LGBT History Project of the LGBT Center of Central PA

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Documents Online

Title: Central PA Womyn's Chorus "Welcome to the Reunion" Program

Date: December 4, 2004

Location: LGBT-102 The Central PA Womyn's Chorus Collection

Contact: LGBT History Project Archives & Special Collections Waidner-Spahr Library Dickinson College P.O. Box 1773 Carlisle, PA 17013

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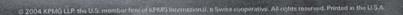
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Our Tenth Anniversary Concert



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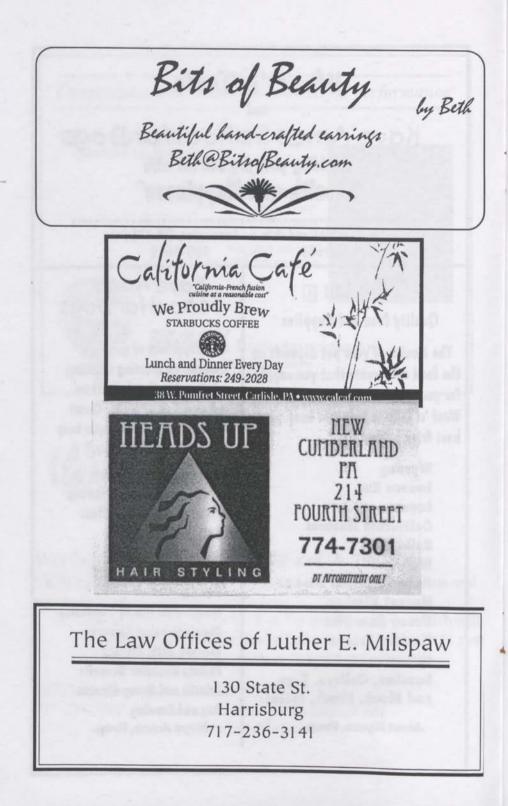
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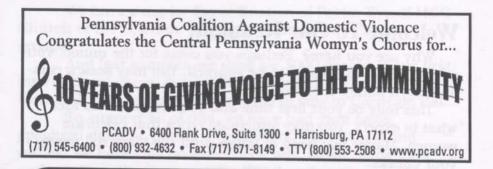
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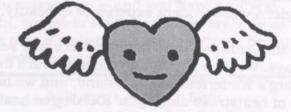
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Thank you -- and thank them!

Welcome To Our Reunion!

Why are you here? Perhaps you come for the music. You might need a safe space to be yourself. You may seek a community, a family of choice.

This may be your first time and you may have no idea what to expect. You may anticipate lyrics that celebrate women. Maybe you need to laugh until the tears roll down your cheeks.

Each of us, singer and listener alike, brings a unique voice to our time together. Together, we blend our voices to weave true magic: a transcendent experience of beauty, power, and joy.

Over the years, we have done this in many venues and in many ways. We have frozen our accompanist's fingers at Harrisburg's Winterfest on City Island, and we have faced the hazards of heatstroke singing in 100-degree heat and humidity at the Pride Festival across the river.

Kay Gardner conducted us in performing a piece she wrote especially for us, and returned to lead a workshop on music and healing.

We have sung with Judy Collins and have opened for Yagottawanna.

We have performed for World AIDS Day, for reunions of Shippensburg's gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered student organization, and at Philadelphia Pride.

We have sung as guests of the New Wave Singers in Baltimore, and with all of Pennsylvania's feminist choruses as guests of Anna Crusis in Philadelphia.

We have performed at the annual gathering of the Pennsylvania Women's Immigrant and Refugee Network, for Shippensburg's women's studies program, and at Bloomsburg University's annual women's conference.

We have sung in the face of the most rabid gay-bashers in the country, in celebration of diversity at Carlisle's Amani Festival, and in celebration of major anniversaries of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

We have raised money for the Revolutionary Association of Afghan Woman, and for the Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition and the Mautner Project (serving lesbians with cancer). We have sung for the ordination of Pastor Eva of MCC Church of the Spirit as well as for mainstream church groups.

And last summer, we sang for 3000 people at our first international choral festival, GALA Choruses Festival VII in Montreal. Now we have been invited to sing in Carnegie Hall.

To support all of this, we have had yard sales, spaghetti dinners, pancake breakfasts, car washes, and raffles. We have sold program book ads, subs, candy bars, and candles. We convinced the IRS that donations to the chorus should be tax deductible. We have asked our family and friends to support us -- and you have said yes!

Tonight, we celebrate this rich history, and as we celebrate our past members, we celebrate you: because you are listening, you are part of the song.

Fall 1995 • Autumn Fires
Fall 1996 • Silent No More!
Spring 1997 • Music Music Music!!!
Fall 1997 • Wild Women Don't Get the Blues!
Spring 1998 • Boys & Girls with Stories
Fall 1998 • Celebration!
Spring 1999 • Feast for the Ears
Fall 1999 • How Can I Keep from Singing?
Spring 2001 • This Land Is OUR Land!
Fall 2001 • Wild Women Just Get Better!
Spring 2002 • Singing for Our Lives
Fall 2002 • Wintersong
Spring 2003 • Music in Our Mothers' House
Spring 2004 • With Love from Us to You
Fall 2004 • Reunion!

Honor Roll of Chorus Members 1994-2004*

Artistic Directors

Jane E'Del 1994 Margi Pietsch 1994–1996 Tom Tiehel 1996–1998 Alissa Plant 1998–2000 Dan Krynak 2000–2004 Giesala Collins 2004 and Beyond!

> Accompanists (alphabetical) **Renee Bartholomew** Anthony Haubert Dawn Grib Dan Krynak Margi Pietsch Catharine Roth Kimm Cooper Carl Vandling Officers (chronological) Presidents **Rose Samuel** Susan Swope Donna Bowers Lucy Twitchell Amy Shestack **Cindy Mitzel Vice Presidents** Chris Bilger Susan Swope Jan Davis **Barb** Nissley **Cindy Mitzel** Cathy Nelson Secretaries Sara Hopkins Lee Melchior Nan Flesher Lucy Twitchell Treasurers Jan Frye Vera Grieger Cathy Nelson Kim Hair

Incorporators (1994) (signatory order) Rose Samuel Jan Frye **Russ** Akers **Directors (Board Members)** (alphabetical) Chuck Atwell Virginia DeChristopher Kathy Filman Donna Gomboc Gwen Iones Dan Krynak Susan Leviton Katherine MacIntvre Mary Nancarrow **Joanne Nicholson** Linda Noble **Jane** Palmquist Di Sanchez Stormy Scott **Jackie Stutts** Nancy Smith Cynthia Swanson Shirley Tannenbaum Doug Warner **Joe Weale** Kate Williams



Cheryl Winch

countless vivacious volunteers!

*If we overlooked your name, please accept our apologies. Maybe it's time you came back!

Singers Listed by the Concert Season in Which She Joined Summer 1994 (Founding Singers) Chris Bilger Jane Brickley Diane Corriveau Jennifer Davis Jan Frye Donna Gomboc Elaine Howe Ceil Jackson Gwen Jones Kathleen Leopold Mary Murphy Pat Tibery Kate Williams Chris Wise Wendy Wissick Fall 1994 **Donna Bowers** Andrea Gordon Wendy Graham Dixie Schnell **Yvonne Wilson** Cathy Nelson Janice Myers Spring 1995 **Giesala** Collins **Janie Womack** Ian Davis Susan Leviton Susan Swope Shirley Tannenbaum Fall 1995 Theresa Alberici Sarah Hopkins Lee Melchior Lillian Morgan Ellen Roane Fall 1996 Pam Desch Joanne Nicholson Linda Noble Spring 1997 Brenda Dolinger Linda Mussoline

Fall 1997 Kathy Clark Kathy Darrow Gini Greenhalgh Sandy Westerman **Fall 1998** Cheryl Winch Spring 1999 Jenny Anderson Christine Hazel Carol Mouzon Spring 2001 Peg E. Monley Beth L. Stone Florence Tarbox Lucy Twitchell Virginia DeChristopher **Fall 2001** Kay Baldwin Amy Shestack Spring 2002 Suzanne Noll Kim Hair Fall 2002 Erin Gibson Tesia Koser Vivian Koser Julie Lowery **Tiffany Wright** Spring 2003 Liv Messmer Winter 2004 Pat Ashton Laura Dalton Cathy Hinman Fall 2004 Anna Conway Chris Chew **Kimberley Koester** Lorraine Hennessy Arleen Shulman

Do you wish your name were here? Talk to our director about joining! Her phone number is 717-612-0322. Rehearsals for the Spring season start January 3.



We remember you. We miss you. We love you.

Thank you for your time with us. We feel your spirit with us tonight.

Your sisters of the chorus

Message from Our Artistic Director

Good evening and welcome to our ten-year anniversary concert. Tonight's performance is especially exciting for me as it marks my first official season as the Artistic Director of the CPWC. The presentation of this concert is a culmination of ten years of "Our Story". I say " our story" as I was also a singing member of this group in years past. I have the unique perspective of knowing much about this group as I am part of the story of the past, present, and future.

I love being the Artistic Director of CPWC. There is no experience quite like this. This very special group of womyn has allowed me to lead them into this next decade. I feel privileged and honored to be in such a creative position with the group at this time. The best part about my position is creating beautiful, quality, music with my sisters with thoughtful intention and love. The second best thing about being the director is guiding this group of womyn to discover their own musical potential in themselves and then watching how individuals unfold, stretch, and grow.

In some ways, I feel like a gardener. I must make sure the garden gets much sunshine (positive energy), enough water to quench the vocal chords, and the right combination of nutrients (musical concepts and building blocks) to ensure a strong root system. Then, much like a gardner does, I must wait patiently as the season passes to see what is going to bloom. All of the womyn in CPWC are the flowers in the garden. Each individual has her own unique beauty and together they paint a beautiful picture that inspires my soul!

- Giesala Collins



Artistic Director Giesala Collins

The Singers

Pianist Anthony Haubert

Percussionist Renee Bartholomew

Soprano One Theresa Alberici Donna Bowers Laura Dalton Virginia DeChristopher **Kimberley Koester** Lorraine Hennessy Liv Messmer Beth L. Stone Soprano Two Anna Conway Jan Davis Cathy Hinman Cathy Nelson Suzanne Noll Shirley Tannenbaum Lucy Twitchell

Alto One Chris Chew Linda Mussoline Joanne Nicholson Linda Noble Susan Swope Alto Two Kay Baldwin Donna Gomboc Kim Hair Julie Lowery Amy Shestack Arleen Shulman Florence Tarbox

The Board

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Cathy Hinman Mary Nancarrow Joanne Nicholson Barb Nissley Linda Noble Nancy Smith Cynthia Swanson Susan Swope Shirley Tannenbaum

Volunteers

Many many thanks to the countless helpers who made this concert possible!

Program

Opening

by Renee Bartholomew Occasionally Cool Percussion Ensemble (Bill Griffiths, Margaret Shuttlesworth, Val Steinman, and Turtle, with Renee Bartholomew)



Vignette Donna Gomboc

Sing a Rainbow Words and music by Arthur Hamilton arranged by John Coates, Jr. Duet: Donna Gomboc and Dan Krynak

Dona Nobis Pacem Traditional Latin round ("Grant us peace")

> She Piped for Us by Libby Larsen

This is one of three pieces comprising a work entitled **Today**, **This Spring**, which was commissioned by David L. Cooper and Thomas Scott in remembrance of David's wife and Tom's sister, both of whom succumbed to breast cancer. **She Piped For Us** is based on the text of a sermon at Kathryn Scott Peterson's memorial service:

"She would have us dance and sing."

How Can I Keep from Singing? A Quaker hymn arranged by Gwyneth Walker

Vignette

In order of appearance: Suzanne Noll, Linda Noble, Shirley Tannenbaum, Susan Swope, Cindy Mitzel, and Joanne Nicholson. Conceived and directed by Suzanne Noll.

Step by Step

Traditional union organizing song

When They Know Who We Are by Jamie Anderson, arranged by Karen Kinsman Soloist: Cathy Nelson Occasionally Cool percussion ensemble

Affirmation

by Justina and Joyce, arranged by Marla Wasson Quartet: Jan Davis, Kim Hair, Amy Shestack and Lucy Twitchell Occasionally Cool percussion ensemble

> Vignette Teresa Alberici, with her daughters Emily & Katy

Everything Possible

Words and music by Fred Small, arranged by J. David Moore Ensemble: Chris Chew, Laura Dalton, Jan Davis, Kim Hair, Julie Lowery, Linda Mussoline, Cathy Nelson, Beth Stone

> Joan of Arc by Ruth Huber

Vignette Lorraine Hennessy and Cathy Nelson



Photo taken at a bungalow on the Conewago Creek near Manchester, Pa, circa 1913. The guitar player is founding singer Kate Williams' grandmother Katie Shepp Williams and the child at her knee is Kate's father, Carl Edward Williams.

Music In My Mother's House by Stuart Stott, arranged by J. David Moore Vignette Suzanne Noll

Big Legged Woman by Marla Beth Elliott and the Righteous Mothers arranged by Pamela Gerke Chair dancers: Joanne Nicholson, Linda Noble, Suzanne Noll, Florence Tarbox and Lucy Twitchell Choreography by Giesala Collins



Medley from Sister Act Arranged by Mac Huff Hail Holy Queen: words and music traditional, arrangement by Marc Shaiman I Will Follow You: English lyric by Norman Gimbel and Arthur Altman, original lyric by Jacques Plante, music by J.W. Stole and Del Roman Shout: words and music by O'Kelly Isley, Ronald Isley and Rudolph Isley Ensemble: Chris Chew, Laura Dalton, Jan Davis, Julie Lowery, Linda Mussoline, Cathy Nelson, Beth Stone, Arleen Shulman Choreography by Giesala Collins

— Intermission — Don't miss the fabulous "silent raffle" prizes in the lobby Chorus Members' Honor Roll Russian Lullaby Traditional

> Vignette Dan Krynak

The Awakening by Joseph M. Martin

> Vignette Cathy Hinman

Singing for Our Lives by Holly Near, arranged by Anthony Haubert

> Vignette Jan Davis

Here We Are by Ruth Huber

Comin' Into My Years

by Betsy Rose, arranged by J. David Moore Ensemble: Donna Bowers, Laura Dalton, Jan Davis, Ginny DeChristopher, Kim Hair, Joanne Nicholson, Linda Noble, Suzanne Noll, Amy Shestack, Arleen Shulman, Susan Swope, Shirley Tannenbaum Occasionally Cool percussion ensemble

> **Gaté Gaté** by Brian Tate Trio: Laura Dalton, Jan Davis, Julie Lowery

The Sanskrit text of Gaté Gaté appears at the end of the Prhajñaparamita Heart Sutra and is generally regarded as the essence of Buddhist teaching. Gaté is "gone," gone from suffering to liberation, from forgetfulness to mindfulness, from duality to non-duality. Parasamgaté can be loosely translated as "the entire community of beings has gone over to the other shore." Bodhi is the light inside, enlightenment, or awakening. Svaha is a cry of joy or excitement, like "hallelujah."

> Please join us for a reception in the meeting hall to the east of the church, courtesy of the Harrisburg Men's Chorus

Giesala Collins, Artistic Director

Giesala Collins was a member of the chorus in 1995 and sang soprano one with us for several years before leaving to pursue other musical interests, including the women's band and vocal group, Stone Soup and Common Threads. When she attended our spring 2002 concert, Singing for Our Lives, featuring Diane's Benjamin's breast cancer oratorio, she was so inspired by our repertoire and our spirit that she rejoined our ranks. Our artistic director Dan Krynak asked her to serve as assistant director, and she led us to new heights when she conducted the eastern European piece Niska Banja last spring. When Dan left us in April for personal reasons, we were thrilled to hire her as our new artistic director. Her first accomplishment was to lead us in performing for 3000 people in the grand concert hall of Montreal at the summer 2004 GALA Choruses Festival, Giesala has boundless energy and a wealth of plans for our future. She graduated from West Virginia University with honors and received a Bachelor of Music Degree with an emphasis in music education. Her primary instrument and first love is the clarinet. She also enjoys playing the recorder, the saxophone, an electronic wind instrument, and the tin whistle. She resides in Mechanicsburg with her partner JoAnn and two cats Chessie and Rocky.

Anthony Haubert, Piano Accompanist

As a young lad, Anthony Haubert discovered that playing the piano came naturally; by the time he was 13, he was playing for everything from weddings to school musicals and recitals. While he did not study piano formally in college, the music faculty at Shippensburg University soon noticed his musical talents and while at Shippensburg he accompanied Oklahoma and Godspell. Over the past several years, Anthony has served as accompanist for the Harrisburg Men's Chorus, and played piano bar and cocktail piano in many venues. Currently, he is tickling the ivories at the Hotel Hershey and Catalano's in Wormleysburg. He studies jazz piano with accomplished jazz pianist Katie Rudolph.

Renee Bartholomew, Percussionist

Renee Bartholomew plays percussion in many styles, including classical, jazz, rock, and drum and bugle corps. She was the drummer for the women's singing group, Stone Soup, and plays with many area groups. Her role model is Darth Vader.

Kim L. Hair Certified Massage Therapist Member AMTA y JE Swedish Massage Deep Tissue Massage Myofascial Release 20 Wharton Wellness Center Home Office Mechanicsburg Camp Hill 717.697.0588 717 . 732 . 1520 By Appaintment Only Cathy-After all these years, you are still the loveliest and smartest woman J know. Thanks for being you. I love you always. Roger Sally F. Stone Second Vice President - Investments Senior Portfolio Manager **SMITHBARNEY** 25 Recreation Park Drive, Suite #200 citigroupJ Hingham, MA 02043 Tel 781 740 3000 Tel 800 343 7913

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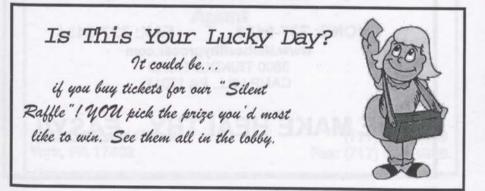


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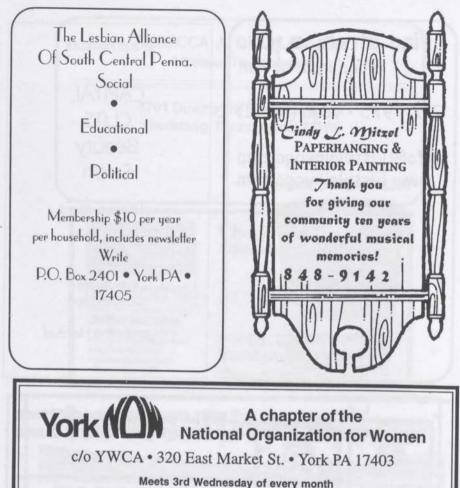
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www.unitychurchharrisburg.com

Many thanks to the Allied Arts Fund for its generous grant to the chorus



WWWe're on the WWWeb!

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