

## Many Thanks To Our Raffle Sponsors!

Singing OUT! would like to offer sincere thanks to the sponsors of this evening's raffle prizes:

Two pairs of tickets

New Yorker Theatre - Forever Plaid  
651 Yonge Street, Toronto

Weekend for Two

The Maples of Stratford - Proprietors Mary Taylor and Maureen Doneahy  
220 Church Street, Stratford

Queer Quilt

Patrice Dillon - Singing Out!, Toronto

### SPECIAL THANKS TO:

XTRAI!

Diane Leah

Crews, Out On The Street, Uprise, Wonder Works  
Metropolitan Community Church of Toronto

and to the following organizations which helped to publicise this concert:

OASIS Close-Harmony Jazz Ensemble

The Fraternity Professional & Social Club of Toronto Inc.

### CONCERT PRODUCTION

Production Manager: Derrick Hoffman

Ticket Sales & Front of House: Tim Wilson, Don Pfeil, Ian McIntosh

Poster Design: John Ewing Poster Photography: Peter Arsenault

Programme, Tickets, Advertising & Printing: Derrick Hoffman Publicity: Barb Crisp

Costuming: David Hopper, Mark Le Messurier, Sheila Pruden

Equipment: Derrick Hoffman, Geoff Gibson, Peter Arsenault, David Cheater, Patrice Dillon

Sound Engineer: Lis Munro Recording: Jacques Cartier

Intermission Co-ordinator: Geoff Gibson Performance Space Booking: Timothy Oakes

Liaison for Ottawa Men's Chorus: Richard Rodgers

Special thanks to Gillian Bain for suggesting the title of the concert.

## Singing OUT! - The Lesbian & Gay Chorus of Toronto

John Schrag, Musical Director

### The Ottawa Men's Chorus

Gordon Johnston, Musical Director

Jane Field

Andy P. Williams



# In a Chord

Saturday May 13, 1995

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF TORONTO

Sponsored by



# The Ottawa Men's Chorus

Gordon Johnston, Musical Director

## FIRST TENORS

Leonard Bonavero, Shawn Dearn, Charles Drouin

## SECOND TENORS

John Fisher, Steve Mulligan, Mark Woernke

## BARITONES

Roberto Bozac, Denis Cormier, Kevin DeGaut, Claude Dufresne,

Jacques LaRose, Andrew Little, Ole Nielson, Richard Rodgers, Patrice Seyer

## BASSES

Paul Erb, Tom Gallagher, Ken Heard, Mac McElhone, Albert Melanson

In the summer of 1986, Gordon Johnston, inspired by the example of the *Vancouver Men's Chorus*, conceived of a gay men's choral group in Ottawa. Through contacts in the gay community, he brought together a small organizing group in late August. This group was determined to recruit by word-of-mouth for rehearsals beginning in September, 1986. The *Ottawa Men's Chorus* was thus formed.

The *Ottawa Men's Chorus* gave its first public performance on December 13, 1986, at St. George's Anglican Church in Ottawa, and has since performed regular concert seasons. The number of concerts per season varies but the OMC has performed on an annual basis a Christmas concert and a Gay Pride concert since its inception. The *Ottawa Men's Chorus* has also sung for various events in the community including concerts of both celebration and remembrance.

Initially, the concert programs were rather short and supplemented by instrumental performers. As the membership and talent grew, however, so did the programme and level of expertise. Some artistic highlights in the history of the *Ottawa Men's Chorus* include the performance of Benjamin Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*, the Canadian premiere of Samuel Alder's *Praise Thy Saving Power*, a suite of Hanukkah songs for men's voices, and the commissioning and premiere of Robin Grabbell's *A Christmas Elegy*.

In December 1991, the Chorus was invited by the National Gallery of Canada to perform for its "A Day Without Art" programme. This has since become an annual international day of awareness to honour visual artists who have died of AIDS. For that performance, the *Ottawa Men's Chorus* shared the stage with Maureen Forrester, providing the choral accompaniment to her performance of Schubert's *Ständchen*.

In April 1989, the *Ottawa Men's Chorus* brought the *Toronto Gay Men's Chorus* to Ottawa for a joint performance, and in the fall of 1989 initiated planning for a festival of all the Canadian gay and lesbian choruses resulting in Galafest '91 which featured five gay choruses from across Canada and included gala performances at Toronto's St. Lawrence Centre and at the Nepean Centrepont Theatre. In recent years, the *Ottawa Men's Chorus* has been extremely pleased to be able to share the stage with our "sister" group, *In Harmony - A Women's Chorus*, formed in 1990 from Ottawa's lesbian community, *L'Ensemble vocal Gaiymède* of Montreal, and *Singing OUT!* of Toronto.

## Gordon Johnston

Despite his relative youth, Gordon has already acquired an extensive musical background. He was fiddling the keys of his Willis piano at the age of five and has since become proficient on the organ and the harp. Gordon started conducting choruses even before doing his studies in music at the University of Calgary and Brigham Young University. He was guest organist at the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City. Gordon's involvement in founding and directing the *Ottawa Men's Chorus* has brought to the gay and lesbian community of Ottawa-Hull his considerable musical talents. Having worked to develop the Chorus, Gordon gets immense pleasure from whipping us into shape.

## Jane Field

Jane Field is a Toronto singer/songwriter whose satirical songs highlight some of the absurdities of people's attitudes to disability and to lesbian and gay experience. She has performed at Femcab, Take Back The Night marches, at rallies and benefits in and around Toronto, and has recently ventured further afield to play in Ottawa and in Philadelphia. She is delighted to be appearing in concert with *Singing OUT!* She has just released her first recording, *The Fishing Is Free*, and is accompanied on the tape and here tonight by Melanie James.

## Andy P. Williams

Andy was raised on a farm in Almonte, Ontario, where he was the youngest of six children. He is a self-taught musician. Being from a large family, there was always enough to form a "kitchen band", complete with harmonicas, banjos, guitars, fiddles, a piano and lots of voices to round out the ensemble. By the age of 10, he was playing his first instrument and wrote his first song at the age of 13. In the past seventeen years, he has written several dozen songs. He completed a Broadcast-Journalism Degree and worked in radio and television as an announcer for a number of years. Landing a job with a CBC-TV affiliate in western Ontario, he had the opportunity to play music with Gordy Tapp (of Hee Haw) and became involved in many musical projects. Andy has completed a Sociology Degree and is currently enrolled in the second year of Law at the University of Ottawa. He is best known as an entertainer in the Centretown Pub in Ottawa.

## OOH! AAH! FABULOUS PRIZES!

Don't miss out on your chance to win one of these great raffle prizes this evening!

Tickets are 1 for \$2, or 3 for \$5, and are available from the Raffle Table in the reception area or from one of our roving ticket vendors.

- One of 2 pairs of tickets to see "Forever Plaid" at the New Yorker Theatre.
- A Weekend for 2 at the lovely Maples of Stratford bed & breakfast inn (during May or October).
- A fabulous hand-stitched Queer Quilt.

You will also be helping Singing Out! journey to GALA '96 in Tampa - the largest gay and lesbian choral event in history!

# TONIGHT'S PROGRAMME

## Ottawa Men's Chorus \* - Gordon Johnston, Musical Director

- Dir, Seele des Weltalls (K.429)* . . . . . W.A. Mozart  
*Everything Possible* . . . . . Fred Small  
*arr.: Willi Zawozdesky*
- Close Thine Eyes* . . . . . Leuan Rees-Davies
- To Love And Be Loved* . . . . . Wayne Chadwick  
*arr.: Ken Surlley*
- Silhouettes* . . . . . Frank C. Slay, Jr. & Bob Crewe  
*arr.: Ed Lojeski*
- The Water Is Wide* . . . . . folk song  
*arr.: Luigi Zanninelli*
- Tout Ce Qui Prend Naisance* . . . . . John Crawford
- Movin' On* . . . . . Raymond Hamman

## Andy P. Williams

- A Fool Always Knows* . . . . . Andy P. Williams
- Am I Blue (Nobody Knows You Like I Do)* . . . . . Andy P. Williams
- The Songbird* . . . . . Andy P. Williams

## The Women of Singing OUT!

- Sky Dances* . . . . . words: Jimmy Durham, music: Roy Brown  
*arr.: Jennifer Stasack*

## The Men of Singing OUT!

- Wood River* . . . . . Connie Kaldor  
*arr.: Willi Zawozdesky*

## The Ottawa Men's Chorus & The Men of Singing OUT!

- Finally Here* . . . . . Eric Helmuth

### INTERMISSION

(refreshments and raffle tickets on sale in the Social Hall)

## Jane Field

(with Melanie James - guitar)

- The Fishing Is Free* . . . . . Jane Field
- Label Me "Normal"* . . . . . Jane Field
- Some Of My Best Friends Are Straight* . . . . . Jane Field

## Jane Field & Singing OUT!

- I Can Be A Lesbian* . . . . . Ruth Pellam

## Singing OUT! - John Schrag, Musical Director

- Kristin's Song* . . . . . words: John Schrag, music: Diane Leah
- Homophobia* . . . . . Ron Romanovsky & Paul Phillips  
*arr.: Dan Leader*

- The Ones Who Aren't Here* . . . . . John Calbi  
*arr.: John Schrag*

- Let's Do It (Let's Fall In Love)* . . . . . words: Noel Coward, music: Cole Porter  
*arr.: Mac Huff*

- Heaven* . . . . . Lisa Herman  
*arr.: Hrach Shehinian & John Schrag*

- I Sing The Body Electric* . . . . . words: Dean Pitchford, music: Michael Gore  
*arr.: Ed Lojeski*

## Finale - all performers

- Change Of Heart* . . . . . words: Holly Near, music: Holly Near, Jim Scott, Derek Nakamoto  
*arr.: Larry Moore*

Piano - William Belonio, \* Yan Chuen Lee, \*\* Batya Levy

Drums, Percussion - Jeremy Ronson      Guitar, Electric Bass - Derrick Hoffman

Introductions spoken by Jill Lloyd-Jones

## Singing OUT!

John Schrag, Musical Director

Assistant Musical Director - David Marlowe  
Principal Accompanist - William Belonio

### SOPRANOS:

Michelle Blais, Alison Dover, Deborah Feinstadt, Annette Friedenreich,  
Lorrie Hayden\*, Rebecca Hunter, Mary-Anne Kenny, Jill Lamont,  
Celeste Lemire, Batya Levy, Diane McGuire, Susan Moore, Janet Rogers,  
Tracey Taylor, Anna Travers, Michelle Wooliam

### ALTOS:

Carol Broderick, E.B. Brownlie, Laurel Coish, Michelle Crawford Bewley,  
Barb Crisp, Patrice Dillon\*, Linda Kowal, Debbie Lamb, Helen Lensky,  
Jamie Liczner, Jill Lloyd-Jones, Ellen Long, Anne MacDonald,  
Fiona MacGregor, Marie Marsellus, Lucy McSweeney, Sheila Pruden,  
Angie Rail, Kristin Ruppert, Bonnie Sheppard, Carolyn Walters,  
Ann Marie Wierzbicki

### TENORS:

Peter Arsenault, Gillian Bain, Jon Baines, Ab Boles, Cindy Deschenes,  
Marc Doucet, David Dubbeldam, Don Dussault, John Ewing, Geoff Gibson,  
Tony Hamill, Sue Harper, Fred Heerema, Grant Hunermund, Dan Leeder\*,  
David Marlowe, Patrick Ng, Michael Parker, Philip Paroian, Les Wong

### BASSES:

David Cheater, Paul Hallson, Harvey Hamburg, Derrick Hoffman,  
David Hopper, Richard Howard, Shawn Hurford, Colin Joseph, Philip Kou,  
Mark Le Messurier, John Montague, Brian Mossop, Neil Mudde,  
Koji Nakamichi\*, Timothy Oakes, Paul Parrham, Derek Scott,  
Neil Thomlinson, John Vigna, Ray Wolanin

### ASL INTERPRETER

Brian Jarvis

(\* = section leaders)

Founded in 1992, Singing OUT! has grown to over 80 voices in this third season of performances. The mission of the Chorus is "to promote unity and pride in the Gay and Lesbian communities through the public performance of fun and empowering music."

Highlights of past seasons include appearances at Toronto's Pride Day celebrations, the "From All Walks Of Life" AIDS walk, International Women's Day, and CITY-TV's "Breakfast Television". The Chorus has performed with The Ottawa Men's Chorus, the close-harmony jazz ensemble OASIS, the Counterpoint Community Orchestra, as well as international recording star Tom Robinson. Singing OUT! performs with Jane Field and Andy P. Williams for the first time tonight. In 1993, the Chorus staged the Canadian premiere of David Maddux's collection of coming-out stories entitled *Boys and Girls With Stories*.

In addition to regular concerts, the Chorus has also performed benefit concerts for local community groups such as the Campaign for Equal Families, Peterborough AIDS Resource Network, Undue Hardship Coalition, and Parents & Friends of Lesbians And Gays (PFLAG).

### John Schrag

John has been involved with choirs all his life. After spending most of his childhood in a music school in downtown Toronto, he "escaped" to pursue a degree in computer science. After graduation, however, he found himself drawn back to music, working as a vocal director for the University of Toronto Engineering's musical comedy revue. Later, he joined the Toronto Gay Men's Chorus, where he spent three years as the Baritone section leader. More recently, John worked as the assistant music director in Fruit Cocktail '93, and is again involved with Fruit Cocktail in 1995. John is the founding Musical Director of Singing OUT! and says he feels both proud and honoured to be directing such a diverse and dedicated group of people.

### Singing OUT!

#### Administration

Tim Wilson, Don Pfeil, Ian McIntosh

#### Music Selection Committee:

Sheila Pruden, David Cheater, Dan Leeder, Dave Marlowe, Susan Moore,  
Koji Nakamichi, Philip Paroian, Kristin Ruppert, John Schrag, Carolyn Walters

#### Tampa '96 Committee:

Anne MacDonald, Barb Crisp, Dan Leeder, John Montague,  
Neil Mudde, Janet Rogers, Harvey Hamburg, Jill Lloyd-Jones

#### Fundraising Committee:

Grant Hunermund, Gillian Bain, David Cheater,  
Michelle Crawford Bewley, Cindy Deschenes, Tony Hamill

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Derrick Hoffman, David Hopper, Mark Le Messurier, Jill Lloyd-Jones,  
Anne MacDonald, Sheila Pruden, Tim Wilson

Singing OUT! is a proud member of:



Gay And Lesbian Association of Chorus