

page on the site, provides a list of suggested search terms to help form more precise searches. The search leads to a results page that includes recommended results, hand-selected for many frequently searched topics.

Languages

The new LDS.org is a Web site for the worldwide

Church, and thus will be rolled out in stages in 11 different languages as the translations are finalized and approved. Approximately 90 percent of Church members speak one of these 11 languages: Cantonese, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish. ■

Hidden Talents Keep Tabernacle Organ in Tune

By Natasia Garrett, Church Magazines

Much praise is given to the organists who perform on the world-class Tabernacle organ on Temple Square, as well as to the organ itself. The organists have earned the attention. Credit for the organ's performance, however, goes not to the organist alone or even to the instrument itself but to two men whose behind-the-scenes efforts have allowed the organ to fulfill its musical potential: the organ technicians.

A History of Caring

Robert Poll and Lamont Anderson have been working with the Tabernacle organ for more than 25 years. Their job responsibilities cover many other

instruments on and around Temple Square, including 8 pipe organs, 2 harpsichords, 4 electronic organs, and more than 70 pianos. They listen constantly to the instruments, says Brother Poll, especially before events.

Brother Poll divides the work he and Brother Anderson share into three categories: tuning, mechanical maintenance, and renovation. The tuning usually involves individual pipes rather than the organ as a whole; tuning the entire Tabernacle organ takes roughly a month to complete. Mechanical maintenance primarily entails the refurbishment of malfunctioning pieces. Renovation is also focused mainly on smaller projects,

including replacing the felts on pipe shutters so that the shutters seal better and create a greater contrast in volume.

The technicians' methods of caring for the instruments are constantly evolving. This applies most to care involving the large organs. Organs of the size and caliber of the Tabernacle organ are, in some ways, "too customized for standard fixes," says Brother Poll, and require a detailed knowledge of many areas as well as the ability to innovate.

In one case, a high-pressure air regulator in the Conference Center organ kept going into oscillation—setting up resonant frequencies that sounded like the playing of one of the low pipes. Brother Poll used a piece of wire tied between two points to apply side-

ways pressure on the valve. The makeshift solution continues to prevent the problem.

Brother Poll credits inspiration for his ability to solve many of the issues that arise in his work.

A World-Renowned Friend

The technicians know the Tabernacle organ inside and out. As Brother Poll moves through the belly of the organ, he points out pipes and tells when they



were added. Except for the visible pipes and casework, the present organ was basically new in 1948, but among its 11,623 pipes are 122 from the original organ and 95 others from pre-1948 rebuilds.

The pipes come in an astounding array of sizes and shapes, from tiny pipes the width and length of a drinking straw to fat pipes over 30 feet (9 meters) tall. Finished wood, zinc, and a combination of lead and tin are a few of the materials used to make the pipes. Only the largest 10 of the visible gold pipes are “speaking” pipes, while the remaining 41 are simply dummies that mask the body of the organ.

Brother Poll knows the organ as though it were an old friend. He shakes his head with exasperated affection at the instrument’s quirks, such as the way some pipes will never tune properly if tuned together.

He knows, perhaps better than anyone, what a magnificent instrument the Tabernacle organ is—and what it takes to keep it that way. Because of Robert Poll and Lamont Anderson’s care, each of the instruments around Temple Square is an exceptional instrument.

Find this story and its accompanying video and a photo gallery at news.lds.org/organtechs. ■

TEMPLE NEWS

President Monson Breaks Ground in Rome

President Thomas S. Monson broke ground for the Rome Italy Temple on October 23, 2010. Announced in 2008, the 40,000-square-foot (3,700 square meter) temple will be the twelfth in Europe and the first in Italy. The 15-acre (6 ha) site will include a meetinghouse, a visitors’ center, a family history center, and patron housing.

Temple Underway in Córdoba, Argentina

Elder Neil L. Andersen of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles broke ground for a temple in Córdoba, Argentina, on October 30, 2010. The site was home to one of the Church’s earliest chapels in Argentina. “How wonderful that its final purpose will be to embrace the house of the Lord,” said Elder Andersen. The temple will be the second in Argentina, with the first in Buenos Aires.

Ground Broken in Gilbert, Arizona

Elder Claudio R. M. Costa of the Presidency of the Seventy broke ground for the Gilbert Arizona Temple on November 13, 2010. The Gilbert Arizona Temple will be Arizona’s fourth temple. A fifth has been announced for Phoenix, Arizona. ■

WORLD BRIEFS

Simplified Organ Music Available Online

Manual-Only Hymns for Organ and *Transformations*, two complementary books, have been produced to help pianists adapt to the organ. *Manual-Only Hymns for Organ* is a compilation of 38 popular hymns arranged to be played without pedals. *Transformations* contains introductions and endings for the same 38 hymns that “transform” them into prelude and postlude music. Download the set free of charge at music.lds.org. Click on **Learning Materials** then **Accompanying Others** then **Manual-Only Hymns for Organists**.

Mormon Channel Content Available on Demand

The Church has now been providing content on demand for several months through its official iTunes page, the Mormon Channel, at itunes.lds.org. In addition to content from the Mormon Channel radio station, the page provides content from general conference, CES broadcasts, Church magazines, Mormon Messages, and other Church products. Mormon Channel includes Church materials in American Sign Language, Cantonese, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Tongan. ■

