

1970 ALADDIN TEMPLE SHRINE CIRCUS Musical Program

By Eric Beheim, WJU #66

The 20th Annual Aladdin Temple Shrine Circus took place in Columbus, Ohio in April 1970 in the State Fairgrounds Coliseum. Produced by M & M Productions (Charles Marine and Grace McIntosh) it boasted a strong performance with many of the top circus acts of that day. The bandleader was Izzy Cervone. In addition to local musicians, the band included Robert "Boom-Boom" Browning, a veteran trouser and show drummer who at that time was living in the Columbus area and working as a demonstration drummer/salesman for the Slingerland Drum Company. There was also an air calliope played by Buddy Geiss, which gave the band a real old-time circus sound.

As he had done in previous years, Robert P. Hills, Jr. (WJU #71, WJU Hall of Fame 2013) arranged to record the performance. (Bob's recordings of the 1968 and 1969 Aladdin Shrine Circus performances were described in previous issues of *Circus Fanfare*.)

Here is a listing of the music that was performed for the 1970 Aladdin Temple Shrine Circus and which is contained on Bob Hill's tape. To make it as complete as possible, I shared some of the music with several experienced bandsmen and former circus musicians who helped out with the identifications. If a title is listed as unidentified, you can be sure that it is an obscure one! Unfortunately, I did not have a copy of that year's souvenir program and was not able to identify all of the acts that appeared.

Preshow Music:

On the Square (Panella) (played on the air calliope)

Display No. 1: "Tarzan" Zerbini mixed wild animal act

Born Free Fanfare, unidentified, chord, *Jungle Drums* (Ketelbey), chord, unidentified, chord, *Born Free* (Barry), chord, unidentified, *Circus Days Galop* (King), *Born Free Bows Fanfare*

For those too young to remember Jean Charles "Tarzan" Zerbini, he and his family came to this country from Bordeaux, France in the early 1960s. Photos of him taken during the Mills Bros. Circus' 1962 tour, show him presenting a wild animal act in conventional wardrobe.

By 1964, however, Zerbini was billing himself as Tarzan and presenting his lions and tigers while wearing only a loincloth. Zerbini later legally changed his name to "Tarzan" before the Edgar Rice Burroughs organization took steps to claim that name as its exclusive property. One of Zerbini's daughters later presented the center ring elephant act on the 124th Edition of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

Tarzan's special music is believed to have been custom prepared for him by Clement Toca.

Display No. 2: aerial act

Charade (Mancini), *The Breeze and I* (Lecuona), *Galop "Go"* (Jewell), chord

Display No. 3:

The Castanets (Carazo), drum roll, chord

Display No. 4:

Camelot (Loewe), *Love Makes the World Go 'Round* (played on the air calliope) (Suesse), *"Daisy Bell"* (*Bicycle Built for Two*) (played on the air calliope) (Dacre), *Spanish Flea* (Wechter), unidentified, chord

Display No. 5: Clown Wedding

Lohengrin Wedding March (played on the air calliope) (Wagner)

Display No. 6:

All unidentified (These might be original numbers by Clement Toca.)



Display No. 7: Liberty Ponies

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (Sherman), *Man of the Hour* (Fillmore), *Let Me Call You Sweetheart* (played on the air calliope) (Friedman), *Man of the Hour* (reprise), drum roll, chord

Display No. 8:

Love Is a Many-Splendored Thing (Fain), drum roll, chord, *Exodus Theme* (Gold), chord

Display No. 9: Victor Julian dog act

Victor Julian Fanfare, *Lara's Theme* (*Somewhere My Love*) from "Dr. Zhivago" (Jarre), *There's No Business Like Show Business* (Berlin), *That's Entertainment* (Schwartz), *Everything's Coming Up Roses* (Sondheim), *Thank Heaven for Little Girls* (Loewe), *Poor Butterfly* (Hubbell), *Batman TV Theme* (Hefti), *Alice Blue Gown* (McCarthy), *Sayonara* (Waxman), *Irish Washerwoman*, *On the Beach at Waikiki* (Kailimai), *Pizzicato Polka* from "Sylvia" (Delibes), *America the Beautiful* (Ward), *Yankee Doodle Dandy* (Cohan), *You're a Grand Old Flag* (Cohan), chord

Victor Julian's act consisted of small dogs wearing different costumes and hopping on their hind legs down a runway, accompanied by music appropriate to the costumes. The little dog wearing the Batman costume always got an enthusiastic response from the audience. Despite its lack of variety, this act remained a crowd pleaser for as long as Julian presented it.

**Display No. 10: Aerial Ballet**

Unidentified march, *Climb Every Mountain* (Rodgers), *If I Loved You* (Rodgers), drum roll, unidentified exit music, chord

Display No. 11: Rosell Troupe high wire act

Gallito March (Lope), *Bésame Mucho* (Velázquez), *Peppermint Twist* (Dee-Glover), *Arrivederci Roma* (Rascel), *Tico-Tico* (de Abreu), *El niño judío* (Luna), unidentified galop

Intermission**Display No. 12: Flying Trapeze**

My Reverie (Clinton), *It's a Grand Night for Singing* (Rodgers), *Der Reigen Waltz* (Straus), *The Big Cage Galop* (King)

Display No. 13: Tony Smaha, dressage

Light Cavalry opening fanfare (Suppé), unidentified Latin number, *Up, Up and Away* (Webb), *Girl from Ipanema* (Jobim), *Marche Militaire* (Schubert), *Puttin' on the Ritz* (Berlin), drum roll, bows fanfare

Display No. 14:

It's Not Unusual (Reed-Mills), drum roll, *Age of Aquarius* (Rado), chord

Display No. 15: bareback act

Men of Ohio (Fillmore), *Fanfare based on Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody No. 1*, unidentified paso doble, chord, *Hungarian Dance No. 5* (Brahms), *Lady of Spain* (calliope alternates choruses with the band) (Evans), chord, *El Relicario* (calliope alternates choruses with the band) (Padilla), chord, *Galop "Go"* (Jewell), chord

Display No. 16: Elephants

Northwind March (Chambers), *Entry of the Gladiators* (Fučík), *The Merry-Go-Round Broke Down* (played on the air calliope) (Friend), *The Hearse Song* (aka Elephant Hop) (played on the air calliope), unidentified swing number, *London Bridge* (played on the air calliope), *Colossus of Columbia* (Alexander), *The Billboard* (fragment) (Klohr), *Colossus of Columbia* (reprise), *Love Makes the World Go 'Round* (played on the air calliope) (Suesse), *Them Basses* (Huffine), chord

According to Robert P. Hills, Jr., *Northwind March*, *Entry of the Gladiators*, *Colossus of Columbia* and the fragment from *The Billboard* were all taken from a march medley titled *Circus Spectacular*. Andy Glover (WJU #423) has identified *Circus Spectacular* as having been arranged by Harold Walters and published by Rubank in 1964. Harold Walters is the composer of *Copa Cabana*, a number that was frequently programed by the old-time circus bandleaders.

Display No. 18:

It's Not Unusual (Reed-Mills), chord, *Tea for Two* (Youmans), chord, *This is My Song* (Chaplin), *The Impossible Dream* (Leigh), chord, *Impossible Dream* (reprise), chord, *Exodus* (Gold), *Up, Up and Away* (Webb), chord

Exit Music:

The Connoisseur March (Williams)
- played on the air calliope.

