

# 8. Electric Keyboards

# Worksheet

Electric keyboard instruments were as dominant in the \_\_\_\_\_century as acoustic keyboard instruments were in the 19th century.

Both the piano and organ were modified with e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

True or false. Electric and electronic or digital pianos are the same.

Electric pianos have h\_\_\_\_\_\_ and s\_\_\_\_\_ just like a grand piano.

Electronic or digital pianos produce their sounds d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The electric piano became more popular after the 1959 hit record by Ray C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, “What’d I Say.”

Another type of electric piano that was popular at the time was the R\_\_\_\_\_\_ piano, which was also known as the F\_\_\_\_\_\_ R\_\_\_\_\_\_ piano.

The Fender Rhodes piano has metal t\_\_\_\_\_\_ instead of strings that are struck with hammers.

The electric organ became the d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ keyboard instrument in USA theatres in the first decades of the 20th century.

The electric theater organ was used for the accompaniment of s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ movies.

The electric theater organ of the 20th century provided even more varieties of s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than the organ of the 19th century.

Some electric theater organs had sleigh bells, train and boat whistles, car h\_\_\_\_\_, sirens, and bird wh\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Theater organs were far too ex\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for individuals to own.

Other electric organs, such as the H\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ organ, however, were employed in musical groups.

Many people even had a H\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ organ in their homes.

# Further Information from Other Videos and Readings

There were financial reasons for theaters to have an electric W\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Organ instead of an orchestra. It was cheaper to hire the one musician than a whole orchestra for every showing

Because different organists would choose different music, showings of “Phantom of the Opera” would not be the s\_\_\_\_\_\_ each time.

The stage setting of these silent movies reminds me of some of the opera scenes shown in the later 19th century. In fact, certainly in the USA the popularity of movies overshadowed opera. Still early motion pictures borrowed from many ideas for staging seen in European operas.

What type of lighting is depicted in this theater? Gas or electric?

**Information from the Hammond Organ Video**

The Hammond organ was (and still is) a versatile instrument used by popular music groups, jazz musicians, and church organists.

Hammond was a prodigious inventor, patenting clocks and bridge tables. In 1934 he patented an organ. In the beginning, most Hammond organs were bought by churches. Hammond organs were cheaper to build, and this was a threat to the pipe organ manufacturers.

Drawbars on the Hammond organs allow the musicians to adjust the timber or harmonics of the notes. This can change the quality of tone on the instruments.

Ethel Smith popularized the Hammond organ. She was known as “first lady” of the instrument.

Leslie speakers are often paired with Hammond organs. These speakers have moving parts that produce vibrato.

Jimmy Smith used the B3 Hammond Organ and originated a certain setting on the organ. In 1975 the last B3 was built. The company went bankrupt in 1985 but now the company is back in business under Suzuki ownership (2003).