



The Trocadero Wurlitzer Trust

NEWS - DECEMBER 2013



Main Organ Takes Final Shape

After many months of work by the small volunteer installation team the Main organ chambers are now wired, the wind supply to all of the pipe chests complete and wind pressures set. This now means that the larger organ pipes can be introduced to the chambers and the mechanism that makes them sound can be set-up. Photos of the all the work completed so far can be viewed in the Project Galleries section of our website: www.trocadero-wurlitzer.org.

Pipe Cleaning

The large metal bass pipes for the Main organ, and also some for the Solo organ, have recently been sent for professional cleaning. This work was undertaken by internationally renowned organ builders Mander Organs, who are based in East London less than two miles from the Troxy. The pipes were certainly in safe hands, as Mander's have worked on highly regarded instruments such as the Royal Albert Hall and St Paul's Cathedral.

The pipes were returned to the Troxy on the 18th December. Those for the Main organ were placed on their chests in the chambers and, where necessary, temporarily secured until all the pipe-clamps and tuning slides are refinished. The pipes for the Solo organ were securely stored until they are needed.

This was a busy and exhausting day, due to the need to manhandle heavy pipes up 53 stairs, but it resulted in an important task being completed.



Above: One of three loads of pipes are unloaded



Above: Some of the cleaned pipes before being move to the organ chambers or storage



Above: Ophicleide pipes are installed in the Upper Main organ chamber



Right: A check is made on a wooden pipe in the upper Main chamber

Next Steps – The Solo Organ

With Main organ nearing completion, attention is turning to the other half of the instrument on the opposite side of the theatre.

In the next few weeks it is planned to finalise preparation of the Percussion chamber space, which will house the Marimba Harp and upright piano.

In addition, the blower for the Solo Organ will shortly be united with its electric motor, installed earlier in the year, thereby completing its installation.

Also, the wind trunks, regulators and ground frame for the Upper Solo and Lower Solo regulator assemblies are ready for installation, followed by the framing for the Solo off-note chests located at the back of the chamber.

Plans are also in place to restore the Solo chamber shutter mechanisms so they are ready when needed for installation.



The upper level in the Solo chamber, to which will soon be added windchests that are already restored

How You Can Help

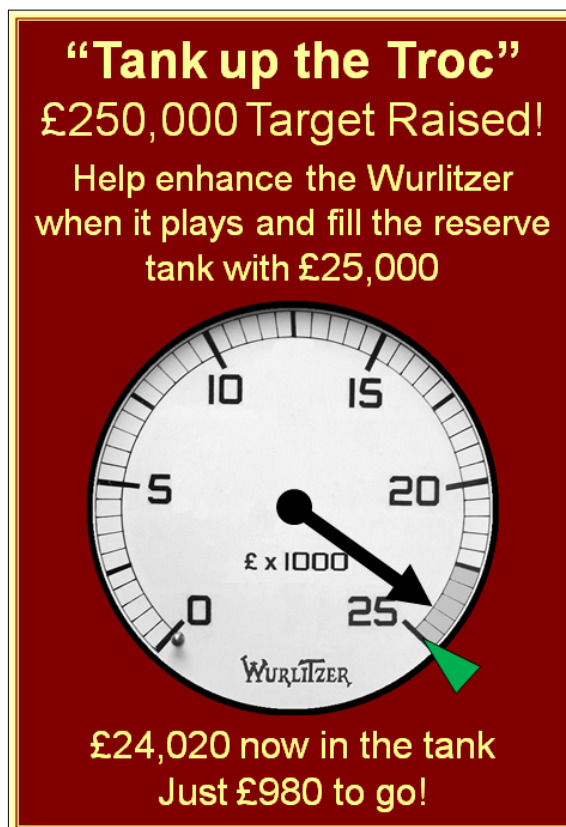
With work well underway to restore and install the Wurlitzer, we are pressing ahead with the restoration of the remaining parts so that installation can progress continuously. Topping-up the fund now will not only enhance the organ, but enable all of the work necessary to be completed as quickly as possible so that the Wurlitzer can play again.

You can donate online or download a donation form by visiting our website:

www.trocadero-wurlitzer.org

Don't forget that Gift Aiding your contribution significantly increases the value of your donation.

Registered Charity: 1136958



*Photos in this issue courtesy of: Graham Noble, John Leeming and Nigel Laflin
Edited by Graham Noble*