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Title: Central PA Womyn's Chorus Presents "How Can I Keep From Singing?" Program

Date: November 12, 1999

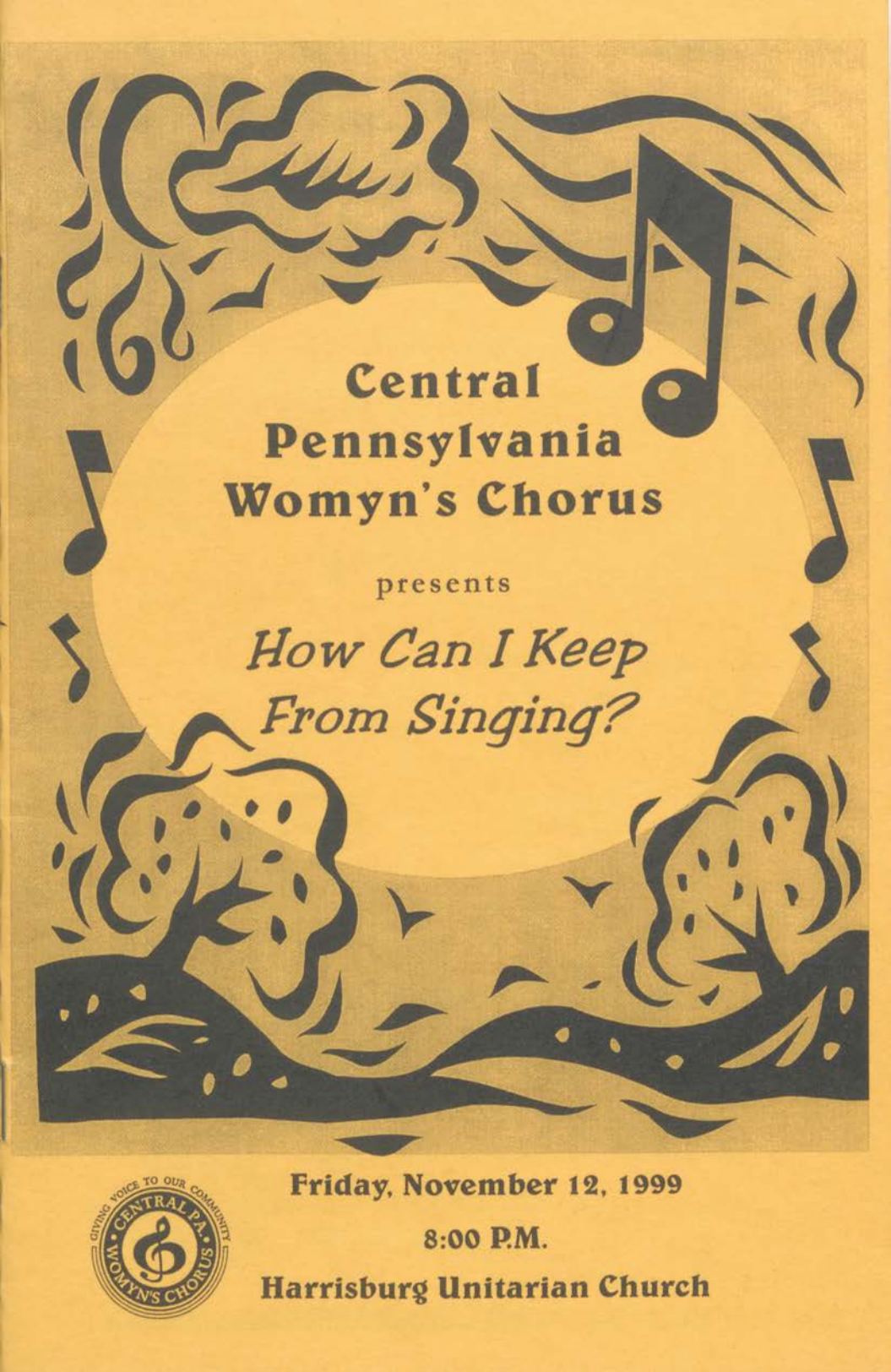
Location: LGBT-102 The Central PA Womyn's Chorus Collection

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**Central
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Womyn's Chorus**

presents

*How Can I Keep
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Friday, November 12, 1999

8:00 P.M.

Harrisburg Unitarian Church



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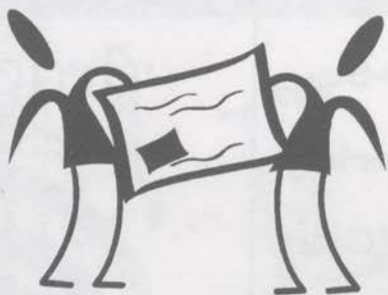
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Lori M. Moyer

Joanne Nicholson

ALTO I

Linda Mussoline

Janice Myers

Linda Noble

Susan Swope

Yvonne Wilson

SOPRANO II

Pam M. Decraecke

Lorraine E. Hennessy

Lee Melchior

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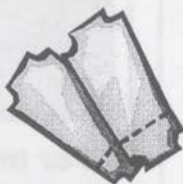
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Our Artistic Director

Alissa Plant works as the assistant director of an area child care center, directs the Cumberland Singers, and accompanies a contemporary church service at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Lebanon. She is a graduate of Messiah College, and she enjoys teaching beginner voice and piano lessons.



Our Accompanist

Catharine Roth is a novelist and teacher. She lives in the mountains and works in the orchards and vineyards of her native Adams County. Since 1974, she has been part of Orrtanna, a traditional music group, where her specialty is early songs and runes of the southern mountain regions. One of the highlights of her musical career was singing with Garrison Keillor when he brought his show to Gettysburg College. She plays mountain dulcimer, autoharp and guitar, as well as piano. She currently teaches English at Dickinson University.

~Program~

IT'S A GRAND NIGHT FOR SINGING

Words and music by Oscar Hammerstein and Richard Rogers; arranged by Mac Huff

MIRIAM

Words and music by Laura Berkson; arranged by Joan Szymko, Soloist: Lee Melchior, Violist: Michael Twomey

SET HER FREE

Words and music by Ruth Huber

THE RIVER SLEEPS BENEATH THE SKY

Text by Paul Laurence Dunbar; Music by Mary Lynn Lightfoot

IN REMEMBRANCE

Music by Eleanor Daley; text anonymous

FIVE HAIKU

Haiku by Basho; music by Joan Whitemore

THE LESBIAN SECOND DATE MOVING SERVICE

Words and music by David Maddux

THE NEARNESS OF YOU

Words by Ned Washington; music by Hoagy Carmichael; arranged by Mac Huff

TRASH

Words and music by Gunnar Madsen and Richard Greene
Ensemble: Christine Hazel, Donna Bowers, Lee Melchior,
Alissa Plant, Lori Moyer, Cheryl Winch

GONNA GET ALONG WITHOUT YA NOW

Words and music by Milton Kelleem;
arranged by Roger Emerson

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April 29, 2000
at the
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~Intermission~

A MILLION NIGHTINGALES

Music by Linda Hirschhorn;
words adapted by Mahmoud Darwish

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING?

Arranged by Jane R. Fjeldsted

THE GIFT TO BE SIMPLE

Traditional Shaker hymn; arranged by Bob Chilcott

SIYAHAMBA

South African freedom song

Ah! SI MON MOINE VOULAIT DANSER

French folk song; arranged by Donald Patriquin

SHENANDOAH

Arranged by Patricia Hennings

CARELESS LOVE

Arranged by Gwyneth Walker
Soloists: Lori Moyer, Donna Bowers

NEVER TURNING BACK

Soloists: Christine Hazel, Cheryl Winch, Lee Melchior

Sing along with us!

***We're gonna keep on walkin' proudly, keep on walkin'
proudly, keep on walkin' proudly, never turnin' back, never
turnin' back.***

We're gonna keep on singing loudly...

We're gonna keep on loving boldly...

We're gonna work for change together...

We're gonna keep on walking proudly...

Program Notes

From the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical State Fair, *It's A Grand Night For Singing* was the singers' first choice to open our evening of singing. *Miriam* celebrates the courage and resilience of women. Ruth Huber's *Set Her Free* was written for victims of domestic violence who were serving time in prison as a result of fighting back against their abusers.

Our next three pieces are examples of contemporary choral music written by female composers. *The River Sleeps Beneath the Sky* was composed for the choirs of Frontier Trail Junior High School by Mary Lynn Lightfoot to the poem "Sunset" by Paul Laurence Dunbar, the first black American writer to achieve an international reputation. *In Remembrance* is one movement of Eleanor Daley's *Requiem*, composed for the Elmer Iseler Singers in Ontario, Canada. The piece was awarded the 1994 National Choral Award for Outstanding Choral Composition of the Year by the Association of Canadian Choral Conductors. The set is concluded by Joan Whittlemore's *Five Haiku*, text by Basho (1644-94).

Next, we tell a story of falling in and out of love a little too quickly – a humorous look at lesbian love at first sight, developing a relationship issue or two, and moving on with resilience.

Our folk songs come in varied styles, arranged from the simple canon (round) to the very complex. We found *A Million Nightingales* in a big thick book of "Songs for the Earth," filled with positive life-affirming music. *How Can I Keep From Singing* is originally a Southern folk hymn, arranged here by Jane R. Fjeldsted. *The Gift to be Simple* is a traditional Shaker hymn; this arrangement was for the English chamber ensemble, The King's Singers. *Siyahamba* is a South African freedom song, and *Ah! Si mon moine voulait danser* comes from early Quebec. It tells a fanciful children's story of a monk donning a hat (capuchon), belt (ceinturon), rosary (chapelet) and frock (froc) to dance. *Shenandoah* is a traditional American folk song, as is *Careless Love*. Gwyneth Walker composed this piece as part of a set of American songs for the Bel Canto Chamber Singers in Hanover, New Jersey. Stay tuned for more of Walker's original composition style in our spring concert.

Please join us and sing *Never Turning Back*, a piece we first sang at this past summer's Pride Festival in Baltimore.

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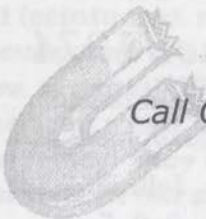
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- ~become a singer
- ~serve as a member of our board of directors
- ~help with production at a concert
- ~help with fundraising events
- ~help organize social events
- ~take a CPWC brochure to a potential singer or to your office

***Thanks for your
Support!***



CPWC needs and appreciates your financial support. If you can contribute, please clip this form and mail to: Central PA Womyn's Chorus, P.O. Box 60426, Harrisburg, PA 17016-0426. Thank you!

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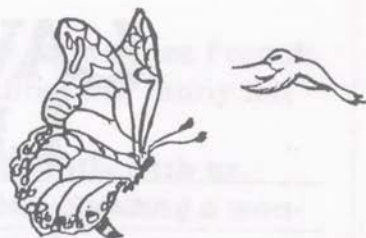
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- **Alain Decraecke** for helping us to pronounce French.
- **Lee Melchior** for once again teaching our many left feet the choralography.
- **Marcia Patterson** for working musically with us.
- **and the Harrisburg Men's Chorus** for hosting a wonderful reception and for their loving support.

**Please join us downstairs
for a reception hosted by the
Harrisburg Men's Chorus.**

GALA Gay and Lesbian Association of
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Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus is a member of GALA Choruses, an international alliance of women's, men's, and mixed choruses.

For more information, call or write:

GALA Choruses, Inc. P.O. Box 65084 Washington, DC 20035

Phone: 202 . 467 . 5830 www.galachoruses.org

CPWC is also a member of the Sister Singers Network of feminist choruses. (www.geocities.com/Wellesley/Commons/1828)

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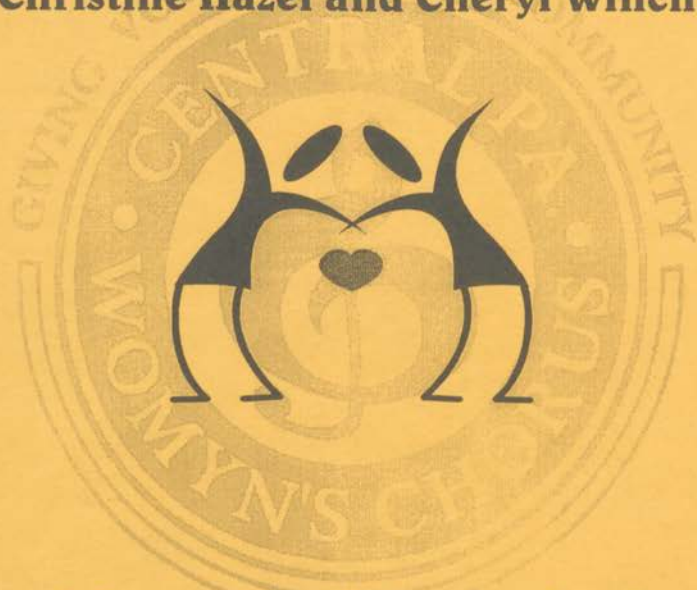
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**Thanks for your hospitality, hard work, and
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**Bringing together a diverse group of women,
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