

1971 ALADDIN TEMPLE SHRINE CIRCUS Musical Program

By Eric Beheim, WJU #66



The 21st Annual Aladdin Temple Shrine Circus took place in Columbus, Ohio in April 1971 in the State Fairgrounds Coliseum. 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, 1969, and 1970 Aladdin Shrine Circus performances were described in previous issues of *Circus Fanfare*.)

Bob later sent me a quarter-inch reel-to-reel tape with an edited version of the 1971 performance. At the time, I was on active duty in the Navy, so this tape ended up being put into storage where it remained overlooked and unplayed for almost 50 years.

Just recently, I came across Bob's 1971 tape while searching for something else. Much to my delight, it was still playable, allowing me to prepare a list of the music that was performed that year.

As was the case with many indoor winter circuses sponsored by fraternal groups, the 1971 Aladdin Temple Shrine Circus' program was a collection of independent acts that had been booked for the two weeks or so of the engagement. While major acts such as Victor Julian had their own special music, many did not, and it was up to the bandleader to come up with something appropriate for them.

In 1971, the Aladdin Temple Shrine Circus band was led by veteran bandleader



IZZY CERVONE, bandleader

Izzy Cervone who, although in his early '80s, was still coming up with first-rate musical programs that featured everything from works by Karl L. King, Fred Jewell and Russell Alexander, to the latest pop songs.

Here is a listing of the music that was performed for the 1971 Aladdin Temple Shrine Circus and which is contained on Bob Hill's tape. Unfortunately, I do not have a copy of that year's souvenir program and am not able to identify all of the acts that appeared that year.

Display No. 1: Julius von Uhl, mixed wild animal act

Entry of the Gladiators (opening bars) (Fucik) direct segue into *William Tell Storm Music* (Rossini), *Caravan* (Ellington),

Born Free (Barry), chord, unidentified European march, chord, *Dance of the Warriors* (Ring), chord, *Pahjamah* (Henry & Onivas), chord, *Circus Days Galop* (trio) (King), chord, *Homestretch Galop* (King), chord

Display No. 2: aerial act

La Virgen de La Macarena (Bautista), *Love is a Many Splendored Thing* (Fain), *Charade* (Mancini), *The Look of Love* (Bacharach), unidentified, *Sabre Dance* (Khatchaturian), chord

Display No. 3:

March: Fiesta Del Toro, chord

Display No. 4:

Bill Bailey (Cannon), *Who's Sorry Now?* (Synder), *A Lot of Livin' to Do* (Strouse), chord

Display No. 5:

Dear World (Herman), chord, *Anema E Core* (Murolo), *Look for a Star* (Anthony), *La Vie en Rose* (Louiguy), *Poor People of Paris* (Monnot), *Milord* (Monnot), *God Bless America* (Berlin)

Display No. 6:

Spinning Wheel (Clayton-Thomas), *Celebration*, drumroll, chord

Display No. 7:

The Stripper (Rose), *Hawaii 5-O* (Stevens)

Display No. 8: 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), *Roamin' in the Gloamin'* (Lauter), *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)

For those too young to remember it, Victor Julian's act consisted of small dogs wearing different costumes and hopping on their hind



VICTOR JULIAN with his dogs

legs down a runway, accompanied by music appropriate to the costumes. Although rather prosaic compared to the Stephenson Family's dog act on Ringling-Barnum, Julian's act remained a crowd pleaser for as long as he presented it. (The little dog wearing the Batman costume always got the biggest response from the audience!)

Display No. 9 Aerial Ballet

The Gladiator's Farewell (trio) (Blankenburg), *Tonight We Love* (Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No. 1 in B Flat Minor: 1st Movement), *Tonight* (Bernstein), *Tonight We Love* (reprise), *Madam Butterfly: One Fine Day* (Puccini), *Shangri-La* (Maineck-Maxwell), chord, drum roll, chord

Intermission

Display No. 10: Flying Trapeze

Dr. Zhivago Russian March (Jarre), *Vienna City of My Dreams* (Sieczynski), *Moon River* (Mancini), *Fascination* (Marchetti), drum roll, chord, *Galop "Go"* (Jewell)



Display No. 11:

Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head (Bacharach), *Applause* (Strouse)

Display No. 12:

It's Not Unusual (Reed-Mills), *The Beat Goes On* (Bono), chord, *Everything's Coming Up Roses* (Styne), drum roll, chord, *Java* (Toussaint), chord, *Cabaret* (Kander), *William Tell finale* (Rossini), chord

Display No. 13:

Lolita Paso Doble, unidentified Paso Doble, *California Here I Come* (played on the air calliope) (DeSylva), chord, fanfare, *Whip and Spur Galop* (Allen), drum roll, *Chit Chat Polka* (Strauss), drum roll, chord

Display No. 14:

National Emblem March (trio) (Bagley), *The Sound of Music* (Rodgers), *The Impossible Dream* (Leigh), chord, unidentified tango, *Beer Barrel Polka* (Vejoda), chord, *Eclipse Galop* (King) chord

Display No. 15: Elephants

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



Northwind March, *Entry of the Gladiators*, *Colossus of Columbia* and the fragment of *The Billboard March* were all from the march medley, *Circus Spectacular*, which was arranged by Harold Walters and published by Rubank in 1964.

Display No. 16:

Motorcycle on High Wire

Mission Impossible TV Theme (Schifrin), *Prelude in G Minor* (Rachmaninoff), *Galop "Go"* (Jewell)

The manuscript arrangement of Rachmaninoff's *Prelude in G Minor* dated back to Cervone's years as the Ringling-Barnum Circus' musical director. In 1959, he used it as the "climb up" music for high wire daredevil Harold Alzana.



1971 was to be Izzy Cervone's last appearance as the Aladdin Temple Shrine Circus' bandleader. He passed away the following year at the age of 82, leaving behind a musical legacy which few circus musicians have ever achieved. The musical programs used for Aladdin Temple Shrine Circus performances after 1972 were never quite as good as the ones that Cervone had come up with.