



The Lesbian & Gay Chorus of Washington

"Every Voice Matters... in a World That Listens"

Our 26th Season

The Rag

April 13, 2010

March: Basses in charge of set-up & providing water

Our Season Sponsor: Brother Help Thyself

WE HONOR:

▪ our legacy as a proud & outstanding non-auditioned musical & educational chorus
▪ effective consensus-based decision-making
▪ community
▪ our financially healthy, not-for-profit arts organization
▪ our LGBT identities
▪ artistic integrity
▪ gender cooperation & gender equality
▪ having fun
▪ diversity
▪ our commitment to developing talent
▪ the LGBT choral movement

TONIGHT...

Tue. 4/13, at CHAW

- 7:00-7:15 – Set-up by Tenors
- 7:15-7:25 - Stretching, breathing exercises, vocal warm-ups
- 7:25-7:50 – Up Where We Belong
- 7:50-8:05 – The First Kiss
- 8:05-8:20 – Life is Happiness Indeed
- 8:20-8:45 – Frog Went a-Courtin'
- 8:45-8:55 – We Shall Be Free
- 8:55-9:05 – We Can Be Kind
- 9:05-9:15 – Everything Possible
- 9:15 – all assist with clean-up

NEXT REHEARSAL...

Tue. 4/20, at CHAW

- 7:00-7:15 – Set-up by Tenors
- 7:15-7:25 - Stretching, breathing exercises, vocal warm-ups
- 7:25-7:50 – run-through of all April performance repertoire
- 7:50-8:50 – polishing of April repertoire
- 8:50-9:15 – second run-through
- 9:15 – all assist with clean-up

Special Rehearsal on Thu. 4/22, 7:15-9:15 PM, at CHAW

NEWS...

The Diva is On Her Way...

Suede, a long-time friend of the chorus – and amazing chanteuse – has offered to sing on our final concert on June 20. Paul has been in touch with Suede about the possibilities of performing "We Can Be Kind" and "We Shall Be Free" with her leading as soloist. We will need to work out amplification needs.

This is an amazingly generous offer from a world-class artist, and one that will help us "go out with a bang" for sure. Suede will not only be a great draw for audience members, but will be an inspiring presence for us on an emotional, music-filled day.

Text Change Suggestions: "We Shall Be Free"

Tricia and Jeff have suggested the following text edits (in some cases, reverting to the original) for "We Shall Be Free:"

- "when we all walk hand in hand" (replacing "when we go walking in it") in m. 7
- "stand tall" (replacing "stand straight") in m. 33
- "choice of pew" (replacing "kind of pew") in m. 43

Remember that we have already edited "mankind" to "humankind" in m. 62. From Paul: please remember to hold the open vowel shape as long as possible on "walk" (for example, at m. 34), to avoid the "hiccup" sound (resulting from abruptly closing to the "k" sound).

April Performance Preparations

REPERTOIRE (Paul suggests we *not* focus energy on memorization for these performances. Please make sure all of your music is hole-punc hed and contained within a plain black 3-ring binder no later than next Tuesday.)

To sing with Jon Arterton and James Mack:

- Everything Possible
- We Can Be Kind
- We Shall Be Free

To sing on our own:

- (set 1) Frog Went a-Courtin'
- (set 1) The First Kiss
- (set 2) Life is Happiness Indeed
- (set 2) Up Where We Belong

PERFORMANCE ATTIRE – Options include:

- "Suede" outfits (solid-colored, long-sleeved, button-down-the-front dress shirt in a bright color; black pants; black belt; black, closed-toe shoes)
- Winter Concert outfits (black turtlenecks or mock turtlenecks; black pants; black belt; black, closed-toe shoes)
- Black and White, perhaps with a splash of color (white shirts; black pants; black belt; black, closed-toe shoes; with individual splashes of color)
- Other?

REHEARSALS – After tonight, we will rehearse:

- Next Tuesday 4/20 (7:15-9:15 PM) – CHAW
- Next Thursday 4/22 (7:15-9:15 PM) – CHAW (we will need this, so please plan to attend)
- Next Friday 4/23 (5:30-7:30 PM) – CHAW, with Jon & James (please be ready to sing at 5:30)

PERFORMANCES – in the Dance Studio at CHAW

- Fri. 4/23 (8:00 PM)
- Sat. 4/24 (2:00 PM; call time at 12:30 PM)
- Sat. 4/24 (8:00 PM; call time at 6:30 PM)

Nuance Offers to Sing at June 20 Concert

Nuance, a long-standing small ensemble of the LGCW (currently comprised of Russwin Francisco, Alvin Mayes, and Eric Ziegler), has offered to perform one of their standards, "Woyaya," at the June 20 concert. Paul would like to accept their offer, with chorus' approval. (Not What You Think is also performing.)

From the Mail Bag

From Greg Allen, of the Twin Cities Men's Chorus: "I am so sorry to hear of the disbanding of the Lesbian & Gay Chorus of Washington. It has been tough all around the past few years and it has been very sad to learn of several long-standing choruses shutting down. Bankruptcy was being talked within my own chorus, Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus, last summer. It was especially hard as we had just completed a very significant season artistically with different project with several of our mainstream arts organizations. But we move forward and are working to get out of debt and expect we will be around for many years to come. The DC community and GALA Choruses community will be at a loss without your voices."

Pride Interfaith Service

The LGCW has been invited to participate in the Pride Interfaith Service, an annual event for which we have performed in the past. The Service Planning Meeting will take place Wednesday, April 21 (7:00 PM) at Westminster Presbyterian Church (400 I St., SW) and the Interfaith Service will take place Tuesday, June 8 (7:30 PM), also at Westminster Presbyterian Church. The Planning Meeting agenda includes Theme, Development of the service program, Advertising, and Sponsorship and Fundraising. We have been asked to RSVP (even if we do not intend to participate) to Eric Eldritch at e.eldritch@mac.com or (202) 309-5486.

REMINDERS...

- Please check calendars and plan for a May sectional.
- Please stay connected to your music. The more you can do away from rehearsal, the more we can do *in* rehearsal.

TRANSITIONS...

- Angel, the beloved dog of **Suede**, passed away. Many of us will remember Angel's presence at Shop With Suede events and our special concert featuring Suede at Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church. Please keep Suede in your thoughts.

UPCOMING EVENTS...

- Wed. April 21 (8:00 PM) – Georgetown University Concert Choir, in Gaston Hall (main campus, GU). (See 4/13 *Rag*)

Georgetown University Concert Choir Celebrates 100th Birthdays of 3 Composers

The Georgetown University Concert Choir, under the direction of Paul Heins, will present its spring concert next Wednesday, April 21 (8:00 PM) in Gaston Hall (located within Healy Hall on the main campus of GU). The program celebrates the 100th birthdays of American composers Samuel Barber (1910-1981), William Schuman (1910-1992), and Frank Loesser (1910-1969). The concert is about an hour in length and will be followed by a reception. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the door or in advance via the online Box Office at performingarts.georgetown.edu. This performance is part of the "America Sings in the Nation's Capital" festival.

THE FULL CALENDAR was last posted in the 4/6 edition of *The Rag*. It is always available online at www.lgcw.org.

Special Offer: Ed Wood, a long-time LGCW supporter, member of the LGCW-affiliated ensemble Not What You Think, and DC Realtor will donate 5% of his sales commission to the LGCW for referrals he receives from a member of the chorus family that result in a sale. This offer applies to both sellers and purchasers. If both seller and purchaser in the same transaction are referrals, he will double the contribution, making it 10%. Ed at City Houses: (202) 232-4167.

The Lesbian & Gay Chorus of Washington, DC (LGCW)

*** CFC # 30249 ***

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Chorus Hotline: (202) 546-1549 - call ANYTIME to leave a message

www.lgcw.org

The Rag is usually pub'd for every Tue. rehearsal during the LGCW's concert season. Submissions for *The Rag* are welcome and should be received via e-mail no later than 8:00 PM on Sunday. Send submissions to Paul at music.director@lgcw.org. *The Rag* is also available online at www.lgcw.org