

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Silent Sundays

Presents the silent film classic
"The Hunchback of Notre Dame"
at the Phoenix Orpheum Theatre

Travel back in time with your family and experience movie going as it was in the golden age of silent movies in Phoenix's only remaining movie palace, the beautiful Orpheum Theatre. Each Silent Sundays program features a family enjoyable silent film classic with live accompaniment provided by a world-famous organist on the Orpheum's Mighty Wurlitzer Theatre Organ.

The Hunchback of Notre Dame (1923) starring Lon Chaney

In fifteenth century Paris, Quasimodo (Lon Chaney) is a half-blind, deaf, hunchbacked bell ringer of the famed Cathedral of Notre Dame. His master, Jehan, the evil brother of the archdeacon, conspires with Clopin, the king of the beggars in the Paris underground, to foment a revolution by kidnapping Esmeralda, Clopin's adopted daughter. Doing his master's bidding, Quasimodo kidnaps Esmeralda, but falls in love with her. He is subsequently caught, abandoned by Jehan, and publically whipped for the crime. Later, when Esmeralda is accused of a murder she did not commit, Quasimodo rescues her from the gallows and triumphs over Jehan.

The film is based on Victor Hugo's 1831 novel, and is notable for the grand sets that recall 15th century Paris as well as for Chaney's performance and make-up as the tortured hunchback Quasimodo. The film elevated Chaney, already a well-known character actor, to full star status in Hollywood, and also helped set a standard for many later horror films, including Chaney's *The Phantom of the Opera* in 1925

Organist Brett Valliant returns to Silent Sundays and the Orpheum's Mighty Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ to accompany the film live.

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The Hunchback of Notre Dame

October 27th 2:30 PM

Phoenix Orpheum Theatre

203 W Adams

Phoenix, AZ 85003

<https://silentsundays.vots-atos.org>