

MUSIC HALL MARKS

2017
Summer
Issue



SPMH - President's Message

What a year it has been watching the restoration and revitalization of Music Hall unfold! SPMH has been actively involved at every stage of this massive redevelopment project by donating time, talents and treasure (over \$4 million so far).

In particular, we have overseen the careful restoration of Corbett Tower. This discrete project has uncovered and restored historic windows and entry doors; discovered the cove ceiling 30 feet above the previous drop ceiling; recreated the three intricate tracery windows beneath the centered rose window; and repainted the brilliant and detailed stenciling in the room. The three large crystal chandeliers you will remember, from the main entrance foyer are being refurbished and installed in

Corbett Tower. I invite you to come and see the transformation of this beautiful room and its stunning views over Washington Park.

SPMH also has contributed to the exterior renovations of our High Victorian Gothic building by repainting the black brick banding, piano key arches, diamonds, quatrefoils and basket weave patterns that were sandblasted away some time ago. Stay tuned for SPMH's

plans for the cresting and various decorative "spikes" on the roofs and gables.

In addition, SPMH has been part of the essential but less visible work restoring and preserving the 1878 museum quality art-carved wood organ panels; statues; paintings; and Springer Auditorium's magnificent allegori-



Peter E. Koenig

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cal mural. SPMH has provided substantial financial support for CET's soon-to-be-released documentary film of this complex construction project.

Throughout the construction process, SPMH has continued to inform and educate through our *Beyond the Bricks* tours and community outreach. You are invited to take a tour around the exterior of the building and be amazed at everything you'll learn about the history and architecture of Music Hall, a National Historic Landmark since 1975.

It has been wonderful to experience so much passion, effort and expertise poured into the revitalization of our beloved Music Hall. It has been an honor to be part of SPMH's strong and committed board. None of our work would be possible, however, without your generous support and contributions.

To say "thank you" and to welcome you to the renewed and improved Music Hall the board is hosting a "Music Hall Unwrapped" event from 4:30 to 8:00 p.m. on October 11th. Mark your calendar now.

As we look forward, SPMH will continue to serve as the all-volunteer group dedicated to preserving, promoting, enhancing and providing education about Music Hall. It will be up to us (and you) to ensure that Music Hall maintains its designation as one of the best and most beautiful performing arts venues in the world.

Your support is critical. So please sign up, become a member of SPMH, and join us in making a contribution. With your donation, we can continue to make an extraordinary difference. With much thanks.

- Peter Koenig

SPMH MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of The Society for the Preservation of Music Hall is to preserve, promote, improve, and provide education about Music Hall, funding special projects in addition to Music Hall management's operational and maintenance obligations, and facilitating communications among Music Hall management, owner, and tenants, in order to perpetuate Music Hall as the premier cultural center of the Region, and as a National Historic Landmark of international significance.

Society for the Preservation of Music Hall

Renew your membership or join today by using the enclosed envelope.

- Thank You!

SPMH Board of Directors 2017

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Joyce Van Wye

Giving of herself came easily to Joyce, co-founder of the Society for the Preservation of Music Hall. As Ticket Manager for Cincinnati Opera, she saw a real need for support of Music Hall and voiced her concerns with Jean Reis of the Corbett Foundation. "We started with a luncheon meeting at the little restaurant 'Bacchus'. Jean Reis, Louise Nippert, Norma Petersen and I met to discuss the situation. In time we contacted several people who were interested in helping." These

included Patricia Corbett, Betty Herschede and Manuel Mayer-son. One of the first projects taken on was the replacement of the old and stained stage curtain. Louise Nippert paid for a new curtain for which Joyce ordered gold fringe from Belgium. Betty Herchede paid for 10 box seat renovations, chairs, draperies, etc. With permission from the City and the Manager of Music Hall, Joyce approached her friend Manny Mayerson about the need for lights on the outside front of

Music Hall. He gave the project \$100,000. When asked "What is your favorite place in Music Hall?" Joyce replied "I just love Music Hall period!" Joyce was the honored speaker at the SPMH 2012 Annual Meeting which celebrated the organization's 25th anniversary.

Growing up in Cincinnati she learned to play piano, melophone and horn. Joyce won a scholarship to The College of Music, playing in the band one night and the orchestra two nights every week. Invited to play in the Jewish Community Orchestra, she met bassoonist, John R. Van Wye whom she married on October 22, 1949. At that time the CSO had a shortage of musicians so she was asked to play extra horn, a position she held for 9 years. She also played horn under direction of Andrew Brady, R. Earl Snapp, Captain Harry Meuser (from Washington D.C.) and George (Smittie) Smith.

A Woodwind Quintet was organized by Joyce and Jack leading to the 1954 formation of The Cincinnati Community Orchestra. While living in Terrace Park with their three children, the Van Wyes

had band rehearsals on their driveway every Monday night in summers. Subsequently, The Terrace Park Sometimes Marching Band was formed in 1961. Joyce Van Wye was named one of the Enquirer's 10 Women of the Year in 1969



Joyce Van Wye

While working for Opera in the 1980's Joyce took a two week leave to join Jack in playing horn for the Boston University Band on a European tour which took them to 7 major cities. Marcus Nieman & The Sounds of Sousa Band, is yet another of the

bands/orchestras in which the couple played both musical and administrative roles. Joyce was the manager for a time in the 1990s.

A resident at the Lodge Retirement Community for many years, Joyce provided 15 minutes of her piano music before every meal making each a celebration. "I like hearing residents tell me they enjoy my playing." On March 5, 2017 with the death of this sweet lady, our community lost a musician, entrepreneur, volunteer and lover of all things Music Hall.

- Kathy Janson

Save the Date

Music Hall Unwrapped

in the Newly Restored Corbett Tower

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

4:30PM - 8:00PM

*Celebrate Music Hall's reopening with SPMH!
An evening of guided tours, lite bites, beverages (cash bar),
music by the Faux Frenchmen and much more!*



\$30 per ticket visit CAA box office

www.cincinnatiarts.org

or call: (513) 621-2787

For SPMH tours call (513) 744-3293

www.SPMHcincinnati.org

Your ticket purchase includes a one year membership in
The Society for the Preservation of Music Hall, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization

SPMH Reveals Music Hall's Original Elegance

Long-lost rich details of Music Hall are being restored thanks to 4 million dollars of funding by SPMH. Black bricks decorating the façades now recreate the tapestry of patterns not seen for nearly a half century. Spectacular stenciling on Corbett Tower's ceiling and walls recreate that of the past. Lit by abundant natural light through reproductions of the original tracery windows by day, and the Czechoslovakian crystals of the three restored foyer chan-

deliers by night, Corbett Tower will be transformed into Music Hall's most resplendent interior. A new coat of conservation varnish on the 1905 Arthur Thomas mural in Springer Auditorium now preserves this breathtaking musical allegory for generations to come. From preservation projects to major restorations SPMH keeps Music Hall historically vibrant and impressive.

The decorative brickwork and ornamental ironwork in

Music Hall's original architectural detailing is a prime example of High Victorian Gothic, called "stripes and spikes" by John Ruskin, English architect and theorist. In 1969, Music Hall lost its black brick stripes to sand-blasting. SPMH Tour Guides observed the faint, gray shapes



Stencil on the ceiling

while preparing the *Beyond the Bricks* walking tour in spring of 2016. SPMH was inspired to fund the return of the black brick banding, piano key arches, diamonds, quatrefoils, and basket weave patterns recreating the original central façade of 1878, and wing façades of 1879. SPMH is cur-

rently drawing plans for future reproduction of the decorative "spikes" on the roof ridges; the iron cresting with details of Gothic trefoils, lyre and seed-germ pinnacles and iron flowers; and the large lyres atop each side of the main gable. These motifs can be found in interior dec-

orations linking the inside and outside of the building in one architectural statement. Though Ruben Springer eschewed overt ornamentation, Cincinnati architects, Hannaford and Procter, worked-in a few exquisite Gothic sandstone bouquet finials in their design. At the time of this revital-



Corbett Tower Renovation

ization, only one whole sandstone finial remained intact (to the right of the rose window) the others have crumbled from decades of foul weather. Thanks to SPMH, these fleuron will be recreated accenting each gable on the peaks of Music Hall.

During the past several months many of Music Hall's windows have been restored, but none as dramatic as the upper portions of three arched windows directly beneath the large, central rose window. The dropped ceiling was removed in Corbett Tower last summer, revealing a soaring 30-foot high ceiling, as well as the triptych of windows, which had been bricked-in for over forty years. Historic photographs en-



Restoration of painted brick

abled the reproduction of the original tracery patterns, complementing the patterns on the iconic rose window above them. Eight petals on the rose window and eight points in the tracery windows, symbolize the rebirth of Cincinnati and Music Hall. The collection of windows on the east



"Allegory of the Arts" by Arthur Thomas

façade will be complete again, and the sparkling lights of Corbett Tower's newly installed chandeliers, originally purchased for the lobby by the Corbetts, will be seen across Washington Park. The discovery of the late Victorian stenciling on the ceiling and walls inspired SPMH to restore the room to its former elegance. Paint analysis revealed the original colors under layers of soot. The classical patterns have been restored in vibrant teal and gold, with geometry in penny brown and

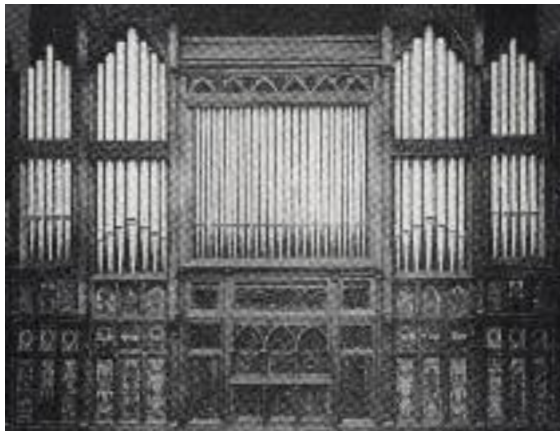
bamboo green.

This is a shining moment in time for SPMH, the steward of preservation of this most remarkable edifice. SPMH continues to restore and preserve Music Hall's history with funding from the Patricia A. Corbett Endowment Fund along with ongoing support from donors and members who love this building.

- Thea Tjepkema
(photos by Matt Zory)

The Grand Organ Screen

The panels on the walls of the new Donor Lounge (the former South Hall Carriage-way) once adorned Music Hall's magnificent



1878 Hook and Hastings Organ. This largest of all organs in America (sixty feet tall, fifty feet wide and thirty feet deep) ranked among the world's famed organs. The significance of the panels as representatives of the Cincinnati art-carved furniture movement, one of the most important mani-

festations of the Aesthetic Movement in the United States, cannot be overstated. Begun by British expatriates Henry Lindley Fry, son William

Henry Fry, and Benn Pitman; this artistic movement drew from the wealth of talent in Cincinnati, a major center of furniture manufacturing. In 1873 Pitman initiated wood carving classes at the McMicken School of Design. The Frys, in 1874 opened their private carving school. All were followers

of philosophers John Ruskin and Ralph Waldo Emerson, looking to nature for inspiration.

Students of these master carvers were principally affluent women who believed payment for a pastime they enjoyed would diminish their class respectability. Hence all their work was volunteered. "We will work with hands and brains and heart, and offer the results of our labor as our contribution toward the people's organ". Begun in the fall of 1877 the immense project was completed by May Festival 1878. The screen's center was carved mainly by the Frys and their pupils with surrounding panels carved by Pitman and his students. Admiring Fry's work, Benn Pittman said "I have seen much fine carving in the churches and at the principal decorative establishments of New York but nowhere have I seen carving equal to that of Mr. William Fry of this City." Typical of Cincinnati art-carved furniture, the screen glorified nature with delicately carved birds, flowers, and grasses. Panels depicted Morning, Noon and Evening; the Seasons; and, significantly, names of 15 of the most beloved composers. Carved in native wild cherry treated with oil, the color ri-

valed that of the richest mahogany.

The reputation of Cincinnati as a center of decorative wood carving soared to international status as a result of the efforts of these 'students'. Their work on three public projects, the display at the Philadelphia Centennial International Exhibition in 1876, the Cincinnati Music Hall Organ Screen and the display at the 1893 Chicago



Organ Panel "Summer"

World's Columbian Exposition, bolstered this reputation.

During the first renovation of Music Hall in 1895, changes required a reduction in screen size, presenting opportunity for new panel designs. Benn Pitman again offered his services gratis, gathering former students, volunteers from the Technical School, and carvers from institutions outside the region. Bronze tones allowed the panels to stand out from a distance. Panels, dedicated to prominent Cincinnatians including author, Alexander Hamilton McGuffey; educator, Annie Laws; lawyer, Rufus King; and Cincinnati Art Museum Founder, Elizabeth Williams Perry were carved.

The Cincinnati art-carved furniture movement lasted fifty years but the Music Hall Organ with its

majestic screen stood as a testament to the art form until 1971 when it was dismantled and replaced with an electronic organ. Panels were gifted to Music Hall patrons and employees. Eighteen were installed in the orchestra pit. Two William Fry panels were hung on the North Wall. These were largely unnoticed by the

public until November 2011 when The Society for the Preservation of Music Hall (SPMH) undertook the recovery and restoration project. The Patricia A. Corbett Endowment Fund of SPMH and member donations provided funding.

- Kathy Janson



Panel Installation Donor Lounge

CET Music Hall Documentary

CET, Cincinnati public television, is undertaking the enormous yet exciting task of recording and documenting the revitalization process of historic Music Hall.

The entire CET production team has been working on the program since April 2016, recording the final concert and early demolition. CET Producer Donald Hancock says they've been with the project since the beginning.

"Our cameras are capturing major moments around the hall – and beyond – that will allow viewers a behind-the-scenes look at the progression of the building as it turns from a construction site into a world class performance art venue."

"Telling our community's stories and celebrating its institutions are certainly important to CET and public television's mission," says David Fogarty, Presi-

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dent and Chief Executive Officer of CET. “There is no better example of this purpose than CET’s partnership with the Society for the Preservation of Music Hall to capture the extraordinary renovation of a renowned historic landmark.”

Hancock echoes the importance of the story of Music Hall to our community. “The story is one of renovations, but also community, as the numerous stakeholders have all come together to support the vision for Music Hall.” With this theme in mind, CET has interviewed decision makers from Messer, 3CDC, SPMH, CAA, and the architectural firms who all spoke passionately about the challenges and joys of working on a project of this magnitude.

“Not only does this partnership allow us to document an ambitious community project, we can capture the remarkable craftsmanship it demands,” adds Fogarty. “And later this year, when Music Hall reopens, all Cincinnatians can share this story and celebrate the rebirth of one of the city’s great icons.”

The clock continues to wind down as the re-opening date draws near.

There are still many projects that need to be completed and the CET team is looking forward to capturing all those moments that will forever be ingrained in history.

The documentary will air on CET on Thursday, November 16, at 9:00PM. For viewers who are interested in obtaining a copy, CET will be holding their membership drive on Monday November 27 at 8:00PM, where viewers can hear about thank you gifts, which include a DVD of the program.

- Donald Hancock



Don Hancock photographs for CET

Beyond the Bricks

Reuben Springer once said, “I have done but little beyond starting the good work – the great labor, the small and careful management, the dogged untiring perseverance and determination to compel success...belongs to the others.” The SPMH *Beyond the Bricks: Tour & Education Outreach Program* is one of the many ways SPMH brings those words to life!

Historic buildings like Cincinnati Music Hall are a central hub for civic events and private functions. In addition to fostering civic pride, historic sites provide educa-

tional and cultural outlets. Many historic buildings are converted into condos, malls and museums to preserve them. Not our Music Hall! It has adapted to the community’s needs over the years and served as a draw to tourists, encouraging visitors, while businesses create opportunities within the thriving cultural hub of OTR. As the nexus of development for other cultural institutions in this city, it currently serves the same purpose now as it did in the 1800s. Music Hall once again is in the lap of this city’s economic stability and growth. This newest ren-



School for Creative and Performing Arts students enjoy tour

ovation is history in the making – again.

Our outreach program, executed by a small but mighty team of volunteers, has been telling this story, entertaining and enlightening audiences, during the closure. Its purpose is to help the community develop a deeper appreciation of this local, regional and national gem. Here is what we've been up to: Outdoor Building Tour was launched again this May and runs each Thursday at 4pm and Saturday at 10am through October. You can purchase tickets through the Cincinnati Arts Association (CAA) box office. Soon, you'll also be able to take an indoor tour! Stay tuned.

In-school Program will be offered to elementary schools this fall as part of the Cincinnati Art Association's "Artist on Tour" offerings. CAA is the region's biggest promoter of the arts and we are fortunate to partner with them in the coordination and marketing of this 2-hr hands on curriculum based program. Based on classroom pilot feedback so far, we are sure to have children falling in

love with Music Hall before they step foot in it.

Speaker Series consists of a wide range of carefully researched topics regarding Music Hall to help develop a deeper appreciation of the building. These talks range from basic history, to art & architecture, to music and famous people. Organizations, churches, senior groups, assisted living communities, rotary and historical societies alike have been enjoying our engaging speakers. Contact the SPMH office to book a *Beyond the Bricks* speaker. Organizations who have booked speakers include: Llanfair Retirement; Delhi Historical Society; Kenwood Women's Club; English Speaking Union; Hyde Park Methodist Church; Montgomery Elementary; and St. Ursula Academy.

The SPMH Tour & Education Outreach Program encourages dialog about community and heritage as it relates to Music Hall, taking our audiences beyond bricks and mortar, toward a deeper appreciation of this cultural icon. Through creative programming SPMH uncovers and pre-



Beyond the Bricks Speaker Series Comes to You!

A Society for the Preservation of Music Hall tour guide brings this National Historic Landmark to you. Bring intriguing stories about Music Hall's past, present & future to your classroom, group meetings or functions.

**For information contact Ramona Toussaint
musichalltour@spmhcincinnati.org**

513-744-3293

serves the layers of information about our lives, connecting us to our past as we literally walk in the footsteps of those who came before us. So, come take a tour, book a speaker or become a vol-

unteer and be a part of history – your own! For program information or to become a volunteer: musichalltour@spmhcincinnati.org or (513) 744-3293

- Ramona Toussaint

Green Eggs and Ham

“You do not like them? So you say... Try them! Try them! And you May!” So urged Emma Horton as ‘Sam-I-Am’ in the January 28, 2017 Lollipops Family Concert Green Eggs and Ham. Building the audience of tomorrow today is a dilemma for many in the field of classical music. Not so for the Cincinnati



Emma Horton as Sam-I-Am

Pops Orchestra whose successful strategy appeared to be mix it up; make connections; engage the audience from the stage with a young performer and a much loved story. Published on August 12, 1960, the classic Dr. Seuss is one of the top-selling children’s books of all times. The program featured the popular *Overture to Die Fledermaus*, by

Johann Strauss, Jr.; the fun-filled *Toy Symphony in C Major*, by Franz Joseph Haydn; and of course *Green Eggs and Ham*, an opera by Robert Kapilow. 14 year old Emma Horton, a soprano with the College-Conservatory of Music Cincinnati Children’s Choir since age 8, is a member

of the advanced touring choir, *Bel Canto*. Her ‘Sam-I-Am’ coaxed and convinced the ‘Grouch’, sung by mezzo-soprano Reilly Nelson, to “Try Them!” Ms. Nelson is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. The Cincinnati Pops Orchestra was conducted by Keitaro Harada, Associate



Conductor for the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. The 2,500 seat Taft Theatre was packed with happy, excited little ones! The entire program was a 'hit' as each offering was met with enthusiastic applause. Following the final bows, 'Sam-I-Am', the 'Grouch', and the conductor, warmly reached out to the chil-

dren who eagerly gathered around their heroes in the Taft's lobby. With continued musical programming such as this, the children will return. And as they grow, their introduction to the Orchestra will likely result in continued and growing interest in the classical music culture of Cincinnati. - Kathy Janson



Keitaro Harada, Reilly Nelson, Emma Horton with Simon Dickow, Georgia Horton and Maddie Gough



Emma Horton, Reilly Nelson

We're **BACK** in your revitalized **MUSIC HALL**



THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF MUSIC HALL presents

Happy Holidays

with the **MIGHTY WURLITZER**

CINCINNATI'S HOLIDAY TREAT



THURSDAY, DEC. 7, 2017 • 10:30 AM & 7:00 PM
MUSIC HALL BALLROOM

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- Aronoff Center/Music Hall Ticket Offices
- (513) 621-ARTS [2787]
- Group Sales (10+): (513) 977-4157

www.spmhcincinnati.org

Anticipation--Flashback

As work is completed on Music Hall's 'Revitalization' excitement surrounding the reopening continues to build. How great then, the anticipation of those who would walk through the doors for the very first time. The following tells of 1878 final preparations.

Music Hall Notes, (March 28, 1878)

The floors in the upper corridors are laid. The doors are being hung in the Main Hall. The green on the organ pipes has been subdued. Henry Fay is making a design for a new cornice to the organ screen. The rose window in the façade is of iron, and weighs 15,000 pounds. The white plaster

capitals now going on the great iron pillars will be painted. The bricks used in Music Hall, if placed in a line, would reach to Cleveland and back. The center seats in Main Hall will front the stage; the divisions at the sides will be placed at an angle. The ends of the dress circle reach over the line of the stage. Some of the chorus will sit under the circle. The Social Science Convention will be held in the Small Hall after the close of the concerts of May Festival. All the subscriptions to the fund have been paid except \$5,007, and this amount will be reduced very likely to \$3,300—scarcely 1 percent loss



19th Century Music Hall

of the total \$302,381. Seven hundred hickory chairs have been ordered for the use of the chorus. The Music Hall Board put up the stage for the chorus, and the Festival Board provided the chairs. There are thirteen foul air ducts which lead from Main Hall to the crest of the gable. This ridge is a trough five feet deep and four wide into which the ducts empty. The large stones, seventeen feet long, which are over the chief entrances and form the front of the exterior balcony, bent an inch and a half from a true line when lifted into place.

Photographs of the wonderful mechanism of the organ have been taken and are on exhibition in the stores, as are also photographs of the beautiful wood carv-

ings made for the organ screen. Many persons who are associate members of the Harmonic Society fondly imagine that they will be admitted to the Hall to hear the rehearsals of the chorus. No persons will be allowed to be present except those engaged. The line will be tightly drawn, with a policeman to hold up one end. The iron fence directly in front of Music Hall has been removed, making a sidewalk forty-four feet broad to the steps. It was proposed to set the curb of the street some fifteen feet in, to give room for carriages, but this will not be done. Those who drive may enter on the Plum Street end of the hall, where there is plenty of room.

(Source: ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Cincinnati Enquirer)

SPMH Partners with Soapbox Cincinnati

A key objective of SPMH's Advertising and Awareness Committee is to grow awareness of SPMH and our mission, throughout the greater Cincinnati community. To that end, SPMH has joined with Soapbox Cincinnati <http://www.soapboxmedia.com> as an underwriting sponsor to develop a six month editorial calendar.

The objectives of the partnership are:

- Connect with millennials to be-

come the SPMH stewards of Music Hall in the future

- Generate interest and awareness for SPMH core work and initiatives
- Create interest and excitement for Music Hall's reopening with 'Music Hall Unwrapped'
- Promote *Beyond the Bricks* and inside tours after reopening
- Encourage general membership and engagement with the building.

Soapbox Cincinnati, a

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weekly online magazine, is an ideal media partner based on their editorial approach and audience. Soapbox Cincinnati covers community advancement through the framework of TIDE: Talent, Innovation, Diversity, and Environment. Their focus areas include arts & culture, architecture & design, diversity, education & learning, environment & sustainability, neighborhoods and place-making among many other topics. Soapbox Cincinnati's nearly 300,000 readers are influencers: highly engaged leaders, doers, investors and enthusiasts of all ages who, together, shape the change in their communities. Connecting with young professionals and newcomers to the area is also a central focus. Readers ages 18-44 represent 61.25% of their total audience. It's a terrific opportunity to reach and attract the next generation of SPMH members!

The underwriting agreement includes

- Six original articles in Soapbox Cincinnati
- One feature story per month fo-

cused on talent and initiatives behind SPMH, Music Hall (history, architecture, tours) and the work of its key arts tenants - CSO, Cincinnati Ballet, Cincinnati Opera and May Festival

- Feature story Schedule: July 2017 – December 2017
- Participation in Quarterly Editorial Advisories to connect SPMH with Soapbox editorial during agreement
- Re-use of the content and photos across the SPMH website, social media, and publications/newsletters.

- Rotating advertising and branding on Soapbox for eight months

One exciting aspect of the partnership is that SPMH will be invited to regular editorial advisory meetings with other community stakeholders to brainstorm story ideas and inform editorial direction during this agreement. These meetings will provide SPMH with an opportunity to engage with other important community stakeholders and the Soapbox editorial team.

- Lisa Allison



To learn more about
MUSIC HALL,
Past, Present and Future

Visit the SPMH Website

www.spmhcincinnati.org

New Secure Donor Software

Your leadership and support of SPMH is making a difference, not only to Music Hall but also to SPMH. To better serve you, the SPMH website www.SPMHcincinnati.org has been updated so you can donate online, quickly, easily and securely.

Donating online is an easy, convenient way for you to support SPMH's mission, and it reduces our fundraising costs. Also, by donating with your credit card – Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express – you can use your credit card statement for taxes/receipts, earn credit card rewards, save time and reduce postage costs. You can donate using your computer, tablet or smartphone.

The protection of your personal information is important to SPMH – it was a prime consideration in choosing an organization as a partner for online donations. An SPMH board subcommittee reviewed the benefits, costs and ratings of organizations that provide secure online donation and hosting of donor information. After careful deliberation, DonorPerfect was chosen. It's an organization with outstanding ratings from non-profits around the nation, and is cost effective, ensuring your gifts are used to preserve, promote, improve and provide education about Music Hall.

We can't emphasize this

enough: DonorPerfect operates on a secure server and complies with regulations for real-time credit card processing. So, unless you are providing ongoing (recurring) donations to SPMH, your credit card information will not be kept on file. Your other personal information is entered into a security-protected donor management system that only authorized users may access.

As always, everyone who donates to SPMH becomes a member, receiving *MUSIC HALL Marks*, our twice yearly publication featuring information about how your donation to SPMH is helping Music Hall. Donor/members also receive discounts on SPMH events, like our October 11 celebration of the reopening: 'Music Hall Unwrapped'.

While funding is secured for Music Hall's renovation, a time will come when Music Hall will need special care - an item repaired, replaced, or something new to enhance your experience or ensure your safety.

Your generosity and support makes our work possible, so please go online to www.SPMHcincinnati.org, and make your gift to SPMH. Your donation to SPMH is your investment in Music Hall's future. And we can't say this enough: Thank you!

-Joanne Grueter

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Philip Groshong, Photographer



“For more than 40 years, photography has been my vocation and avocation.” A native of Bay Village, Ohio, Philip Groshong attended the University of Kentucky and majored in journalism. Upon graduation, he began his photography career at Kentucky Educational Television in Lexington. He and his wife, Mattie, relocated to Northern Kentucky in 1984 where he started his own commercial photography business, opening a studio in Cincinnati in 1994. For 20 years he covered Cincinnati’s social scene as a freelance photographer for the Cincinnati En-

quirer.

Mr. Groshong has been the company photographer for the Cincinnati Opera for the past 30 years; photographer for the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra; photographer for the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra; and photographer for Children’s Theatre. Phil has been team photographer for the Cincinnati Reds for 18 years and in 2015 Major League Baseball hired him to photograph the National and American League teams for the All-Star Game.

Nationally known, his photographs are award-winning. His

photo, "Belle of Louisville," won first place in the National Historic Landmark photography contest and was published in the 2010 NHL Event Planner.

Generous with his time and art for SPMH, Phil has photographed Annual Meetings and other events; the Fry carved organ panels; the Rose Window; the holiday ornaments and many other subjects. In addition he has donated the use of several of his stunning photographs as cover

art for MUSIC HALL Marks including this issue's cover 'Sunset Music Hall'.

His camera always present, time-off usually involves such activities as hiking above the timberline in the Rocky Mountains or navigating the subways of New York City in search of the perfect shot of a unique American landscape or of an iconic city view. www.philipgroshongphotography.com or www.photophil.smug-mug.com.

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Editor:

Kathy Janson

Contributing Writers:

*Lisa Allison
Joanne Grueter
Donald Hancock
Peter Koenig
Thea Tjepkema
Ramona Toussaint*

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Phil Groshong*

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*Meghan Berneking
Phil Groshong
Joanne Grueter
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Matt Zory*

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Sunset Music Hall

*When the dawn comes
Tonight will be a memory too
And a new day will begin*

- Trevor Nunn -- "Memory", Cats



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Admin@spmhcincinnati.org