



July 2014

2014 Home Organ Spectacular - Omaha

Congratulations to Dennis Awe and his team, Dave Brown and the folks at Critchett's Lowrey Organ Center, and Lowrey for a great musical event in Omaha last month. The facility was world class, the food was terrific, and everyone enjoyed the concerts, workshops, and help sessions. Here is a short picture gallery of the event.





Smiles & Vibra Trem

by: Bil Curry

Let's use the song "Smiles" to learn about operating Vibra Trem on a Lowrey. The Vibra Trem electronically simulates a rotating speaker known as a "Leslie" (Invented by Don Leslie in the early 40's). Commonly used for organ sounds, one of the most dramatic features of this sound is the wind-up and wind-down you hear when switching from the slow speed to the fast speed and vice versa. This is

called "animation" because it brings life to the organ sounds. It actually produces a combination of both vibrato (varying the pitch) and tremolo (varying the loudness) because of the Doppler effect. No room to explain Doppler effect but the Internet will have many explanations.

Many Lowrey's have two Vibra Trem buttons labeled "Fast" and "Slow". The EZ-4 and EZ-10 have one button that goes to "Slow" when you turn it off. The music starts with the "Slow" setting and goes back and forth between "Fast" and "Slow" on the longer held notes. Just follow the markings "V.T. Slow" and "V.T. Fast" ("Fast" remains a little longer at the end). "Smiles" sounds great with or without a style using this technique. If you decide to use a style use a slow style like "EZ 4/4" or "Guitar Swing".

For the melody sound, turn off the Rhythm Preset (Style Setup) button and select a rich organ sound like General Setup # 1 or #3 on the EZ-10 and EY300 Fanfare. On smaller units press the "Organs" button and scroll to "Rich". When finished, try this technique with the song "Amazing Grace" (first song in your Lowrey Songbook).





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