

From Trocadero to Troxy

John Abson

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From Trocadero to Troxy

- The Hyams family
- The Trocadero years
- The Troxy – where East is Best
- Covent Garden in Stepney
- Trocadero to Troxy – new dreams for old

The Hyams family

- Early years and family connections
- Broadway Stratford – the start of the supers
- Building the chain – Hyams & Gale
- Phil, Sid and Mick.

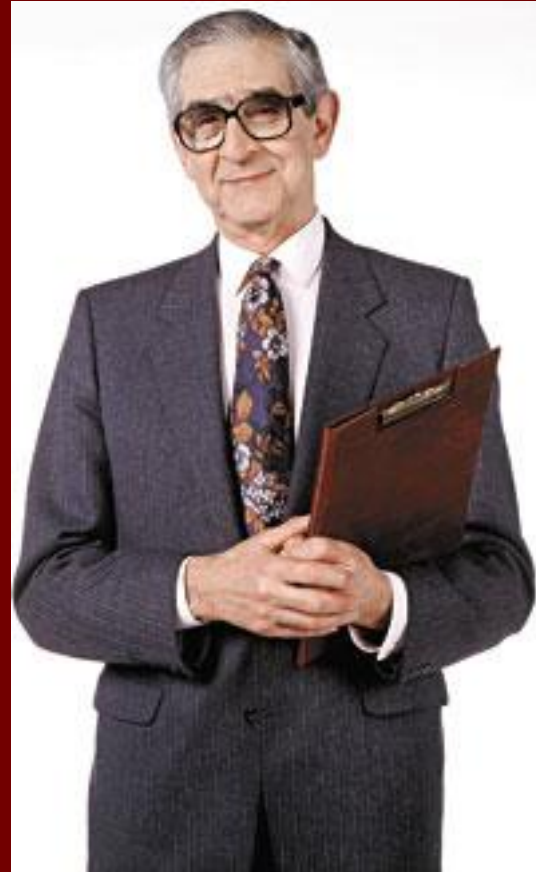
The Tramway Dining Rooms, Stratford



Gaumont State Kilburn



Denis Norden – TWT Patron



The Trocadero years

- Theatre's building and opening
- Quentin Maclean and the Wurlitzer
- War time and post-war
- Removal of the Wurlitzer – film clip

Trocadero - 1930



Opening advertisement

TROCADERO
ELEPHANT and CASTLE
EUROPE'S LARGEST CINE-
VARIETY THEATRE
IS NOW OPEN
with
the World's finest Talkies—Quentin
MacLean at the £15,000 Organ—Lifts
from Waiting Halls to Seat Areas—Ear-
phones for those suffering from
defective hearing—Full Symphony
Orchestra—Wonderful Stage Shows
— PRICES 6d. to 2/4 —
VISIT THIS WONDER THEATRE

Artist's impression



Trocadero opulence



Mac recording - 1932



Quentin Maclean



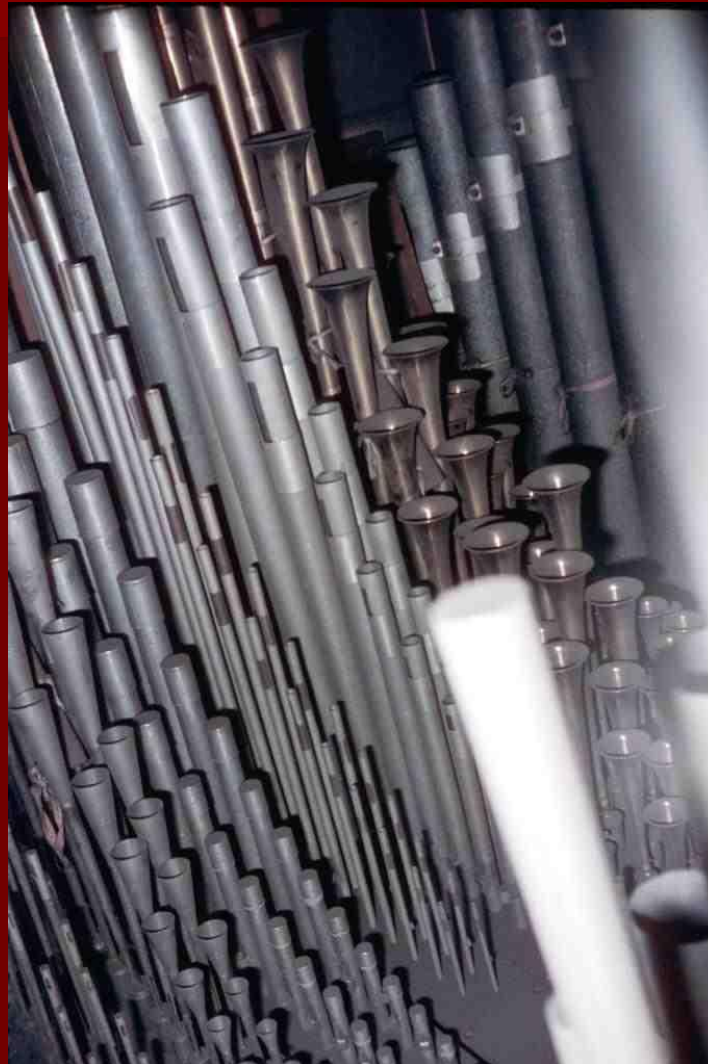
Quentin Maclean



Maclean's grave in Toronto



Trocadero solo chamber



By night...



The Trocadero console today



Where East is Best

- Building the Troxy
- Entertainment at the Troxy
- Local community
- The Troxy Wurlitzer and its organists
- Wartime
- Post-war demise of the Troxy, removal and dismantling of the Wurlitzer

Building 'an astonishing house of entertainment'



The Troxy – exterior 1933



The Troxy - interior



The Troxy - circle



The Troxy - circle



The Troxy - foyer



The Troxy - cafeteria



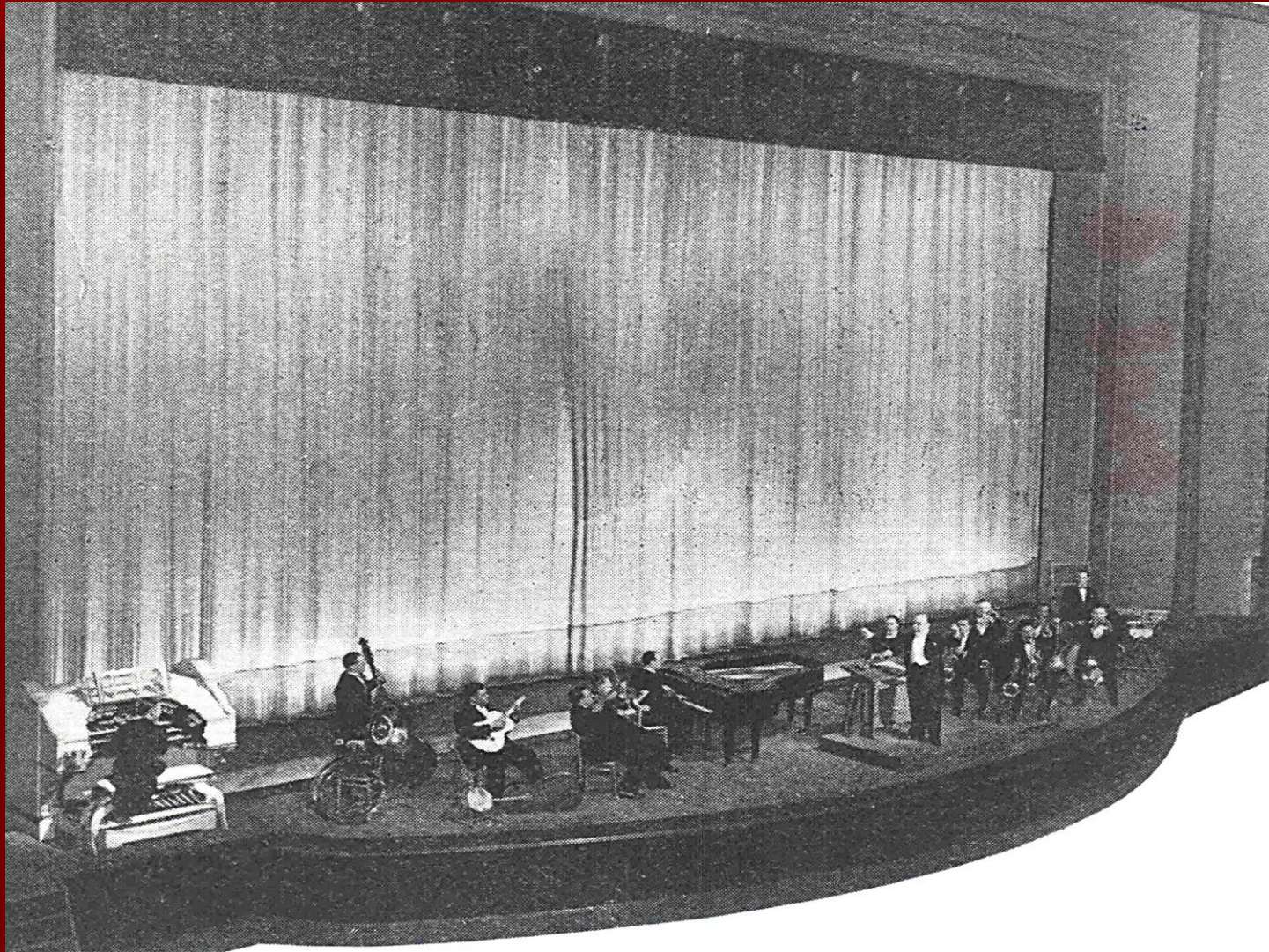
Bobby Pagan – The Troxy's first organist



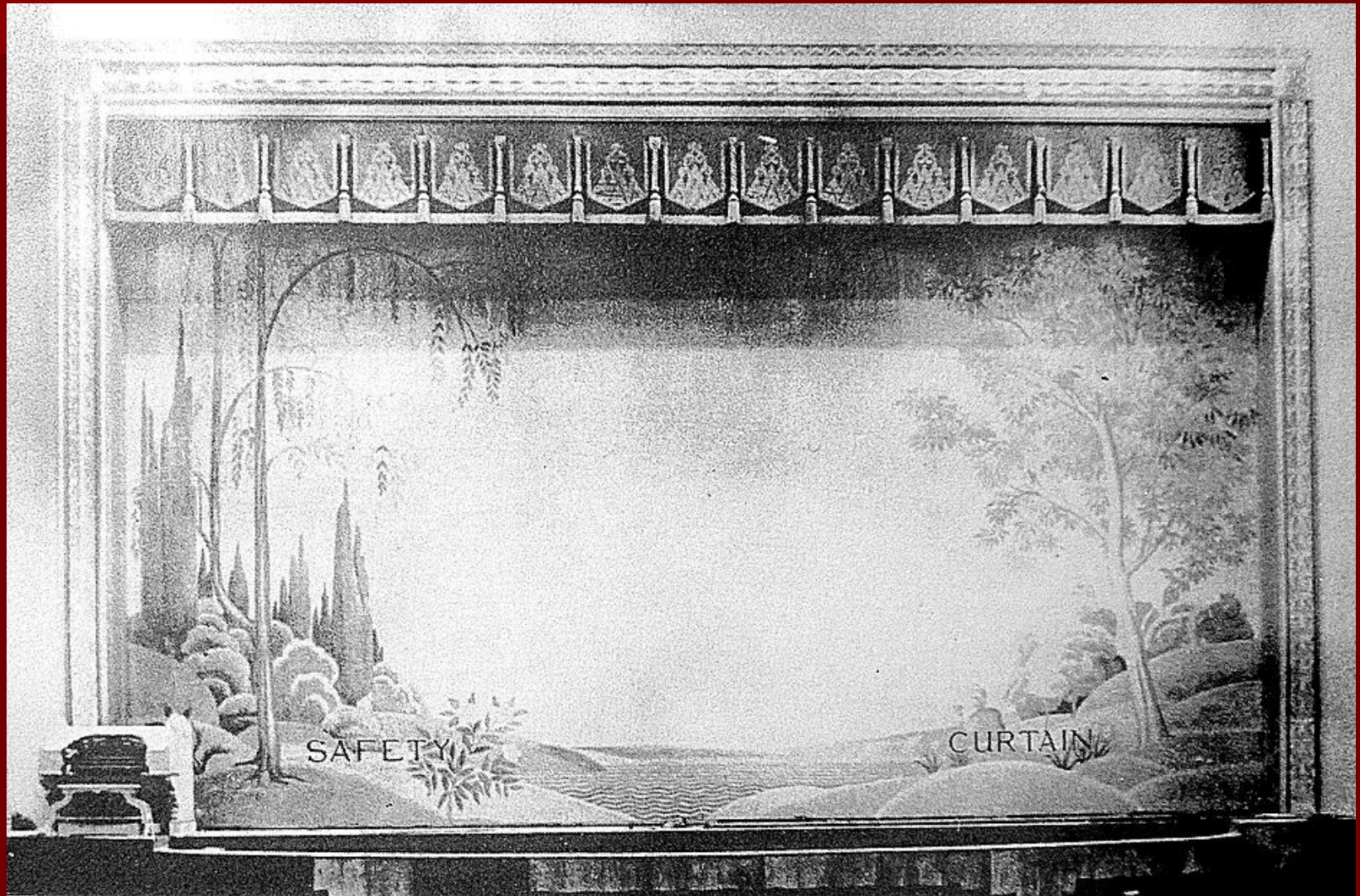
At the Console
ROBERT PAGAN

“A Brilliant exponent of a Brilliant Instrument”

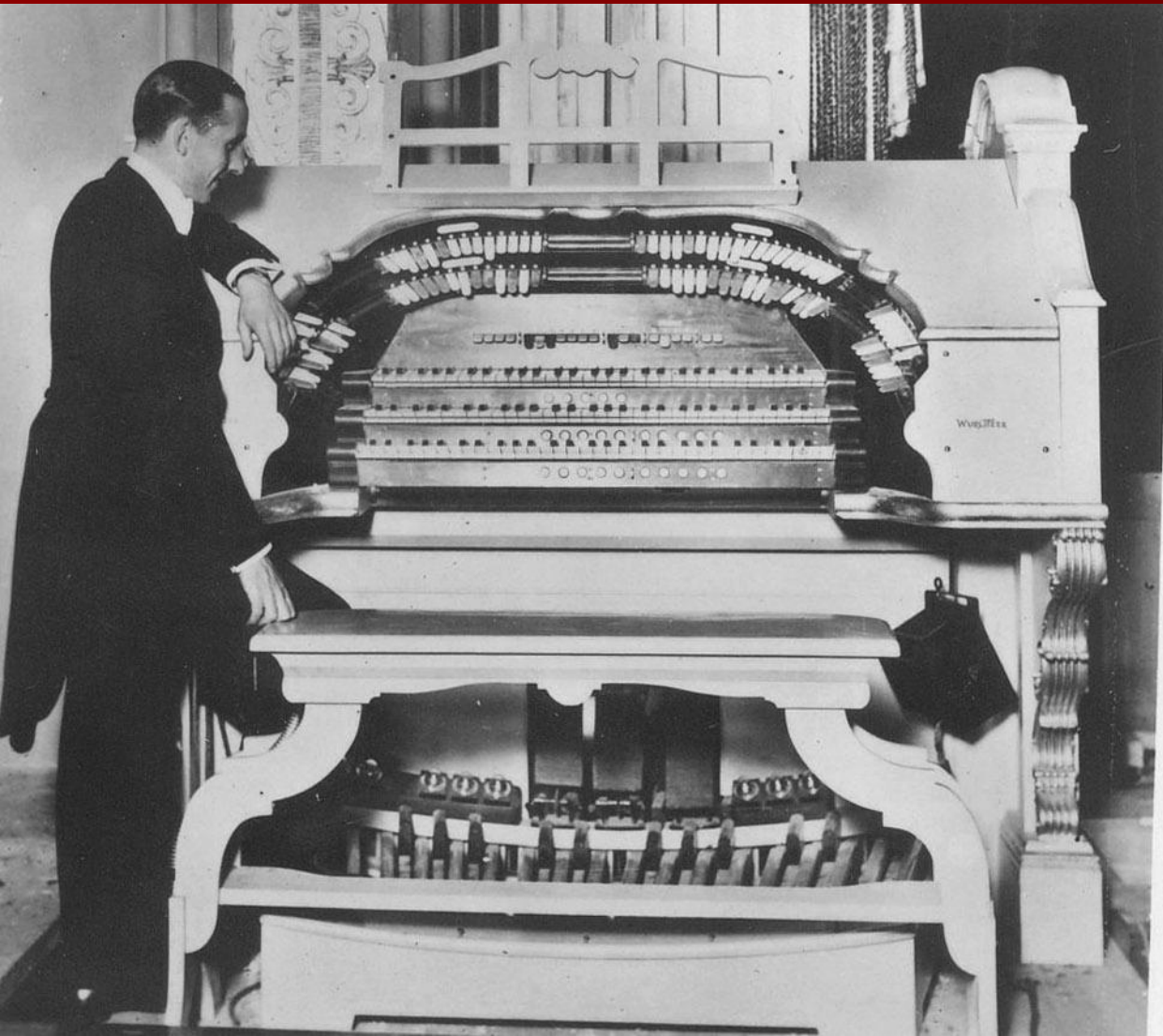
Organ, piano and the Van Dam orchestra



Safety curtain and Wurlitzer pipe organ console



To Charlie Blakemore, 'Tibia memento of OCT 4' (1934)

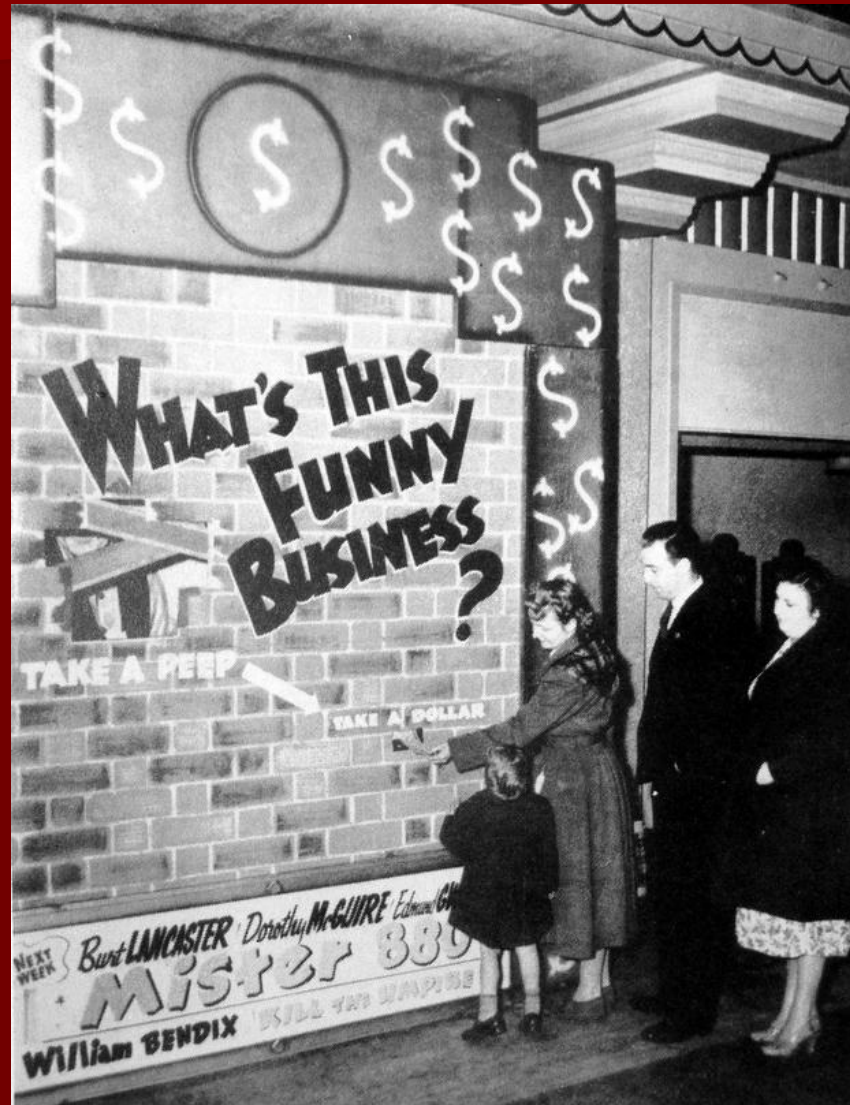


To Charlie Blakemore,
'Tibia memento
of "OCT 4".
Yrs. Bobly Hasen
Tracy 1934

ARP wardens holding incendiary bombs in the Troxy foyer



What's this funny business? – Fake dollar bills!



Smoke and mirrors...

**90,000
YARDS** OF



B.I.
**CABLES
AND
WIRES**

**IN THE
NEW
TROXY
CINEMA,
STEPNEY**

Safety and reliability are essential considerations in the wiring of cinemas and other places of amusement. The electrical installation must therefore be of the highest quality. As with many other famous modern cinemas, B.I. Cables were used for the wiring of the electrical circuits in the Troxy Cinema, Stepney, a total length of 90,000 yards being employed.

Architect: Mr. George Coles, F.R.I.B.A.; Consulting Engineers: Messrs. Charles H. Bell & Co. Ltd.; Lighting Installation: The Strand Electric & Engineering Co. Ltd.; Manufacturers and Suppliers of Stage Lighting equipment: The Major Equipment Co., Ltd.

BRITISH INSULATED CABLES LTD.
CABLE MAKERS AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS
PRESCOT . . . LANCS. Tel. No. PRESCOT 6571.

London Office, SURREY HOUSE, EMBANKMENT, W.C.2. Tel. No. TEMPLE BAR 4793-4

**DECORATIVE
MIRRORS**

BY
CLARK

**TROXY
CINEMA**
Commercial Rd., E.

Architect :
George Coles, Esq.,
F.R.I.B.A.

Contractors :
F. G. Minter, Ltd.



The large decorative brilliant-cut Mirrors and the green Marmorite Glass Wall Panels in the entrance vestibule of the Troxy Cinema were made and fixed by CLARK.

Entrust your GLASS problems to CLARK—England's largest Glass Merchants—and be assured of perfect workmanship.

JAMES CLARK & SON, LTD.
BLACKFRIARS ROAD, LONDON, S.E.1
CLARK'S NEW TELEPHONE NO. . . . WATERLOO 4611
(Private Branch Exchange)

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FOR
GLASS**

Branches — BOURNEMOUTH · EASTBOURNE · CANTERBURY

Where East is Best



Covent Garden in Stepney – the London Opera Centre

- Origins
- Conversion of the Troxy
- Use of the building
- Mecca conversion

London Opera Centre



London Opera Centre 'Alceste'



London Opera Centre 'Il fratello'



London Opera Centre – Kiri te Kanawa



From Trocadero to Troxy – New dreams for old

- Removal to storage of Troc Wurlitzer
- Search for new home
- Troxy – a dream location
- Project plans and how we are doing it
- Why the project is important
- Recap

Restored console 2001



The Troxy today



Troxy organ grilles

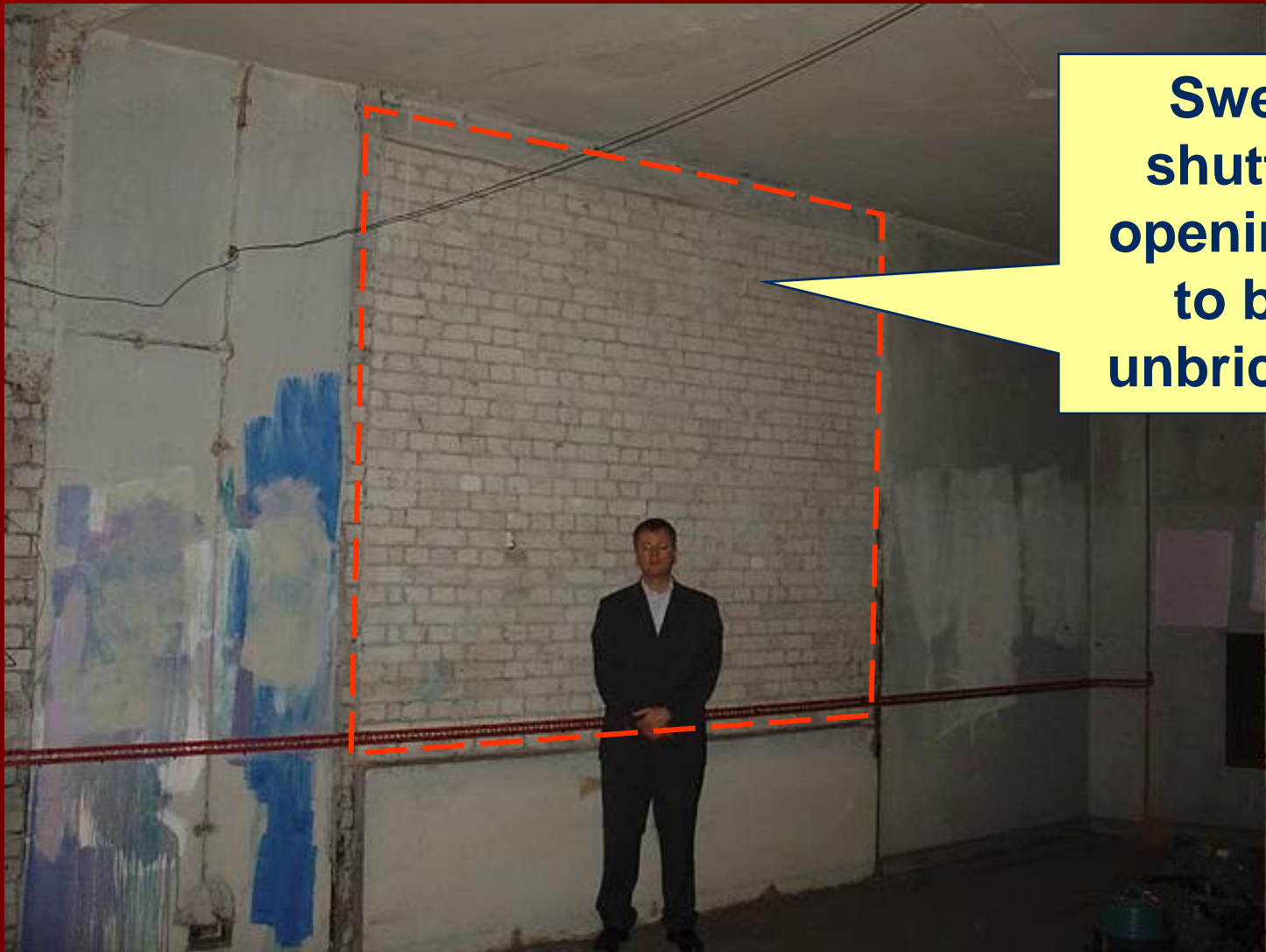


Original Solo chamber



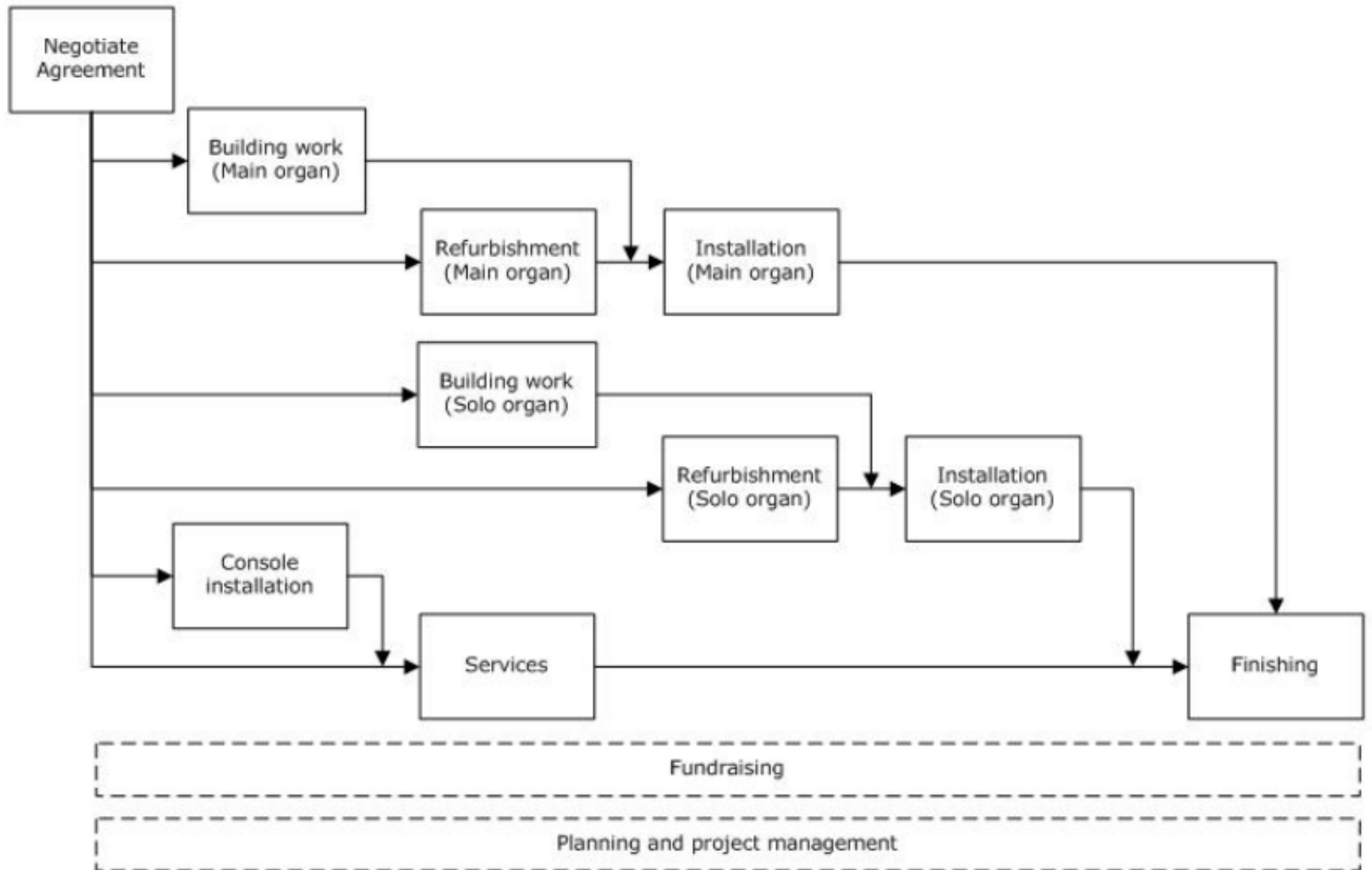
**Swell
shutter
opening –
to be
unbricked**

Original Main chamber



**Swell
shutter
opening –
to be
unbricked**

Project outline



Solo chamber pipework



Components under restoration



Circle view



Console detail



Console detail



Console decoration



Its new home



Thanks!

- Jim Buckland
- Cinema Organ Society
- Cinema Theatre Association
- Jewish Chronicle
- David Jones
- William Joseph
- Nigel Laflin
- John Leeming
- Graham Noble
- Denis Norden
- David Reed



From Trocadero to Troxy – a legend returns

John Abson

Richard Hills

www.trocadero-wurlitzer.org