made. The less-good news is that we haven't been able to get rights to show the last two films planned, resulting in a 2-film series. Donna Parker and Jonas Nordwall will each accompany one of the films, giving us two very talented perspectives on film accompaniment. We are mailing 2-for-1 coupons to CRTOS members, making this a real bargain as well as great entertainment. Please bring along a friend or family member for each of two performance evenings. This is a nice (and painless)

way to introduce people to the magic of the Theatre Organ! Performances are February 18 and March 11, and details are on the Web at <http://www.crtos.org/filmseries.php>

CRTOS Board Elections are coming! Our by-laws require an annual election of 3 new members to the Board of Directors, and this year there may be an additional vacancy, for 4 slots to fill. We have only two candidates as of this writing, and need at least 2 more to elect a full Board. Serving on the Board requires no special skills, involves (usually) 11 meetings per year, and is an opportunity to share your ideas about the group's direction. Please consider volunteering or suggesting a good candidate to Ron Deamer, our Nominating Committee Of One. You can download a PDF of our by-laws from <http://www.crtos.org/about.php> (look for "Click here to view our bylaws").

Jack Powers, President

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.



Find us on
Facebook

Bach Birthday Celebration: Organ Concert

Sunday March 17th - 4:00 PM



Tabor Heights United Methodist Church invites the community to an Organ Concert, celebrating the birthday of Johann S. Bach. Portland organist Heidi Kohne will play an all-Bach program. A Happy Birthday Bach reception will be held following the concert.

A free-will offering will be accepted.

Tabor Heights United Methodist Church

6161 SE Stark St.

Portland, OR 97215-1935

503.232.8500

Website: <http://www.taborheightschurch.org>

Classified

FREE PIPES

They are Dulciana, 36 pipes, middle c up, make unknown and a Salicional, 6 pipes, f sharp up to b, 8 ft. Wurlitzer, Contact Fred Porter at 503-591-1559

FOR SALE

ALLEN ADC 2000 Classic Organ

I have \$6,700 in it. Asking \$5,500 but will consider offers. It has a transposer, card reader, and 17 cards. Medium Oak finish roll top console and speakers. The original HC12 speakers have been replaced by current production HR200 modified speakers making for better mid range and better hi range dispersion. The mid and hi range speakers have level controls to allow for setting to match room acoustics. The original 100 watt amplifiers have been replaced with much better 200 watt amplifiers.

Gary J. Nelson

360-256-7382

abbfdoc@comcast.net

4001 NE 137th Ave

Vancouver, WA 98682

NEEDS NEW HOME

Beaverton Masonic lodge is discussing sending this beautiful instrument to the dump. An organ specialist told them that while there is no value to the organ, there is a sound box in it that would sell for \$1,500.00 on ebay.

They have tried other Masonic organizations, but have been unable to find a home for it. The instrument still works.

For more information, contact Dan Gray at WM Beaverton Masonic Lodge #100.

