

1483. Oh My Darlin' Clementine

Backgrounds Of S. Radic

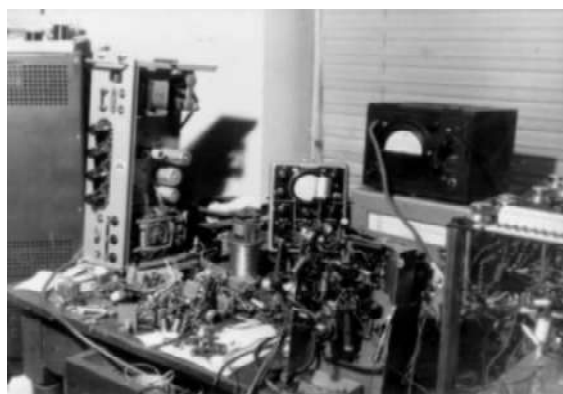
A MWP user recently expressed the wish to play the USA title "Oh My Darlin' Clementine" and I immediately agreed, because the title is generally very well known and even in the American vocal interpreters very popular, because there are countless versions of it - from Western saloon to jazz! Then came my obligatory title research in the relevant media - and there I experienced my "blue miracle": I found no version of the well-known organ artists in Germany, but only one version of the organist SIEGFRIED METZNER from the 60/70s at a cinema organ in Plauen (former GDR). The surprises did not end when it turned out that the electrical engineer Siegfried Metzner even built this cinema organ himself, and that this cinema organ was "in service" in the Capitol cinema in Plauen until 1986! Siegfried Metzner died in 2017 at the age of 88.

Unfortunately, due to lack of information, it is not exactly recorded when this simplest sound recording was made, probably with a transportable tape recorder somewhere in the 60s or 70s. It even represents - in my opinion - a so-called "first take", because the sound registrations are sometimes heard very hectically in the middle of the phrases and the volume ratios of the individual parts are not "studio-like" balanced, etc. I have tried to write down what Siegfried Metzner played as accurately as possible - however, I have not been able to identify the individual parts of the title that was apparently played there as a medley - if anyone has better information from it, bring it on! To do justice to a cinema organ sound with my Wersi-Pegasus, I superimposed two sine organ sounds: the



Percussive Drawbar sound and the fast rotor sound. In between I used piano and honky-tonk sound. In the Keyb.-Vers.2 all modulations of Siegfried Metzner are recorded - in the simpler C-Major version only a theme modulation to F-Major - with C-Major back modulation is done!

Siegfried Metzner's playing style is "full fingering" - in something like Klaus Wunderlich fashion - playing with "6" chords throughout. This means that he always adds the interval sixth to each basic triad (the seventh, of course, in the case of 7 chords). Since I can hardly imagine that this cinema organ had the so-called OAC circuit at that time, Siegfried Metzner played everything "single-handedly" in full fingering. The modern organ of today has this playing aid AOC (Auto-Organ-Chord), which can be found under various proper names (at Wersi e.g. "Wersi-Chord"). Here it is important to know how to use this effect: One plays in the OM only the UPPER note of a full fingered chord - e.g. "C6" with E-G-A-C - and keeps this chord fingered in the UM - and so all notes fingered in the UM chord automatically reach the OM with AOC and sound there with the OM timbre - as in full fingered UM playing!



Foxtrott, T=170

The musical score is arranged in a multi-staff format. The top two staves are for Org.-Perc. and Org.-Rotor, both in treble clef and 4/4 time. The third staff is for Guitar in bass clef, 4/4 time, featuring a 'Main A oder +B=Advanced' variation with triplet markings. The fourth staff is for Strings in bass clef, 4/4 time, with a 'Main A' variation. The fifth staff is for Bass in bass clef, 4/4 time. The bottom staff is for Drums in 4/4 time, with a 'Main A-B-C-D' variation and specific drum notation for BD (Bass Drum) and SD (Snare Drum). The score is divided into three measures: Main 1, Main D, and Main 2. The 'Main D' and 'Main 2' sections include triplet markings over the Org.-Perc. and Org.-Rotor parts.

Programming instruction

In the meantime, in the year 2020, every style machine is equipped with 4 variations, which are labeled A-B-C-D for all products. For me, the style programming is still done via my "faithful" Wersi Pegasus Expander "zero" series from the year 1990 (!). And nevertheless also he is able to reproduce these "A-B-C-D units" 30 years later. After all, there are only two variations in his system - but there is an "ingenious" button called "Advanced". This is the secret weapon: The Advanced switch makes it possible to add or omit a certain part. For me this is obligatory always the "lying chord carpet" with strings. The drums are identical in all parts this time - but also have their own Adv. track and could be programmed e.g. with additional "Clap", together with the snare. So variation A is then Drums+Bass+Guitar, variation B is then the addition of Strings-Adv. , the variation C is then the increase of the Org.-Rotor-Sound - and finally the Var. D is then the addition of the Org.-Perc.-Sound. - or all parts play along!