

Noel Concert Review

by Roger Boll

I realize that this was not a MAC sponsored event, but he was so entertaining, that I thought I would share it with our membership. Unless you spend a lot of time searching out accordionists on You Tube or network with fellow musicians talking about Reedless midi orchestral accordions, you may not have heard of Richard Noel. In retrospect, we may have put too much emphasis on the "reedless accordion", and not Richard Noel the accordionist.

Richard is a walking wealth of knowledge on the Roland V accordion, but is a very accomplished accordionist as well. He may not be well known in Milwaukee, but he is sought after by many accordion organizations around the country, and is traveling to Australia in 2016.

Even before Richard started playing his afternoon music program, he made himself available to answer questions from the audience. Using an outline/list of possible pieces to play, he admitted he never plays the same program twice. I use this same method in my performances, and it keeps them from becoming stale. One thing I liked about his music were the arrangements of the songs. He has great knowledge of music theory, and plays each piece without written music.

Richard's program was as varied as you can get. He not only did a lot of great standards, but did Broadway show tunes as well. He showed his classical side playing

an overture written specifically for the accordion, leaving the Roland set up as an acoustic accordion. It would be one of a number of classical numbers he would perform for us. I have purposely left out the song titles, to keep your interest in just what sort of program he could do for us. Richard Noel is an example of why our club needs to look outside the box when finding accordionists for future MAC meetings.

If you have seen or heard of an exceptional accordionist that we may want to look at, let me or any of the other MAC board members know about them. We are always looking for new talent.

**Review of Milwaukee Concert,
September 26, 2015.**

**Extracted from the
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