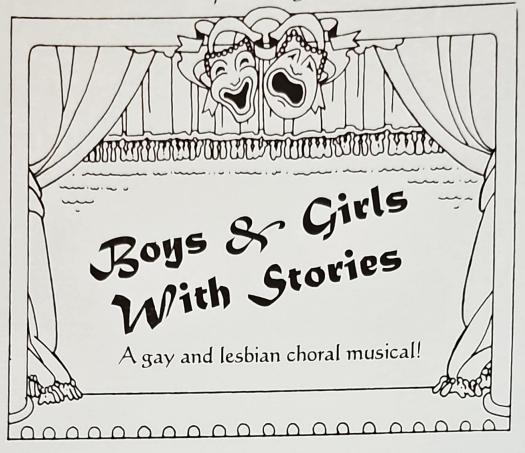
Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus Second Annual Spring Concert

featuring



With Our Special Guests
The Harrisburg Men's Chorus

Saturday April 25, 1998 8:00 P.M.

DeMeester Theater, York College of Pennsylvania





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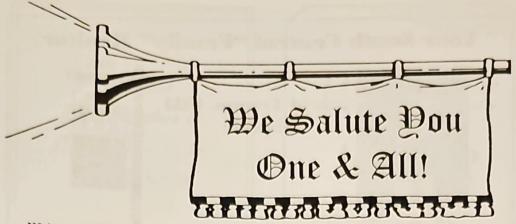
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Welcome! Without our audience, there can be no chorus. Your enthusiasm

is contagious, and we thank you for it.

Behind the scenes, countless individuals and organizations give quietly and generously of their money, time and talents to support the chorus. We wish we could name you all. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank each and every one of you.

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in our next program booklet.

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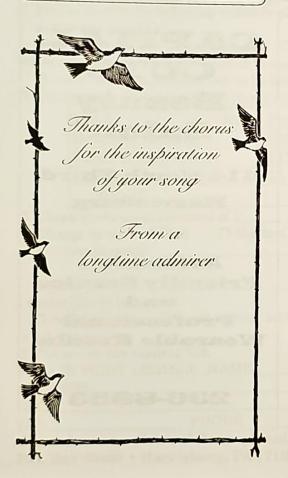
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Accompanist

Dawn Grib

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Donna Bowers
Kathy Clark
Kathy Darrow
Sarah Hopkins
Soprano Two
Lee Melchior
Linda Mussoline
Shirley Tannenbaum

Alto One
Linda Murphy
Joanne Senier
Susan Swope
Yvonne Wilson
Alto Two
Chris Bilger
Pam Desch
Donna Gomboc
Kate Williams



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 feminist choirs.

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Tonly know that people call me a feminist whenever 🛇 express sentiments that differentiate me from a doormat.

– Rebecca West, 1913



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Program Notes

A woman attended the 1993 Gay Pride Festival, and heard the Harrisburg Men's Chorus sing. She was so inspired, she asked to join. Chorus leaders offered to join her in founding a women's chorus.

A year later, the Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus debuted at the same Festival.

We think of the Harrisburg Men's Chorus as our brother chorus. The two choruses have a continuous history of cooperation and mutual support. Members and leaders of each chorus serve on the other's board of directors, and we help with one another's fund-raisers.

We were guests of the Men's Chorus at their annual Spring concerts in 1994 and in 1996. In 1994, HMC director Dan Krynak challenged all of us to march and sing at the same time as together we performed *Do You Hear the People Sing?*, from *Les Mis.* Two years ago, he raised the bar when the two choruses performed the African-style oratorio, *Bendari*, much of it in Swahili.

Tonight, we are proud and honored as, for the first time, we welcome the Men's Chorus as our guests.

In the summer of 1996, members of both choruses went to Tampa for the quadrennial GALA Festival, attended by seven thousand singers and chorus leaders (GALA is the international association of gay and lesbian choruses). One of the most exciting performances they enjoyed was Boys & Girls with Stories, and Dan suggested our choruses produce it together. It has taken nearly two years, but tonight is the central Pennsylvania premiere of this unique piece.

This gay and lesbian choral musical has been challenging in many ways. We are doing more choreography than the Womyn's Chorus has ever attempted before. But perhaps the biggest challenge, and perhaps the biggest surprise, was the "coming out" this performance involved. While every chorus member, whether he or she is lesbian or gay or not, has been comfortable enough with their chorus' lesbian and gay identity to sing in the chorus, we found that singing this piece required a further step out of the closet which was a little scary.

Every singer and dancer on the stage tonight deserves congratulations for their courage in taking this important step. Learning this work together has deepened our own pride, and has reminded us how important that pride is. In the very best sense, this is what it means to give voice to our community.

Every member of tonight's audience is equally brave to attend this concert. Congratulations to all of us for stepping through to "the other side of the door."

My Heart to Thee Now Makes Its Plea

by Orlando Di Lasso
My heart to thee now makes its plea,
Of pain and sadness I would rid me;
In spite of words of jealousy,
O grant that farewell I may bid thee!
My lips which knew the art of
smiling,

And could for thee sweet words devise,

Now have only words of reviling For those who exiled me from thine eyes.

Program

Let the River Run

Carly Simon, arranged by Jay Althouse

Now Is the Month of Maying

Thomas Morley (1558-1603)

The Silver Swan

Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

Mon Coeur Se Recommande a Vous (My Heart to Thee Now Makes Its Plea)

Orlando Di Lasso (1532-1594))
Thanks to Pam Desch for teaching us to pronounce this in French

Two Songs by Our Special Guests the Harrisburg Men's Chorus:

Old Friend

Nancy Ford, lyrics by Gretchen Cryer from the musical I'm Gettin' My Act Together and Takin' It on the Road

Good Thing You Can't Read My Mind

Christine Lavin

Love Song for Women

Ruth Huber

I Will Be Earth

Gwyneth Walker, based on poetry by May Swenson

The Great Spirit of Love

David Conte

Blue Skies

Irving Berlin, arranged by Steve Zegree Dancers: Donna Bowers and Kate Williams

Boys & Girls with Stories A Gay & Lesbian Choral Musical

by David Maddux

with our special guests The Harrisburg Men's Chorus

It's a Girl! It's a Boy!

On the Other Side of the Door

Trio: Steve Keefer, Joanne Senier, and Joe Weale

Politically Korrect

Dancers: Matt Riley, Theresa Alberici, Chuck Atwell, Donna Bowers, Nevin Buck, Linda Murphy, Joe Weale, Kate Williams

Stories

Soloists: Donna Bowers, David Trump, Joanne Senier, Nevin Buck, Kate Williams, Kevin Harvey

Buried Treasure

The Gender Polka

Special Guest Dancers: Mike Giuffrida and Lil Morgan

The Age of Rage

Dancers: George Ambrose, Chris Bilger, Nevin Buck, Kathy Darrow, Paul Foltz, Lloyd Harbold, Lee Melchior, Linda Murphy, Joe Weale, Kate Williams

Wish You Were Here

Dancers: Paul Foltz, Mike Giuffrida, Lee Melchior and Lil Morgan

Better Day Dawning

About the Composer

Seattle-based composer/arranger/conductor David Maddux has exercised his musical and directorial abilities for more than two decades. David is the conductor and artistic director of the Seattle Lesbian & Gay Chorus, where he penned the choral musical, Boys & Girls with Stories. In 1993 The Seattle Men's Chorus premiered his Swellegant Elegance: the life and music of Cole Porter and their Fifth Avenue Theatre performances were aired nationally on PBS. David also performs with and conducts his own 16-voice lesbian and gay music/theatre ensemble, Pro Homo Voci.

Our Artistic Director

Tom Tiehel holds a Master of Sacred Music degree from Southern Methodist University and Perkins School of Theology in Dallas, Texas, with a concentration in choral and instrumental conducting and organ performance. Tom earned his undergraduate degree at Towson State University, in organ performance, and has also studied at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey.

The Director of Music at Saint Patrick's Cathedral in Harrisburg, he is responsible for all of the Cathedral's choirs and ensembles (including handbell choirs) and the entire music program at the school. He has directed community choruses as well.

Our Accompanist

Dawn Grib graduated from Indiana State University in Terre Haute in 1981, with a degree in music theory and composition. She has served as organist, accompanist, and/or choir director in a variety of churches throughout the Midwest and mid-Atlantic regions, and has also performed with the Ron Freeman Chorale, an early music choral group based in Arlington, Virginia. Currently, she is organist/choir director of Barrens United Lutheran Church in Dillsburg. Early in 1997, she was hired as our first accompanist.

Choreographers

The synergy between **Lee Melchior**, Womyn's Chorus choreographer, and **Paul Foltz**, Men's Chorus choreographer, was perhaps the most exciting collaboration that occurred in the process of our preparing Boys & Girls with Stories. This also included invaluable choreographic counseling from Lee's friend **E. Gregory Myers**.

Lee earned a bachelor's degree in the visual and performing arts at the University of Maryland, a Master of Fine Arts from Temple University in Philadelphia, and completed all work but her dissertation in a Ph.D. program in dance a Temple. She now makes her living as an occupational therapist.

Paul is the resident costume designer at Harrisburg Community Theater. He trained at the Drama Studio in London, and spent a number of years in apprenticeship. He teaches in the fashion department at Bradley Academy in York.

Guest Artistic Director

Dan Krynak is artistic director of the Harrisburg Men's Chorus. Five years ago, he was instrumental in forming the Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus. Dan earned his bachelor's degree from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey, and his Master's in Church Music from the University of Southern California. He is Minister of Music at St. John's Lutheran Church in Shiremanstown.

Guest Accompanists

Kimm Cooper has been the pianist for the Harrisburg Men's Chorus for ten years.

Renee Bartholomew plays percussion in many styles, including classical, jazz, rock, and drum and bugle corps. She is the drummer for the new women's singing group, Stone Soup.

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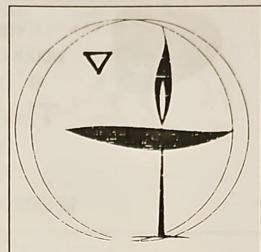
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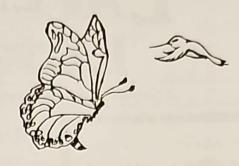
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The Gender Polka

Susie once was known as Larry, not that that's extraordinary, no, it's not, but still it's got us doin' the Gender Polka.

Put yourself in her position: having made the big transition, once a he and now a she, and doin' the Gender Polka.

Ho-di-ay, di-lay, throw the rules away! Gender bending's so much fun, confusing almost everyone!

Hey-de-hi-de-ho, people need to know sexual identity is a very personal thing, you see,

so if roles aren't what they seem to be, it's just the Gender Polka!

Ron's a Denver fullback, a pro; evr'y weekend he's "Mary Jo"; pumps and dresses, raven tresses; it's not "lasses over lads", just diff'rent types of shoulder pads.

Straight and narrow people wonder if there's been a cosmic blunder, and may flee you when they see you doin' the Gender Polka.

Never fear if you upset them and they think you're out to get them; probably you'll get to see them doin' the Gender Polka!

Ho-di-ay, di-lay, etc

Bob and Fran were married for years;

all their friends knew they hated queers. My, how times change! What's to find strange? Fran's a lesbian promoter, Bob's a queen in South Dakota.

Sheldon thinks all gay men are chic; still, his couns'lor says ev'ry week, "I assure you, I can't cure you.
Though you'd like to be a fairy, you're just plain and ordinary!"

Why be satisfied with "normal"? There's no need to make this formal; seize a maid and promenade and jump in the Gender Polka!

It's a point that's worth exploring; "ordinary" is so boring! Grab a beau and do-si-do and join in the Gender Polka!

Ho-di-ay, di-lay, throw the rules away! Gender bending's so much fun, confusing almost everyone!

Hey-de-hi-de-ho, people need to know sexual identity is a very personal thing, you see, so if roles aren't what they seem to be, it's just the Gender... the gender-bender... it's just the Gender Polkal

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 - ▼ Portions of the event ASL-interpreted
 - ▼ Large-type programs available upon request
 - ▼ Discounted parking at Eglin's Garages at 2107 and 2027 Sansom Street with validated concert ticket

▼ Tickets available in early May at the businesses listed below:

CENTER CITY PHILADELPHIA

Giovanni's Room 215 / 923 2960 Afterwords 215 / 735 2393 WEST PHILADELPHIA House of Our Own 215 / 222 1576

NARBERTH Earthworks 610 / 667 1143 MANAYUNK The Main Street Studio 215 / 483 1915

NEW HOPE
The Book Gallery
215 / 862 5110
CHESTNUT HILL
Intermission — The Shop
for the Performing Arts
215 / 242 8515



Mark Your Calendar Now for Our Fourth Annual Fall Concert

Celebration!!!

Sunday

November 8, 1998

2:00 P.M.

Rose Lehrman Arts Center Harrisburg Area Community College

General Admission \$12 (\$15 at the door) Children under 12, \$5 Reserved Seating \$20 (\$25 at the door)

For more information, call 717-234-4825

