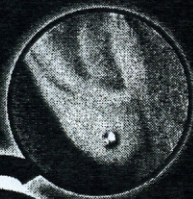


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A Message from the President

Welcome to our second holiday concert, "Journeys of the Season" and our first concert of the 8th Season of Singing OUT! Today, we will take you on a seasonal journey that will include music to celebrate the traditions of Christmas, Hasidic celebration, and the winter solstice for the pagans in our midst. As we did last year, keep looking for familiar tunes, but don't expect traditional lyrics!! We *might* use them once or twice, but we really love to queer-up the holiday season – to make the season bright and *gay* ...

We would like to welcome Batya Levy and John Schrag as our interim co-directors for the 1999/2000 season. We have enjoyed their leadership very much. We hope that you will find that enjoyment radiated in our performance today. Singing OUT! is just starting our search for a new permanent artistic director. Batya and John have generously stepped in to lead us this year. Last year, Batya was our assistant director. For the first six years in the life of Singing OUT!, John Schrag was our artistic director.

This is an exciting year for the chorus as we prepare to travel to San Jose next July to participate for the second time in a GALA festival. GALA is the Association of Gay and Lesbian Choruses. Every 4 years, they host an exciting and empowering conference for their choruses. Over 100 choruses from all over the world gather together (more than 6,000 gays and lesbians) to perform their music for each other.

No production happens accidentally and I would like to thank some people who have helped to bring this one together. First, I would like to thank our Board who have worked together to co-ordinate every part that ultimately became this concert. Second, I would like to thank Kent James for his hard work in producing our concert posters and this programme. Thanks to Batya, John for their inspired artistic direction and to Tim Wilson for his faithful chorus administration. Many thanks to our chorus patrons who have supported us through donations of cash and goods. Lastly, thanks to the chorus members who work hard, memorize music, serve on committees ... and make it all worthwhile.

We in Singing OUT! wish you and yours the very best this Holiday Season and the next Millennium !!

Steven

Steven Hernden
President
Singing OUT! The Gay and Lesbian Chorus of Toronto

Singing OUT! is a member of **GALA Choruses**, the international association of the lesbian and gay choral movement. Founded in 1982, GALA Choruses represents 190 choruses, their 10,000 singers and 750,000 patrons in Australia, Europe, South America, and North America. The association's program and services include annual conferences, matching grants to support the creation of new works, publication of reference materials, a resource center, and music festivals. GALA Choruses Festival 2000, will draw 124 choruses and ensembles to San Jose, California from July 22 - 30, 2000, making it the largest lesbian and gay performing arts festival in history. For more information on GALA Choruses, the lesbian and gay choral movement, or Festival 2000 contact: GALA Choruses, Post Office Box 65084, Washington, DC 20035. (202) 467-5830.

E-mail: GALACHorus@aol.com. Web: <http://www.galachoruses.org>

Singing OUT! The Lesbian and Gay Chorus of Toronto

Board of Directors:

President	Steven Hernden
Vice-President	Janet Rogers
Secretary/Treasurer	Jennifer Puddicombe
Marketing	Bill Merryweather
Fund-Raising	Michael O'Brien
Production	Tony King

Chorus Staff:

Co-Artistic Director	Batya Levy
Co-Artistic Director	John Schrag
Principal Accompanist	William Belonio
Administration	Tim Wilson

Guest Musicians:

Percussionists:	Jeremy Ronson
	Graham Hargrove

Production Staff:

Programme	Kent James, Steven Hernden
Stage Manager	Tony King
Stage Crew	Victor Magdic
Volunteers	Bonnie Crawford-Bewley, Bonnie Dlouhy, Bev Lepischak, Carole Anne O'Brien, Michelle Wollam, Kathy Narraway, Grant Hunnermund

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Biographies

John Schrag — Co-Artistic Director

John Schrag still lives near where he grew up, in downtown Toronto. At the age of seven he was auditioned for a position at St. Michael's Choir School, where he spent the next ten years studying choral music and academics. After getting a science degree from the University of Toronto, John got back into music, serving as vocal director for several theatre productions at the University and around town.

John was the baritone section leader in the Toronto Gay Men's Chorus for three years. Inspired by the mixed choruses at the Denver GALA festival in 1992, John returned home to found Singing Out! the Lesbian and Gay Chorus of Toronto, which he directed for six years. He retired from this position to spend more time composing, but has returned this year to serve as an interim co-artistic director. John works full-time as a software designer.

Batya Levy — Co-Artistic Director

Batya holds a Bachelor of Music from the University of Toronto, and a Bachelor of Education from the University of Windsor. Since graduating, she has taught instrumental and vocal music with both the former Toronto and Scarborough Boards of Education. Batya has been a member of Singing OUT! for six years. Last year she served as Assistant Director and this year as interim co-artistic director.

William Belonio — Principal Accompanist

William has been associated with Singing OUT! as a pianist for seven years. A former accompanist with the Toronto Gay Men's Chorus, he 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.

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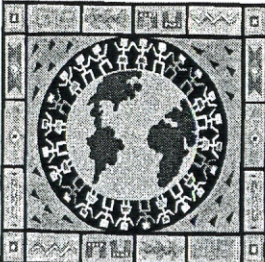
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Sopranos:

Anna Travers
Annette Friedenreich
Bonnie Sheppard **
Dierdre Taylor
Heather Maybee
Janet Rogers
Karen Greenwood
Lesley Wood
Madeline Wu
Rebecca Hunter **
Tracy Shepherd

Altos:

Barb Crisp
Chris Soeffner
Colleen Perrin
Debra Lamb **
Fiona Butters
Gena Smith
Jackie Arnet
Jana Douglas
Jennifer Puddicombe
Judith Love
Mary Evered
Michelle Crawford Bewley
Mona El-Haddad
Patti Gray
Paula Clough
Robyn Artemis
Shelley Fraser

Tenors:

Alison Fraser
Charles Carr
Charles Leibovitch
Christopher Gordon
Clifford Pereira
Dale Durant
David Carroll
Doug Wilson
Francis Hamelin
Jared Hynnes
John Clifford
Larry Feldman
Lloyd Sykes
Louis Tessier
Marc Woodrow
Michael O'Brien
Mike Majcher
Philip Paroian
Pierre Boudreau
Robert L. J. Freisen
Robert Lachance
Sharon Love
Steven Hernden
Steven Shinbin **
Sue Harper **

Basses:

Bill Merryweather
Bob Metcalfe
Darrell Kloeze
Darryl Wadsworth
David Hopper
Edgar Torres
Gary Peddle **
Harvey Hamburg
Ian Kirkland
Jack Bartolo **
Jamie Fraser **
Kim Bray
Koji Nakamachi
Mark Le Messurier
Neil Mudde
Quang Nguyen
Richard Scott
Richard Strong
Roger Richard
Roman Kalarus
Ronald Benedetti
Santo Ligotti
Tony King
Victor Magdic
Zoltan Toth

Non-Singing Members:

Alana Boltwood
Avi Rose
Bradley Woods
Brian Jarvis
Brian Leonard
Derick Hoffman
Jill Lloyd-Jones

Jon Baines
Jonah Calinawan
Kent James
Lucy McSweeney
Manish Mehta
Nestor Sumulong
Will Wallin

** Section Leader

Singing OUT! is a member of Choirs Ontario, a service organization dedicated to the promotion of choral activities and standards of excellence. Established as the Ontario Choral Federation in 1971, we provide services to choirs, conductors, choristers, composers, administrators and educators, as well as anyone who enjoys listening to the sound of choral music. Choirs Ontario has a growing membership of over 300 choirs 400 individual choristers and choral music supporters.

Singing OUT! Community Involvement

"Our mission is to promote unity and pride in the Gay and Lesbian communities through the public performance of fun and empowering music."

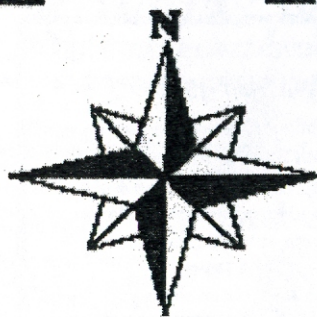
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- Perform at Commitment Ceremonies, Anniversaries and Memorials

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Journeys of the Season

Part I

Sunrise Celebration

Ginger Starling

Cantemos

Trad. Venezuelan Folk Song
Arr. by Sherri Porterfield

Morning Tide

Stephen Leek

Haida

Traditional

Silent Hallelujah Chorus

Handel

Monks: Barb Crisp, Charles Carr, Jack Bartolo, Debra Lamb, Clifford Pereira, Tim Wilson,
Bonnie Sheppard, Sue Harper, Becky Hunter, Koji Nakamachi, Ian Kirkland,
Karen Greenwood, Santo Ligotti, Anna Travers, Neil Mudde, Zoltan Toth

Who Can Sail

Trad. Finnish Folk Song
Arr. by Carl-Bertil Agnestic
English text by Gunilla Marcus-Luboff

Chorus Women

Song For Mother Earth

Trad./Arr. by Lana Walter

Betelehemu

Via Olatunji and Wendell Whalum
Arr. by Barrington Brooks

Tomorrow Shall Be My Shopping Day Text by Craig Sturgis
Music adapted/arr. by Larry Moore

~~ Intermission ~~

Journeys of the Season

Part II

Christmas Field Trip

David Maddux

Teachers: John Schrag and Batya Levy
Students: Michelle Crawford-Bewley, John Clifford, William Belonio, Mark LeMessurier,
Judith Love, Steven Shinbin, Francis Hamelin, Sue Harper, Patti Gray

Audience Sing-A-Long

Words on next page

Dashing Through the Snow

James Pierpont
Arr. by John Leavitt

Alone on Christmas

John Schrag

Guitar: Sue Harper
Solo: Bill Merryweather
Octet: Kim Bray, Darryl Wadsworth, Santo Ligotti, Richard Scott, Koji Nakamachi, Mike Majcher,
Charles Carr, Clifford Pereira

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

H. Martin/R. Blane
Arr. by Pete Schmutte

Solo: Patti Gray

Various Themes on Fa La La

Arr. by Chuck Bridwell

God Help You Merry Lesbians

Trad. Music
Words by Jenny Pausacker

The Very Best Time of Year

John Rutter

Sunrise Celebration (reprise)

Ginger Starling



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Audience Sing-A-Long

Winter Wonderland
(slightly adjusted)

Sleigh bells ring, are you listenin'
In the lane snow is glistenin'
A beautiful sight, we're happy tonight
Walking in a Winter Wonderland.
Gone away is the bluebird
Here to stay is a new bird
He sings a love song, as we go along
Walking in a Winter Wonderland
In the meadow we can build a snowman
And pretend that he is Parson Brown
He'll say "Can you marry?"
We'll say "No, man,
The recent legislation let us down"
Later on, we'll conspire
As we dream by the fire,
And face unafraid the plans that we made
Walking in a Winter Wonderland.

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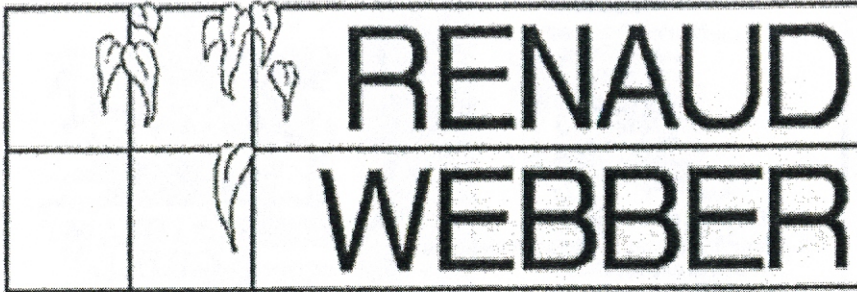
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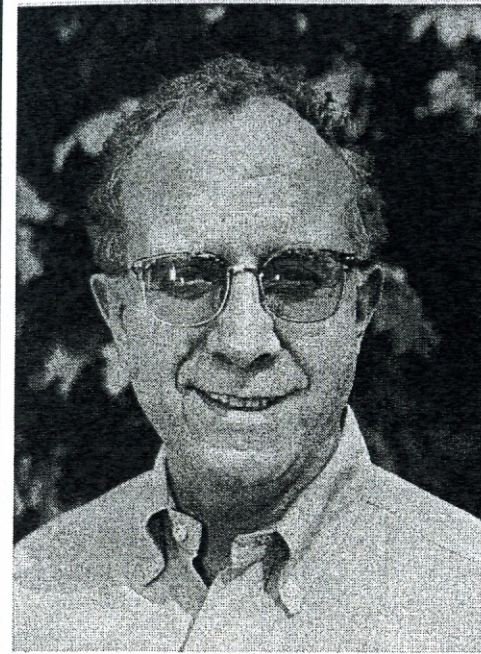
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