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Learning to Play the Organ

The majority of students wanting to learn an instrument these days choose the Piano, Keyboard or Solo instruments some of which are offered through school programs. It is very unfortunate that the poor old organ has been pushed aside for the more familiar and common instruments.

As a “keyboard” musician (currently learning the piano or electronic keyboard) the transition to the organ is a relatively easy one having already acquired the knowledge of Treble and Bass Clef’s, plus the use of Chords especially in the left hand.

Many home electronic organs are found in trading ads for a very minimal amount, as they are passed down through families, or no longer wanted due to taking up space in a home.

Learning and playing the organ can lead to all different types of adventures, including playing traditional music for a church, progressing to the pipe organ, playing for funerals, or becoming involved in such organisations as the Theatre Organ Society of Australia which houses the Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ that many students have seen.

With the unfamiliar “organ” to children these days, comes the need for organists all around the world. It is an opportunity in which you will always be wanted and in demand.

If you know of someone wanting to “pass on” a home electronic organ, please let me know, as I would like to encourage students to think about the possibility of incorporating the organ in some of their music studies to help secure the future for this instrument.

The Theatre Organ Society of Australia has a very strong commitment to the growth of the Theatre Pipe Organ. It is very high on their agenda to encourage any younger person (younger being anyone up to the age of 40) who shows interest in learning the organ to help preserve this instrument. Many performance opportunities, workshops, concert attendances, practice times and involvement come from within the Society.