

# NEWS RELEASE

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#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Patriotic Anthems, a Spooky Silent Film and Tunes from Tinseltown, Looking Ahead to Fall Concerts with Dr. Jonathan Kleefield and Clark Wilson on the Mighty Wurlitzer at The Hanover Theatre!



**Worcester, Mass. (August 22, 2024)** After successful spring concerts and silent film screenings, The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts welcomes back resident organist Dr. Jonathan Kleefield and the accomplished Clark Wilson on <a href="mailto:the Mighty Wurlitzer">the Mighty Wurlitzer</a> this fall for events on **September 11, October 13, and November 6!** 

#### Tickets are on sale now!

<u>America the Beautiful: A Patriotic Musical Revue</u> celebrates the wonders and greatness of our beloved country on a solemn day of remembrance, **September 11 at 12 PM**. Marches, melodies and folk tunes can be expected in Kleefield's always crowd-pleasing programming at The Hanover Theatre. Beginning with the National Anthem and ending with a Carmen Dragon inspired "America the Beautiful," the Mighty Wurlitzer proves to be a perfect instrument to honor the United States and its people.

The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts also welcomes back Clark Wilson on the Mighty Wurlitzer Organ to accompany John S. Robertson's iconic silent film <u>Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</u> October 13, 2024 at 2 PM. Considered by many to be the first great American horror film, John S. Robertson's <u>Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</u> allowed stage legend John Barrymore to deliver his first virtuoso performance on film. Blending historical charm with grim naturalism, this family friendly version of <u>Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</u> is one of the more faithful of the many screen adaptations of Robert Louis Stevenson's story (though greatly influenced by T. R. Sullivan's popular stage treatment), recounting a visionary scientist's ill-fated attempts to unleash the human mysteries that dwell beneath the shell of the civilized self.

Winner of "The Theatre Organist of the Year Award" in 1998, Clark Wilson has been an organist and conservator for the last thirty years. With a multitude of performances, in addition to having seven albums under his belt, Clark Wilson shares his passion with students as an organ faculty member at the University of Oklahoma, teaching silent film scoring, organ lessons as well as the history of the American theater organ. A talented musician and live performer, Clark's magical sounds have led to yearly presentations at the Los Angeles Philharmonic Society at the Walt Disney Concert Hall organ.

Following that unforgettable classic horror screening patrons can return to Tinseltown for <u>A</u> <u>Hollywood Musical Revue: Part Two</u> with Dr. Jonathan Kleefield on **November 6 at 12 PM**. This revue provides a golden opportunity to reminisce about vintage Hollywood glamour in the perfect setting, the historic Hanover Theatre. Highlights include nostalgic songs penned by Richard Rodgers of the famed Rodgers and Hammerstein writing team along with the iconic chart topper "As Time Goes By," arranged for posterity by Max Steiner for the Oscar<sup>®</sup> winning film "Casablanca" and more! Hollywood melodies fill the former movie theatre for an unforgettable afternoon of entertainment.

<u>Tickets</u> for *America, the Beautiful: A Patriotic Musical Revue* and *A Hollywood Musical Revue: Part Two* are only \$10 for non-members. The Mighty Wurlitzer concerts are FREE for

subscribers, current conservatory families, members and their guests. Seating is general admission. Run time is approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes.

Tickets for *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* are \$20. There is a \$5 discount per ticket for subscribers, students and groups of 10 or more. All Wurlitzer events are FREE for Patron Level members and higher. Seating is general admission. Film run time is 79 minutes.

For more information, contact the box office at 877.571.7469 or visit TheHanoverTheatre.org.

Opportunities to hear the Mighty Wurlitzer Organ include the following:

### Wednesday, September 11 at 12 PM

America the Beautiful: A Patriotic Musical Revue with Dr. Jonathan Kleefield

### Sunday, October 13 at 2 PM

<u>Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde:</u> Silent Film accompanied by Clark Wilson

## Wednesday, November 6 at 12 PM

<u>A Hollywood Musical Revue: Part Two</u> with Dr. Jonathan Kleefield

Available now! Holidays at The Hanover Theatre Volume 1, our debut music album

The Mighty Wurlitzer, assembled and gifted to the theatre by <u>Donald Phipps</u>, is recognized as one of the cultural jewels of Worcester. Phipps, Kleefield and the Mighty Wurlitzer were highlighted on <u>WCVB Channel 5 Boston "Chronicle."</u> As a board director of the Eastern Massachusetts Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society, Phipps followed in the footsteps of our theatre's founders, with his vision of restoring a treasured piece of our heritage. Learn more about how you can support the Mighty Wurlitzer Organ at <u>TheHanoverTheatre.org!</u>

## **About The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts**

Since opening in 2008, The Hanover Theatre has entertained more than two million guests with Broadway musicals, comedy headliners, music, dance and more. POLLSTAR consistently ranks The Hanover Theatre as one of the top theatres in the world. The award-winning historic theatre continues to establish its place as a world-class center for the performing arts, a venue for local cultural and civic organizations and a catalyst for the revitalization of downtown

Worcester. The Hanover Theatre's facilities at 551 Main Street house function spaces, offices and The Hanover Theatre Conservatory.

Worcester Center for Performing Arts is a registered not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, which owns and operates The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts (THT) and, on behalf of the Worcester Cultural Coalition (WCC), manages Worcester's BrickBox Theater at the Jean McDonough Arts Center (JMAC). All <u>donations</u> are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

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