Duck Soup Cinema
The Flying Ace (1926)

This inspiring film features an all African-American cast. Set in World War I, it tells the story of a fighter ace breaking through racial barriers to serve the nation, and his return to the U.S. after the war.

Immediately following the film showing, there will be a talk-back with Vaunce Ashby the Director of Education at the Wisconsin Historical Society and Al Whitaker, exhibition donor, Vietnam vet and commercial pilot.

A HISTORY OF BLACK AVIATORS
Rotunda Lobby Gallery | OCT 16 - NOV 12 | FREE
In association with Duck Soup Cinema’s screening of The Flying Ace, Overture presents an exhibit highlighting the history of African-American aviators. From the daring pioneers of flight who inspired the film to contemporary leaders who have broken barriers in our lifetime, we recognize a few prominent individuals who represent the struggle faced by all African-Americans battling racial discrimination and demanding equality on the ground and in the skies.

SAT, NOV 4, 2017

Released: 1926
DIRECTED BY: Richard E. Norman
WRITTEN BY: Richard E. Norman
PRODUCED BY: Richard E. Norman

CAST:
Laurence Criner – Capt. Billy Stokes
Kathryn Boyd – Ruch Sawtelle
Boise De Legge – Blair Kimball
Harold Platts – Finley Tucker
Lions Daniels
George Colvin – Thomas Sawtelle
Sam Jordan – Dr. Maynard
R.L. Brown – Howard McAndrews
Steve Reynolds - Peg

GRAND BARTON ORGAN: Jelani Eddington

SERIES SPONSORED BY: GOODMAN’S Jewelers

Underwritten with a generous gift from Robert N. Doornek

Duck Soup Cinema Celebrates 30 Years
For more than 30 years now, we’ve revived and celebrated the legacy of Capitol Theater, originally built for silent film. Our two series, Sounds of Silents (1986-1998) and Duck Soup Cinema (1999-Present), have engaged more than 90,000 patrons in silent film experiences. We are nationally known for providing an authentic silent film experience complete with music on the 1928 Grand Barton Organ—one of the last organs of its kind—and a classic feature film accompanied on the organ or by other live musicians.

OVERTURE.ORG | The Flying Ace
Forever yours. Never mined. Diamonds and gems grown with love.
GRAND BARTON ORGAN

Like all grand movie theaters built during the Silent Film Era, the Capitol Theater had a pipe organ that allowed a single musician to fill the theater with music while movies were being shown. Overture Center’s organ is a Barton, manufactured by the Bartola Musical Instrument Company in Oshkosh. It is believed to be the oldest Barton in Wisconsin, and the only one in the state remaining in its original location and condition. The instrument is such a rare gem that in 1990 it was honored by the Organ Historical Society as “an instrument of exceptional merit,” the first time a theater organ had been so recognized by the society, which typically reserves such honors for the grand pipe organs found in churches.

Hollywood had premiered the first “talkie” the year before the Capitol Theater opened, but it took a while for sound films to catch on, and the Barton got a lot of use in the early years of the Capitol Theater. As sound films became popular, the organ was used for sing-alongs and pre-feature entertainment, but as film showings lost their pageantry, this role diminished.

The gold and red horseshoe-shaped console is the most visible part of the instrument, but the organ’s sound comes from 1,034 pipes hidden in chambers on either side of the stage. The large illuminated console and its 141 stop keys and three manuals is usually located at house right. At one time, it was on its own elevator in the orchestra pit. It was moved to make space for the many large-scale productions staged in the theater. A seven and one half horsepower blower in the basement of the theater powers the organ and the massive electrical switching system is sealed in a special room high in the building. This electrical relay is so large that it was put in place before the theater was finished in 1928 and could only be removed with considerable demolition of the building.

The smallest pipes, which produce the high notes, are the size of a soda straw, and the largest are 16 feet tall and 18 inches in diameter. The pipes that produce the deepest notes are eight feet high and about 24 inches square, made of thick, knotless pine slabs. Like any wind instrument, the sound comes from air passing through the pipes, but the wind is supplied by a seven-horsepower air pump, rather than a musician’s breath. The pipes are divided into fourteen ranks, or sets, that mimic the instruments of an orchestra.

In addition, a “toy counter” offers special sounds like a chirping bird, auto horn, sleigh bells and percussive effects.

An important part of keeping the organ in top condition is regular use. Overture Center continues to use the organ as part of the center’s Duck Soup Cinema series.
Mantrap
Starring Clara Bow

SERIES SPONSOR
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SAT, FEB 17 | 2 & 7 PM
$7 adults | $3, 12 & under
CAPITOL THEATER

OVERTURE.ORG | 608.258.4141
ORGANIST JELANI EDDINGTON

During the years that Jelani Eddington has given concerts, he has easily established himself as one of the most prominent and sought-after artists on the concert circuit. Jelani has performed in most of the major concert venues throughout the United States, has toured extensively abroad, and has received numerous awards and recognitions, including his selection as the 2001 Theatre Organist of The Year.

Jelani Eddington was born in Muncie, Indiana to Louise Eddington and the late Robert Eddington and grew up in a very musical family. Between the interests of his mother, a professional music teacher of many years, and those of his grandmother, Florence Arnold, a well-respected piano instructor, it was no surprise when Jelani demonstrated an inclination toward music at a very early age.

Shortly after beginning piano instruction at the age of four, Jelani began studying classical piano under the direction of his grandmother. At the age of eight, a trip to hear the 4-manual 42-rank Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ installed in the Indianapolis, Indiana restaurant, the Paramount Music Palace, introduced Jelani to the sounds of the theatre pipe organ. Soon thereafter, he began to pursue classical organ lessons and ultimately began studying theatre organ under the direction of John Ferguson, whose skills as a theatre organ instructor have been highly acclaimed internationally.

At the age of 13, Jelani won the American Theatre Organ Society’s Young Theatre Organist Competition, prevailing over competitors ages 13-21 from the United States, England, Australia, and New Zealand. Jelani remains the youngest competitor ever to win this title. Jelani went on to graduate Magna Cum Laude from Indiana University in 1996, and later received a Juris Doctor degree from the Yale Law School in 1999, after which time he was admitted to practice law in New York State.

During the course of his concert career, Jelani has been featured at numerous national and regional conventions of the American Theatre Organ Society, and has toured extensively throughout the world, including numerous concert appearances in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and Europe. He has also accompanied numerous silent films and appears regularly at film series. In 2007, Jelani accompanied the classic film, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, for an international organ festival in Finland on the country’s largest pipe organ.

In addition to his work as an organist, Jelani has also distinguished himself as a concert pianist, appearing recently as a guest pianist for performances of Edvard Grieg’s Piano Concerto in A-Minor, George Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue, and Leroy Anderson’s Piano Concerto in C-Major. In February 2008, Jelani was invited to perform two special performances of Anderson’s concerto with the Tulsa Signature Symphony as part of a celebration of Leroy Anderson’s centennial.

Jelani has also produced and marketed over 30 theatre organ albums on some of the best-known and most dynamic instruments in the country. In August 2001, the American Theatre Organ Society honored Jelani’s extensive career as a concert and recording organist by naming him the 2001 Theatre Organist of The Year. Jelani retains the distinction of being the youngest-ever recipient of this prestigious honor.
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Are you a silent film aficionado? Does the sound of the Capitol Theater’s Grand Barton Organ signal the beginning of a fabulous viewing of Duck Soup Cinema for you? Then join Overture’s Duck Soup Cinema Club, support local artists and introduce new generations to the art of silent film.

Subscribe today at overture.org/season
MAKE SURE THAT ONLY THE MOVIE IS SILENT!
HELP RESTORE THE GRAND BARTON ORGAN.

“The Capitol Theater’s Barton Organ is an important part of Madison’s musical history and culture. As one of the last remaining original theater organ installations in the country, it is important that it remain for future generations to enjoy.”
— John Cornue, President, Dairyland Theatre Organ Society

Preserve Madison’s musical heritage today. Donate at overture.org/makeagift or call 608.258.4979

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An anonymous couple because they believe Overture is a beautiful space that everyone should be able to enjoy

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Buy in person/phone: Visit the ticket office located on the main level just off the Rotunda Lobby or call 608.258.4141 Mon-Fri, 11 AM-5:30 PM; Sat, 11 AM-2 PM; open additional hours evenings and weekends on days of ticketed performances.

Group orders: Groups of 10 or more receive a discount on most performances. Call 608.258.4159 to make reservations.

Visit overture.org for event listings, links to artist websites, video, audio, directions, parking and much more.

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More information: overture.org/tickets/faqs

Children and lap seating: Every person, regardless of age, must have a ticket to enter the theaters for performances. Discounted lap seats are available for some performances. Children under the age of six are not permitted at certain performances. See our season brochure, visit our website or call 608.258.4141 for information.

Event Staff: Stagehand services in Overture are provided by members of Local 251 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees.

Ushering and other services are provided by Overture volunteers. For information, visit overture.org/volunteer or call 608.258.4962.

Lost and Found: Visit the information desk in the Rotunda Lobby or call 608.258.4973.

Rentals: For information on renting spaces for weddings, performances, meetings or other events, call 608.258.4163 or email events@overture.org.

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Please turn off all electronic devices.
Smoking, including the use of e-cigarettes, is prohibited in Overture Center.
The use of cameras or audio recording in the theaters is prohibited without written permission from Overture Center and the performing company’s management.

Food, large bags and other large items are not permitted in the theaters. Bottled water and beverages in Overture refillable theater cups are allowed in the theaters at select shows.

In consideration of audience members with scent sensitivities and allergies, please refrain from use of perfumes, aftershaves and other fragrances.

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