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Singing Out!

THE LESBIAN & GAY
CHORUS OF TORONTO
presents

Hearth Songs

Saturday,
February 15, 1997
8:00pm
Sunday,
February 16, 1997
7:30pm

at the
**Bloor Street
United Church**

For more information call Singing Out! at
(416)925-9872, ext.2107 or at
<http://www.interlog.com/~singout>

Singing Out! The Lesbian & Gay Chorus of Toronto

Singing Out! was founded in the Fall of 1991, and is now in its fifth season of public performance. The chorus comprises over 115 singers and several non-singing members whose behind-the-scenes help is crucial. Singing Out! takes great pride in carrying out its mission: "to promote unity and pride in the Gay and Lesbian communities through the public performance of fun and empowering music."

In addition to its annual concert schedule, Singing Out! plays a visible role in the community by singing at ceremonies and events such as Pride Week, the AIDS Candlelight Vigil, International Women's Day and the rainbow flag raising at City Hall. The chorus also performs in benefit concerts for community groups. This season, such groups have included PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), CLGRO (The Coalition for Lesbian & Gay Rights in Ontario), and the "Other Young Lives II" youth conference.

Singing Out! welcomes both singing and non-singing members. Individuals who wish to sing with the chorus should be prepared to be publicly recognized as members of the gay and lesbian communities, due to media coverage of the chorus. Currently, auditions are not required, and the choir encompasses people of varying musical abilities. New members are generally asked to sing for our Musical Director so that their voices may be properly placed within the choir. The singing sections in the choir are not gender specific. For example, some of our women members sing Tenor. Non-singing members are members who prefer taking care of essential duties off-stage rather than singing in public. Non-singing members are welcome to join any time. Singers may join only at the start of each season, and for the 1997-98 season, we will be taking new singing members in August. For more information about singing or non-singing membership, please contact us at the address, phone number or e-mail address listed below, or visit our fabulous multi-media web site.

Singing Out! is a registered charitable organization. If you would like to contribute to our continuing success through a donation, we will gladly issue a receipt for tax purposes. Donations are accepted with thanks at the ticket table in the lobby, or by mail to the address below. Cheques should be written to "Singing Out!". We regret that credit card donations cannot be accepted yet.

We would also be happy to hear any comments or suggestions about the chorus. You can reach us at:

Mailing address: Singing Out!, Box 1010, Station F, Toronto, ON M4Y-2T7

Info line: (416) 925-9872 ext.2107

e-mail: singout@interlog.com

Web Site: <http://www.interlog.com/~singout>

... a warm welcome from the President

Did you know that Singing Out! performed its first concert five years ago this weekend? We staged our debut concert, "Ser and Chocolate", at the Church of the Redeemer just a few blocks east of here at Bloor Street and Avenue Road. At that concert in 1992, the entire choir was smaller than tonight's Tenor section.

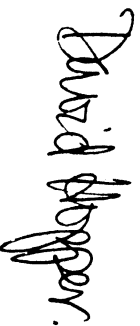
Tonight's concert, "Hearth Songs", is meant to warm up the deep winter. It is a celebration of friendship, community and family, as well as a celebration of how far we have come and the strength we have together to help us carry on.

This year, in addition to putting together our concerts and singing at other appearances, Singing Out! will be the host of the GALA Chorus Leadership Conference and Singers' Weekend, over the Labour Day weekend. The purpose of the conference is to enhance the skills of the singers and the organizers of gay and lesbian choruses. Over 800 choir members from across North America are looking forward to enjoying all that Toronto has to offer. The Conference is also an opportunity to meet old friends and to make new friends. We hope you will help us celebrate the Conference, and meet some of our friends from other choruses.

In June, Singing Out! will be busier than usual. We will be staging our "Best of the First Five Years" concert on June 21 and 22, and we'll be participating in Toronto's Pride Week festivities as usual. The June concert will bring back many of your favourite songs, so we invite you to join us again in June.

We hope you enjoy tonight's program!

Sincerely,



David Hopper, P.Eng
President

The following members of **Singing Out!** are performing this evening:

John Schrag
Musical Director

David Marlowe and Nina Darrigo
Assistant Directors

William Belonio
Principal Accompanist

SOPRANO
Batya Levy, Deborah Feinstadt, Janet Ferguson, Annette Friedenreich,
Rebecca Hunter, Celeste Lemire, Kelly Pollock, Sandy MacQuarrie,
Jo Roberts, Janet Rogers, Anna Travers.

ALTO
Trish Atkinson, Joan Blackwood, Laurel Coish, Barb Crisp, Nina Darrigo,
Patrice Dillon, Judy Friesen, Marianne Froehlich, Patti Gray,
Karen Greenwood, Lorrie Hayden, Julie Hetherington, Debra Lamb,
Sharon Larade, Jill Lloyd-Jones, Ellen Long, Judith Love, Anne MacDonald,
Fiona MacGregor, Marie Marsellus, Lucy McSweeney, Heather Meyer,
Angie Rail, Anne Roe, Ziporah Russell, Martha Saunders,
Lavenda Schaff, Bonnie Sheppard.

TENOR
Jon Baines, Pierre Boudrea, Scott Brown, Maggie Buis, Paul-André Cousineau,
Jill Darke, Cee Deschenes, David Dubbelban, Don Dussault, Danyèle Fortin,
Alison Fraser, Brian Fulton, Tony Hamill, Sue Harper, Tim Hayden,
Kate Krug, Teresa Lam, John Malloy, David Marlowe, Gareth Matthews,
Stuart McBurnie, Robert Miller, Michael O'Brien, Philip Paroian, John Pichor,
Sheila Pruden, Steven Shinbin, Marusia Slusarchuk, Louis Tessier,
Lisa Trudel, Glen Warren.

BASS
Michael Agnew, David Cheater, Warren Ellam, Damien Gairaj, Mike Gladders,
Paul Hallson, Harvey Hamburg, Derick Hoffman, David Hopper,
Richard Howard, Colin Joseph, Ezequiel Ledesma, Mark LeMessurier,
David Mawhinney, Bob Metcalfe, John Montague, Brian Mossop, Neil Mudde,
Koji Nakamachi, Bill Polski, Mark Rapoport, Mark Raymond, Derek Scott,
Michael Waterston, Ray Wolanin, Piotr Zembrowski.

Inside Out! Ensemble

Nina Darrigo and David Marlowe
Co-Directors

Scott Brown, Brian Fulton, Karen Greenwood, Derick Hoffman,
Celeste Lemire, Batya Levy, Anne MacDonald, Robert Miller, Mark Rapoport,
Anne Roe, Steven Shinbin, Glen Warren, Piotr Zembrowski.

Special thanks to Yan-Chuen Lee and Robert Miller, rehearsal accompanists.

Musicians

William Belonio, Piano
Jeremy Ronson, Drums, Percussion
Derick Hoffman, Bass Guitar

Singing Out! Administration
Claire MacDonald, Tim Wilson

Board of Directors

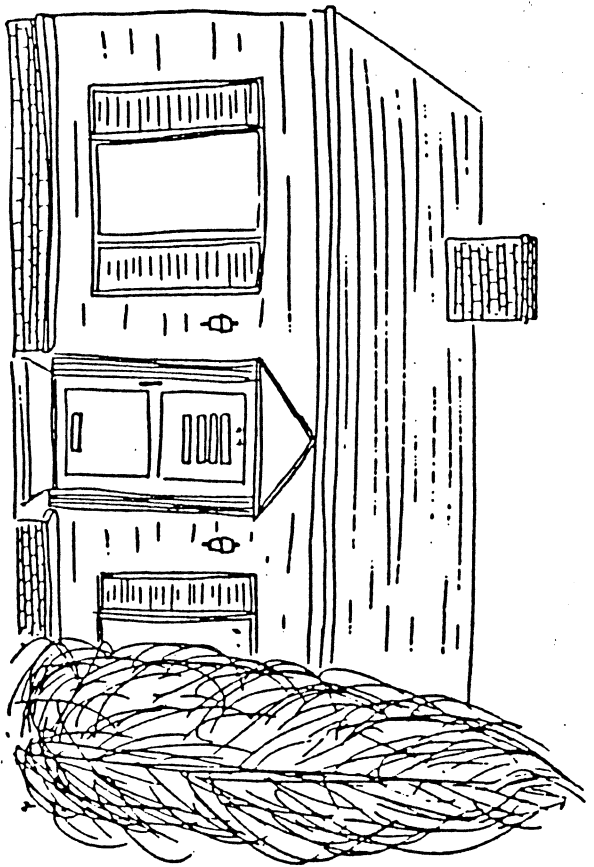
Janet Ferguson, Tony Hamill, David Hopper, Grant Hunenmund,
Mark LeMessurier, Stuart McBurnie, Michelle Woollam

Special Thanks

Singing Out! would like to extend a special thank you to Margot Meijer for collecting tonight's stories and weaving them into a delightful, thought-provoking narrative. The chorus has greatly appreciated and enjoyed the fruits of Margot's work tonight. Thank you, Margot.

Many thanks also to the following volunteers for their ongoing contribution to the chorus by preparing and singing rehearsal tapes, so that members of the chorus who don't yet read music proficiently can still learn the songs. A very special thank you to Kelly Baker, Geoff Gibson and Derick Hoffman.

Singing Out! also thanks all of its supporters and donors, all chorus spouses (affectionately known as "choir widows") for lending their partners every week, and all of you in the audience! Happy Valentine from Singing Out!



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The Singing Owl! Raffle

Tickets are one for \$2, or your arm's length for \$5! Get your tickets from the front desk or from our roving ticket seller...but hurry, last concert we sold out! You could win one of these fabulous prizes!

Saturday Night Draw, February 15 1997

Weekend for Two at Woodhaven Country Lodge: Your Winter weekend getaway to the Kawartha Lakes district includes cross-country skiing, hiking, a moonlit skate on the lake and sipping hot cider in front of the fire. Relax in Woodhaven's cedar and pine lodge with private hot tub, games room, library, satellite TV and videos.

Signed, Limited-Edition Diodati Print: "Cape Tryon, PEI", by national artist Tony Diodati.

Art Deco Wall Sconce: a gorgeous one-of-a-kind creation by Morin Chouinere.

Art Deco Flower Holder: a striking way to display fresh or dried flowers, created by Stella designers Pat Bartord and Gordon Johnston.

"Cupid & Psyche": hand-made decorator box from Hubertoucourt.

Dragonfly Plaque: another beautiful one-of-a-kind creation by Francis Thompson.

Sunday Night Draw, February 16 1997

Weekend for Two at Woodhaven Country Lodge: Your Winter weekend getaway to the Kawartha Lakes district includes cross-country skiing, hiking, a moonlit skate on the lake and sipping hot cider in front of the fire. Relax in Woodhaven's cedar and pine lodge with private hot tub, games room, library, satellite TV and videos.

Signed, Limited-Edition Diodati Print: "Winter - Plattsville", by national artist Tony Diodati.

Pottery Bowl: lovely hand-crafted pottery by Gail Pasternack.

Raccoon Print: donated by artist and naturalist Beverley Spicer.

Ceramic Plaque: stylized flower design created by Ken Chernavitch.

Stained Glass Nightlight: Old World charm from Atelier Luc Deschamps.

Singing Owl wishes to express its heartfelt thanks to the people who have made this raffle possible. A complete list of contributors and their contact information is also provided in this program.



Hearth Songs



Singing Out!
THE LESBIAN & GAY
CHORUS OF TORONTO

Singing Out! The Lesbian & Gay Chorus of Toronto

John Schrag, Musical Director

ACT I

Let Them All Come In

words & music: Brian Throckmorton

The Store

Women's Chorus conducted by Nina Darrigo
words: Ann Kilkelly, music: Zae Munn

Campsongs

words: John Schrag
music: John Schrag & Diane Leah
soloists: Patrice Dillon, Debra Lamb, David Cheater

Box 303

Men's Chorus conducted by David Marlowe
words & music: Andy T. Williams
arrangement: Gordon Johnston

Slow Hand

Men's Chorus conducted by David Marlowe
words & music: White, Bettis & Clark
arrangement: P. Stewart

Two

Inside Out! conducted by David Marlowe
words & music: Derick Hoffman

In Remembrance

words: anon., music: Eleanor Daly

Wanting Memories

words & music: Ysaye Barnwell

Fever Medley

arrangement: Richard Manners
"Fever" words & music: John Davenport & Eddie Colley
"Stean Heat" words & music: Richard Adler & Jerry Ross
"Stuff Like That There" words & music: Jay Livingston & Ray Evans

intermission

ACT II

Moondance

Inside Out! conducted by Nina Darrigo

words & music: Van Morrison
arrangement: J. David Moore

The Road Not Taken

words: Robert Frost, music: Randall Thompson

Hate Is Not A Family Value

words & music: Ginger Starling

Homeless

words & music: Paul Simon & Joseph Shabalala
soloist: Scott Brown

Translation of Zulu words:

We are homeless / We sleep beside moonlit lakes /
We sleep in the hills and vales around the city /
Strong winds have destroyed our homes / Many dead tonight /
Someone says Hello, Hello, Hello.

MLK

words & music: U2
arrangement: Bob Chilcott

Big Dogs, Music and Wild, Wild Women

Women's Chorus conducted by Nina Darrigo

words & music: Ruth Huber

My Family, My Chorus and My Rhyme

words & music: John-Michael Albert
based on a theme of Pachelbel's Canon

We Shall Overcome

traditional
arrangement: David Maddux

Stories collected and edited by Margot Meijer





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John Schrag, Musical Director

Music has always been a central theme in John Schrag's life. After spending most of his childhood at a music school in downtown Toronto, he changed track and acquired a degree in computer science. After graduation, however, he found himself drawn back to the stage as a writer and vocal director in several amateur productions at university. Later, he joined the Toronto Gay Men's Chorus, where he spent three years as the baritone section leader. His theatrical credits include working on the team of writers for "Fruit Cocktail '91", "Fruit Cocktail '93" and more recently in Jellyfish Production's "Crisis in '91". John has written and arranged several works for Singing Out!, and his songs have been performed by choirs throughout North America. John is the founding Musical Director of Singing Out!, and says he feels proud and honoured to be working with such a diverse and dedicated group of people.

William Belonio, Principal Accompanist

William has been associated with Singing Out! as a pianist since the very first season. A former accompanist with the Toronto Gay Men's Chorus, William began his musical career at the ripe old age of six, and accompanied his first choral performance when he was nine years old. Although he is an interior designer by trade, he admits that his true passion lies within the realm of music, mainly piano and singing, with aspirations of challenging the art of composition.

Singing Out!'s Upcoming Events

We have enjoyed performing for you this evening, and we hope you have enjoyed our "Heart Songs" concert as much as we've enjoyed bringing it to you. We hope to share the pleasure of your company again at these future events:

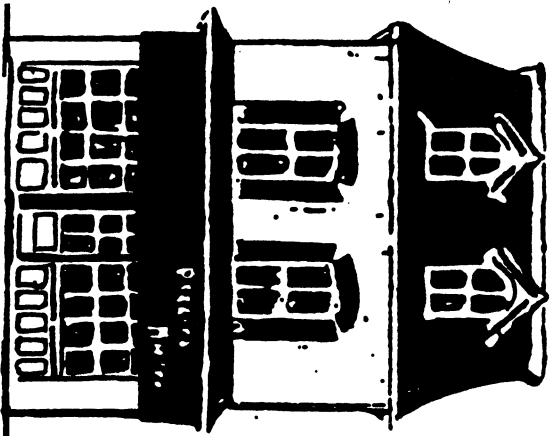
International Women's Day, Saturday March 8, 1997

"The Best of the First Five Years", Saturday June 21 and Sunday June 22, 1997

Pride Week, final week of June, 1997

GALA Leadership Conference: "In A Chord: Raising Our Voices In Harmony"

Friday August 29 thru Monday September 1, 1997



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Singing Out! wishes to extend our deep appreciation and gratitude to the following proprietors and artisans for their generous donations to our concert raffle. Without their kindness, the raffle would not have been possible.

David McKinstry, Woodhaven Country Lodge

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Within 2 hours driving distance of Toronto, 30 minutes north-east of Peterborough. Beautiful intimate lakefront lodge with excellent facilities, charming surroundings and invigorating country air. Woodhaven also offers complimentary weekday accommodations for people with AIDS, Cancer and Alzheimer's Disease and their caregivers.

Tony Diodati

RR2 Thornndale, Ontario N0M-2P0 (519) 461-1619

Offering a fresh approach he calls "eclectic realism", Tony exhibits his works in juried shows all across Canada and the United States. His works have entered private and corporate collections worldwide.

Atelier Luc Deschamps, Montréal, Québec (514) 495-1684

Pat Barford & Gordon Johnston, Stella, Edmonton, Alberta (403) 439-2934

Ken Chernavitch, Winnipeg, Manitoba (204) 667-8685

Morin Choiniere, Montréal, Québec

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Gail Pasternack Pottery, Stouffville, Ontario (905) 642-8753

Beverley Spicer, Chesley, Ontario (519) 363-2899

Francis Thompson, Cosmoz Design, Ottawa, Ontario

We Want You!

Our upcoming sixth season, starting in August 1997, is already full of exciting events. Over the Labour Day weekend, Singing Out! will be the proud hosts of the GALA Choruses Leadership Conference, entitled "In A Chord: Raising Our Voices In Harmony". In February 1998, we'll be presenting our first concert of the sixth season, and in March we'll be taking the stage in our annual performance for International Women's Day. Singing Out! will also be traveling to Edmonton in May 1998 for the Canadian GALA Festival.

The GALA Choruses Leadership Conference, to be hosted by Singing Out! here in Toronto on the Labour Day weekend, is a tremendous undertaking as well as a great thrill. We are looking for non-singing volunteers who may have interest or experience in the areas of Stage Management, Advertising, Graphic Arts, Administration or Accounting. We will also need volunteers for Pre-Production, Production and Post-Production duties. Please come join us and share the fun. If you would like more information about helping us in any of these capacities, please contact Tim Wilson at (416) 598-9304.

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**Watch for the Sale at the beginning of June!
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Saturday June 21 and Sunday June 22

Come and hear Singing Out! as they perform
"The Best of the First Five Years"

All of your favourite songs, including "Bridge Over Troubled
Water", "Age Of Aquarius", "Co-Dependent Medley",
and
the complete lesbian and gay choral musical,
David Maddux's "Boys and Girls With Stories".

Mark June 21 and June 22 on your calendar now!