

Archive Copy



*Autumn  
Fires*

The First Annual Fall Concert of  
**The Central Pennsylvania  
Womyn's Chorus**

October 28, 1995  
8:00 P.M.  
York YWCA

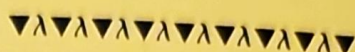


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To the entire community for all your support, and in particular to the following individuals and organizations for your generous financial contributions.

Without you, our voice would be silent.

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## **And Our Apologies**

To those whose contributions may have been overlooked here. Please let us know, and we will be happy to acknowledge you in our next program booklet.



Once upon a time, there was a drag troupe who wanted to make a difference in their community. Now, after five years, three major hotel shows, three dramatic plays, and countless cabarets, not to mention out-of-town gigs, they can report to raising and donating over

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# The Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus

The Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus gives voice to the feminist, lesbian, and gay communities. Committed to the highest standards of musical excellence, we perform diverse music that reflects women's experience and women's culture, and that honors our heroines.

## **Artistic Director**

Margi Pietsch

## **The Chorus**

### **Soprano One**

Theresa Alberici

Donna Bowers

Giesala Collins

Sarah Hopkins

Wendi Wissick

### **Soprano Two**

Jan Davis

Susan Leviton

Lillian Morgan

Cathy Nelson

Shirley Tannenbaum

Pat Tibery

### **Alto One**

Lee Melchior

Susan Swope

Kate Williams

Yvonne Wilson

### **Alto Two**

Chris Bilger

Jennifer Davis

Donna Gomboc

Jan Frye

Ellen Roane

Robin Wallace (on leave)

Janie Womack

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Rose Samuel

### **Vice President**

Chris Bilger

### **Secretary**

Sarah Hopkins

### **Treasurer**

Jan Frye

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Stormy Scott

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Jan Davis

Katherine McIntyre

Lee Melchior

Lillian Morgan

Margi Pietsch

Kate Williams

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Susan Swope, Editorial & Design

Stormy Scott, Advertising

### **Public Relations Committee**

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**Congratulations  
to the Womyn's  
Chorus**

**You Do Us Proud!**



**Central  
Pennsylvania  
Pride  
Coalition**

## *To the Chorus*

When I met you,  
you were just learning  
to walk.  
Your eyes were bright  
and alert,  
like those of a hawk.  
You now fly  
above mountains high  
soaring with  
endless dreams untold  
with voices reaching  
one's very soul.

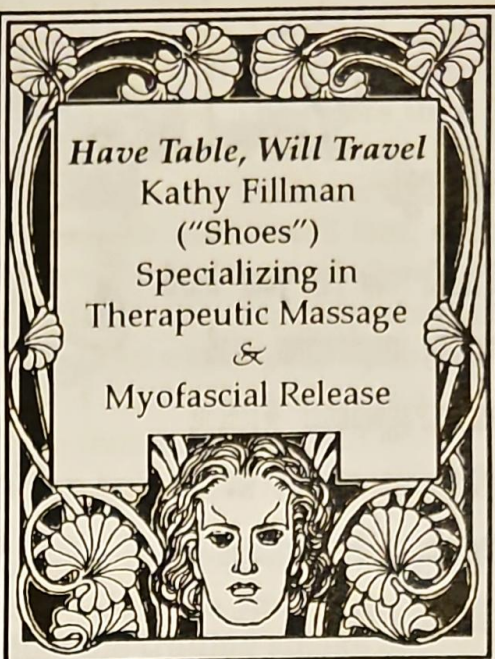
*Congratulations on  
your first concert!*

*Stormy*

## Congratulations to the Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus

It has been a pleasure  
watching you develop into  
the talented group you  
are today. Thank you for  
sharing these talents  
with us.

Shayné M. Flowers



610-273-2807

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## Hey Central Pennsylvania!

The first magazine for and about gays and lesbians  
in York, Lancaster and Harrisburg is coming in  
October!

## ***Crossroads***

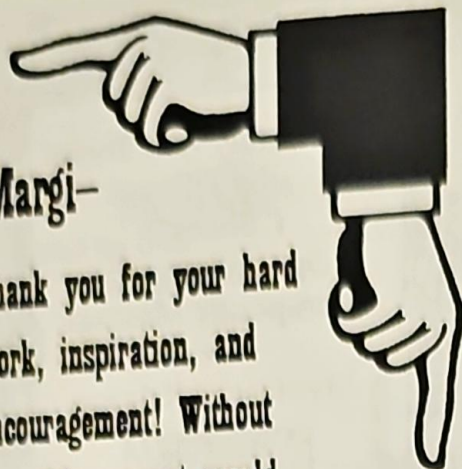
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***Crossroads***...Our commitment to the community  
begins today!





**Margi-**

Thank you for your hard  
work, inspiration, and  
encouragement! Without  
you, this concert would  
not have been possible!

Break a leg!

With appreciation & love,

Donna Bowers

Soprano I CPWC

*Your pets are my friends.*

*Don't leave them alone;  
I will sit with them for you.*

*Lisa Marie*

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# **GALA**

Gay and Lesbian Association of  
**CHORUSES**

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The 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, please call or write: GALA Choruses, Inc., PO Box 65084, Washington, DC 20035; phone 202-467-5830.

The Chorus is also a member of the Sister Singers Network of women's choirs.

## From the Artistic Director

As autumn falls upon us, we cannot help but take time to notice the beauty that mother earth bestows. The colors that blaze against a clear blue sky, brushed by crisp air, remind us of autumn fires: bonfires shared in wide open fields, or intimate fires keeping home and heart warm. Like each small leaf, each pumpkin and gourd that echo the beauty of color and change, we too bring our own beauty and color to this bountiful season.

Tonight we celebrate in song, the fire within, the beauty of autumn, the reflection of spirits, and those who have gone before. This concert celebrates uniqueness, the growth and confidence of many beautiful women building a community of love and spirit.

I invite you, our audience, to share this love and spirit, and to find the fire within yourselves to take with you, after the magic of the evening dissipates like the trailing smoke of... autumn fires.

Margi Pietsch

## From the President

It is a great honor to welcome all of you to the first annual fall concert of the Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus. Those of you who have followed us through our first year are aware of the changes and growth within the chorus. It has been an exciting and challenging time. It is quite an adventure getting a performance from the planning stage to the concert stage.

I offer a very special thank you all our friends and family who generously contributed to this event.

We believe that music plays an important part in changing the world in which we live. Tonight we are proud to present Autumn Fires. Some of our selections are classics, some are our favorites, and some were chosen for their message: a little something for everyone!

Now, sit back, relax, and have a wonderful evening.

Rose Samuel



# Program

## Ancient Mother

Trad., Native American

*This song reminds us of a time when the Mother Goddess was worshipped in Her many forms throughout various cultures, symbolizing the divine feminine and the source of all life. The large carved drum that provides the heartbeat for this piece is from the Senúfo culture of West Africa, and is used in ritual by the women of that tribe.*

Drummer: Susan Swope

## Autumn Fires

Robert Louis Stevenson

Marian McLaughlin

## Rise Up O Flame

Source Unknown

## Autumn Time

Source Anonymous

Words adapted by  
Laura Derr, of Libana

*Demeter sadly walks the land, the dying grasses in her hand*

Drummer: Susan Swope

## Fly, Fly, Fly

Peter Erdely

Lajos Boross

## With You

Steven Schwartz

Arr. by John Leavitt

*From the Broadway Musical "Pippin"*

Trio: Jennifer Davis, Lee Melchior, Kate Williams

American Sign Language Interpreter: Susan Leviton

## Fire Within

Marytha Paffrath

*Evoking the spirits of earth, air, fire and water*

## The Cold Wind

Gerhard P. Shroth

## Sowing

C.W.V.

*A glad or grievous fruitage waits us at the harvest day*

— **Intermission** —

**Mowtay**

Trad., Native American

*The spirit and I are one forever and ever and ever*

Drummer: Susan Swope

**Autumn Song**

Percy Bysshe Shelley

Eugene Butler

*O Wind, thou breath of Autumn's being,*

*Thou from whose unseen presence, the leaves dead are driven,*

*Like ghosts from an enchanter fleeing*

American Sing Language Interpreter: Susan Leviton

**Recollection**

Anne Hunter

Joseph Haydn

Arr. by Robert S. Hines

*Are you indeed forever past?*

**Harriet Tubman**

Walter Robinson

Arr. by John Coates, Jr.

*We honor a true cultural hero and formidable leader*

Echo: Cathy Nelson, Susan Swope, Janie Womack

Descant: Donna Bowers, Giesala Collins, Wendi Wissick

**Rock-a My Soul**

Trad., African American Spiritual

Arr. by Barthelson

*Remembering those who sang, despite their chains*

**The Ash Grove**

John Oxenford

Welsh Fok Song

Arr. by Julie Knowles

*The friends of my childhood again are before me,*

*Each step wakes a memory as freely I roam*

Recorder: Jan Davis

**Music in My Mother's House**

Stuart Stott

Arr. by J. David Moore

*Written for MUSE, Cincinnati Women's Choir*

Catherine Roma, Director

Piano: Janie Womack

— *Program Continued on the Next Page* —



— **Program (Continued)** —

**Full Moonlight Dance**

Karen Beth

*We dance, joining souls, rejoice!*

**Moon Magic**

Medley arranged by Carl Strommen

*And when I looked the moon had turned to gold!*

**Transylvania Two-Step**

Joyce Ellers Bacak

*Apparitions fill the air*

Dancers: Donna Bowers and Giesala Collins

Choreographer: Lee Mechlor

**The Addams Family**

Vic Muzzy

Arr. by Mark A. Brymer

*Mysterious and spooky*

Rap Trio: Giesala Collins, Jennifer Davis, Yvonne Wilson

**Autumn Vesper**

Emily Bronte

Audrey Snyder

*The harvest moon casts a magical glow, enchanting all below*

*To Margi,*

*Thank you for  
enabling us to find our  
voice, and helping us  
to share it with our  
community.*

*With love from  
all your  
sisters of the Chorus*





*There Was Music In My Mother's House*

Many members of the chorus grew up in musical families. (The guitar player in this 1912 photograph is chorus member Kate Williams' grandmother.) We dedicate this concert to all our musical ancestors, of the blood and of the spirit. We are proud to share this gift with our community, and pledge to pass it on to future generations.



*Congratulations to the Chorus  
We are of the same heart  
Peggy Lipps*



## About the Artistic Director

Margi Pietsch is heir to the legacy of a musical matriarchy. Raised by a mother who was a member of the Fulton Opera Workshop, and a grandmother who played organ in her church and taught piano in their home, she began playing piano at the age of four. Throughout her childhood, she sang solos and in the children's choruses at the opera workshop, and at fifteen directed her first musical, *South Pacific*.

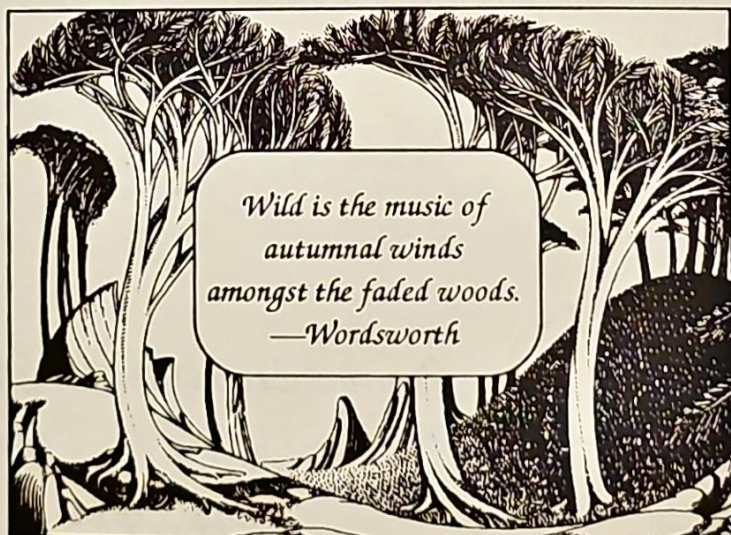
She studied music performance and pedagogy at Millersville University, where she won the Leo Ascher Musical Composition Award, and the James Hamilton and Lucretia Boyd-Hartzell Piano Performance Award.

Margi has directed countless musicals for universities, high schools, and professional theaters throughout the area. In 1991, she served as musical director, conductor, orchestrator, arranger, and vocal coach for *The Battle Cry of Freedom*, performed at the Strand Theater in York, and the Harvard Club in New York City. Most recently, this summer she directed *Oklahoma* for the Dutch Apple Theater, where she will be directing this year's Christmas show.

She assumed the position of artistic director for the Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus in February of 1995, after having served as accompanist last fall.

Margi is the namesake of her grandmother, Margaret Louise Pietsch; her mother is Maydell L. Pietsch-Stauffer.

She dedicates this concert to three special angels. "Your unseen presence is a true inspiration."



Thank you to my CPWC family for enabling me to paint with such beautiful colors, my portrait of autumn through your many talents.

—Margi Pietsch





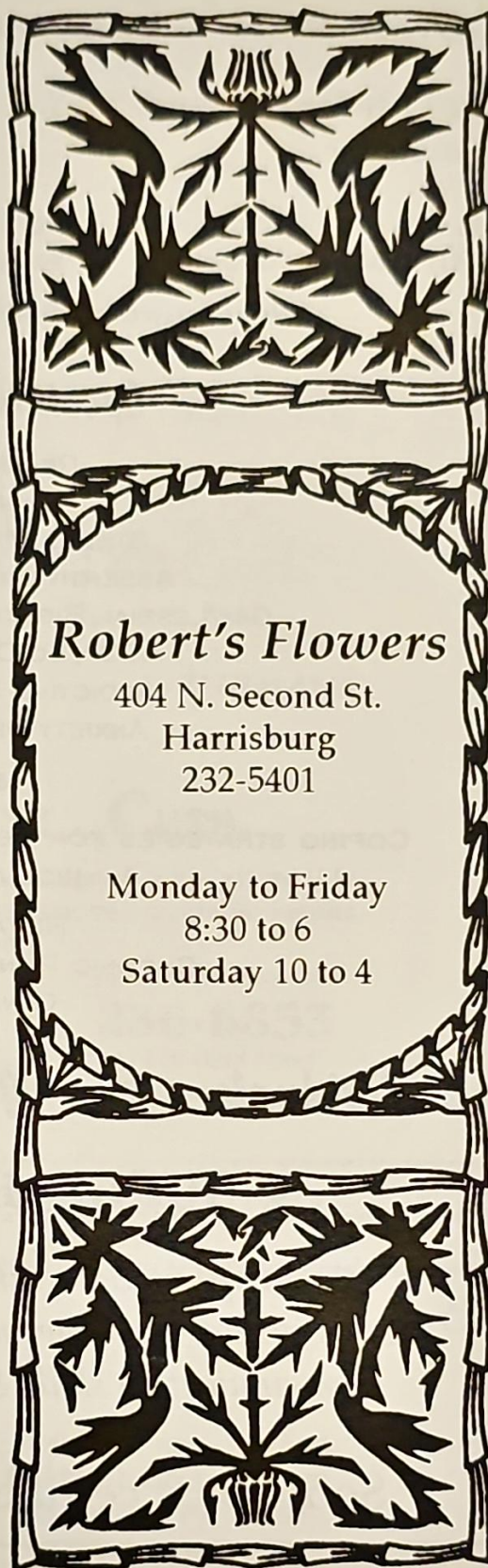
Happy  
Birthday  
Dear Shirley

"Singing with you  
is the best thing  
that could happen to me,  
my friend"

All my love,  
Susan



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And  
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*Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird I  
would fly about the earth seeking the successive autumns.*

*- George Eliot*



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# **The Harrisburg Men's Chorus** PRESENTS

## *"Holidays Remembered"*

**December 11, 1995 at 7:30 pm**

**YWCA**  
320 E. Market Street  
York, Pennsylvania

**December 16, 1995 at 8:00 pm**  
**Saint John's Lutheran Church**  
44 West Main Street  
Shiremanstown, Pennsylvania

The holidays are the miracle of the Hanukkah story, the wonder of a night sky filled with angels or the radiance of a pine tree glowing with a galaxy of lights. We have chosen many of your favorite songs, old and new, guaranteed to bring back the same feelings of enchantment you knew on those starry, wintry nights of your childhood.

### SPRING CONCERT

## *"We Will Sing With The Spirit"*

**May 18, 1996 at 8:00 pm**  
**Saint John's Lutheran Church**  
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**TONY LEECH, Guest Conductor**

You will be moved by the irresistible rhythm and joy of gospel, and the powerful message of the African-American Spiritual.

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During this past first year of dizzying change and growth,  
the chorus singers and board have been thrilled  
by the warm outpouring of support we have received  
from the feminist, lesbian, and gay communities.

Without our audience, there can be no chorus.

Thank you for being here.

We look forward to seeing you again,  
and hope you will bring your friends.

Behind the scenes, countless individuals and organizations have  
given quietly and generously of their time and talents.

We wish we could name them all.

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank each and every one of you.



# The Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus



## *Giving Voice to Our Community*

Please support us by: • making a financial contribution (we will recognize it in the next program booklet),

• serving as a volunteer, and • attending our concerts.

New members will be admitted by audition in November.

Call artistic director Margi Pietsch at 896-8941  
to schedule an audition.



-----  
***Yes! I want to support our chorus!***

- ☐ Put me on the mailing list and keep me posted on concerts and other activities.
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