



**THE NEW ORLEANS GAY
MEN'S CHORUS**

WITH SPECIAL
GUEST ARTISTS


**GAY MEN'S CHORUS
OF HOUSTON**

**HEARTSONG - HOUSTON'S
WOMEN'S CHORUS**

**NEW ORLEANS WOMEN'S
MUSIC COLLECTIVE**

**OUR SONGS
OUR LOVE
OUR LIVES**

**7:00 P.M. AND 9:30 P.M. SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 1993
UNO PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

 **New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus**

PROGRAM NOTES

The selections tonight reflect a true diversity of styles, tastes, centuries and languages. From part songs written to be sung in drawing rooms of nineteenth century European aristocracy by Schumann to African freedom songs, to Broadway show tunes, to women's music, to music by, of and for the gay community, it all embraces our joy, our frustrations, our longing for equality for all people, and the universal desire to portray the human experience in song.

A name that you see with frequency in our program tonight is Jay Kawarsky. He has arranged several of the selections sung by the New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus and is the composer of the new work being premiered this evening. The new work *Life Doesn't Frighten Me* was jointly commissioned by the New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus and the Gay Men's Chorus of Houston. Jay is a professor of theory at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey and is director of the Delaware Valley Men's Chorus.

It is with great joy that we welcome HeartSong (Houston's Women's Chorus) and the Gay Men's Chorus of Houston. And, as always, it is a pleasure to welcome our sisters, the New Orleans Women's Music Collective.

DIRECTORS

LYNNE WEYNAND

Conducting, Gay Men's Chorus of Houston

Lynne Weynand's musical interests began as a child at her grandmother's piano. Throughout high school and college years, she performed with and directed various choirs, bands and performing groups, and participated in musical theater productions, on and off stage. She obtained a bachelors degree in music in 1975 from the University of Texas at Austin. She continued teaching music and conducting musical theater productions in the years to follow. Lynne served as music director of HeartSong from its inception in 1986 until 1993, and she has stepped in several times to serve the Gay Men's Chorus of Houston.

Her interest in the arts and media led to a master's degree in 1979 from the University of South Carolina and career in producing and directing film and video projects. Ms. Weynand remains active in sound recording, and served as producer of *HeartSong* concert tapes and *Sister Singers Network Festival* recordings of 1989 and 1991.

Ms. Weynand also composes and arranges. Her work has been performed by choirs nationwide and has twice been selected for performance by the mass chorus at the biennial *Sister Singers Network Festival*. She is a member of the *Texas Choral Directors Association* and the *American Choral Directors Association*. She has been invited to

conduct performances of combined choruses at state and national levels and will conduct the *Sister Singers Network Festival* chorus again in July.

In addition to making music with her hands, Ms. Weynand uses them in her work as a Trager Massage practitioner and credit this fine body of work with keeping her spiritually centered in a world of constant change.

LOIS FRIEDMAN

Musical Director

New Orleans Women's Music Collective

Lois Friedman has been involved in teaching and performing for nearly thirty years both in the Northeast and in New Orleans. She attended the Juilliard School, Michigan State University and the University of Michigan and holds degrees in Music Education and Music Theory and Literature. She has participated as soloist, chorus member and accompanist with the Collegiate Chorale and New York Philharmonic Symphony and with the former New Orleans Philharmonic, as well as teaching in both public and private schools.

She is currently teaching privately and is director of the Tikvat Shalom Synagogue Choir and joined the New Orleans Women's Music Collective as director in the fall of 1992.

JAMES HAMMANN

Music Director

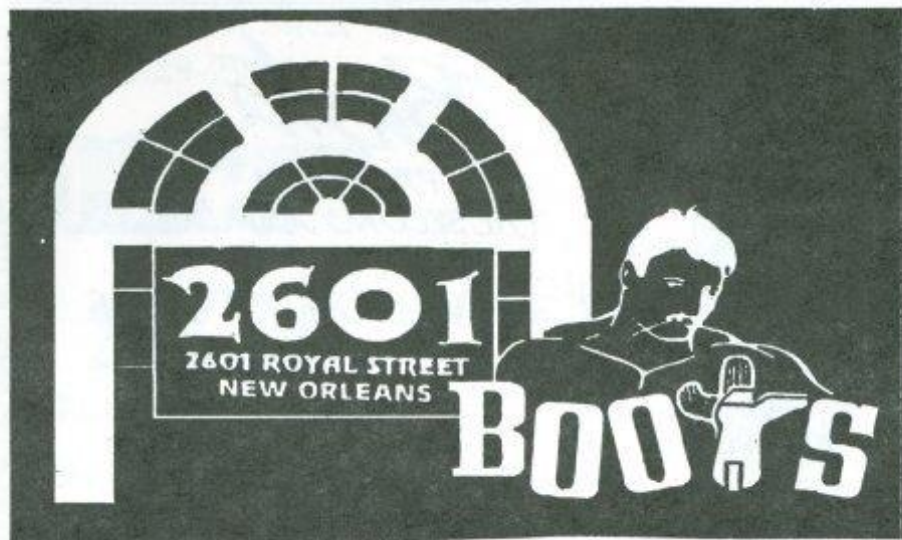
New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus

James Hammann, a native of Sidney, Ohio, holds degrees in music for Ohio Wesleyan University and the University of Michigan. He has appeared in recitals throughout the United States as an organist, and during the summer of 1987 was harpsichord soloist with the Lawton Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra on their tour of Germany. He has given over 75 performances of his one-man show, *Old Bach*, a presentation where he dons costume and wig, plays the organ and harpsichord, and recreates moments in the composer's life.

As a conductor Dr. Hammann has been music director of the Allen Park Symphony Orchestra, the Southeastern Michigan Choral Society, and the Tecumseh Pops Orchestra and Chorus. He has served churches in Ohio and Michigan as music director. He is currently organist for the St. Charles Avenue Baptist Church.

He has recorded on the Quadrapheonoma, AFKA, and Raven labels. His most recent recording, the organ music of Alexandre Guilmant, is in its second pressing and is available from the Organ Historical Society.

He is proud that he is considered one of the founding members of the Gay Liberation Front in Ann Arbor, and that he has served on the board of the Personal Rights Organization in Toledo, Ohio, and as fundraising chairman for the Wellness Networks, Huron Valley.



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 940 Royal Street
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 70116

Leigh Scardina, owner

"Our Songs, Our Love, Our Lives"

THE NEW ORLEANS GAY MEN'S CHORUS

James Hammann, Music Director

I. Decker, Accompanist

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Two Songs For Male Chorus | Robert Schumann |
| I. Lasst Lautenspiel und Becherklang | |
| II. Die Lotosblume | |
| Inveni David | Anton Bruckner |
| My Buddy | arr. Jay Allen |
| | Baritone solo, Jay Allen |
| Save The Bones for Henry Jones | Danny Barker, Vernon Lee, and Henry Jones |
| | arr. K. Shaw/J. Kawarsky |
| Medley of Vintage Rock | arr. Roger Emerson |
| | I. Da Doo Ron Ron |
| | II. My Girl |
| | III. You've Lost That Loving Feeling |
| | IV. Silhouettes |
| Dreamers | Marvin Hamlisch |
| | Christopher Adler, <i>lyrics</i> |
| | arr. J. Kawarsky |
| Freedom | arr. J. Kawarsky |
| | (A Collage of African Freedom Songs) |
| Life Doesn't Frighten Me * | Jay Kawarsky |

* Text by Maya Angelou, published by Random House, Inc. Used with permission.

HEARTSONG
(Houston's Women's Chorus)

Stompin' At The Savoy
Directed by: Rawslyn Ruffin

Benny Goodman, Chick
Webb, Edgar Sampson
arr. Teena Chinn

How Can I Keep From Singing?
Directed by: Judi Messina
Solo: Denise Bullock

Quaker Hymn
arr. Nancy Vedder-
Sharon Seivert,
Judi Messina

Big Legged Woman
Directed by: Denise Bullock
Solo: Mary Helen Merzbacher

Righteous Mother
arr. Pamela Geske

Love Will Guide Us
Directed by: Denise Bullock

Sally Rogers
arr. D. Benjamin

INTERMISSION

Diversity

Scott Henderson
Bob Daggett

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF HOUSTON

John-Michael Albert, Director
Lynne Weynand, Conducting
Bill Keller, Accompanist

I See America

Ken Medema
arr. J. Rex Gillit

Love Is All It Takes

Romanovsky & Phillips
arr. John-Michael Albert

Light One Candle

Peter Yarrow
arr. J. Rex Gillit

In This Moment

Directed by: J. Rex Gillit

Gary Simmons

NEW ORLEANS WOMEN'S MUSIC COLLECTIVE

Lois Friedman, Director

Con El Viento

Renaissance Spanish

Now I Walk In Beauty

Hopi Indian

If It Wasn't For the Woman

Alix Dobkin

All Day Always

Directed by: Lois Friedman
Accompanist: Judi Messina

Deidre McCalla
arr. Coleman

NEW ORLEANS GAY MEN'S CHORUS

James Hammann, Music Director

TENOR I

Jimmy Bennazar
Darrell Haley
George Martinez
Henry L. Schmitt, III
John D. Taylor

BARITONE

Jay Allen
Charles Austin
Chris Cefalu
Greg Clemens
Louis Drago

TENOR II

Michael Baldwin
Michael Brocato
Danny Gamble
John Giraud
Joseph Johnson
Bill St. John, III

BASS

I. Decker
Kelly Kerr
Jay Singerman

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chris Cefalu, President
John Taylor, Vice-President
Michael Baldwin, Secretary
Jay Singerman, Treasurer
John Giraud, Librarian

Section Leaders:
Darrell Haley, Tenor I
John Giraud, Tenor II
Greg Clemens, Baritone
I. Decker, Accompanist

The New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus is supported in part by a grant from the Metropolitan Arts Fund/Arts Council of New Orleans (METRO/ACNO) Grants Program. Our Endowment Fund is administered by the Greater New Orleans Foundation.

The New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus is a founding member of GALA Choruses, an international network of over 115 choruses from around the world. GALA V is currently scheduled for 1996 in Tampa, Florida.

NEW ORLEANS WOMEN'S MUSIC COLLECTIVE

The New Orleans Women's Music Collective was formed in 1988 and had its first performance at the New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Holiday Concert that year. Since that time, NOWMC has performed at the NOGMC Holiday Concerts, Celebration, Pride Festivals, the Gulf Coast Women's Festival and at its own annual spring concerts.

Members are not required to audition and, although it remains primarily a Lesbian chorus, it is open to any woman, instrumentalist or vocalist, interested in performing music of all kinds with an emphasis on music by and for women.

Jeanne Duplantier
Ellen Fingerman
Dawn Fowler
Sydney Hart
Pat Henry

Cherie Kirchner
Anne Moore
Patty Mourant
Lorna Pierce
Jo Wofford

Lois Friedman, Music Director

Office Hours By Appointment

Phone: (504) 895-4098

DR. MICHAEL BALDWIN

Chiropractor

4829 Prytania, Suite 102

New Orleans, LA 70115

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF HOUSTON

Founded in November, 1979, the *Gay Men's Chorus of Houston* (GMCH) is an organization operating under and managed by its parent non-profit corporation *The Montrose Singers*. GMCH is a performing ensemble, the primary purpose of which is to promote the tradition of male choral singing through choral performances both within the Houston community and beyond. As its name suggests, GMCH is composed primarily of gay men, although membership is open to all persons who are interested in promoting and furthering the chorus's goals. In addition to its primary mission of providing high quality performances of choral music written or arranged for male voices, the chorus also provides a nurturing environment for its members, free of the various forms of discrimination present in our society. It is also hoped that GMCH can instill a sense of pride in its gay members and in the gay members of its audience, helping to overcome the fear and self-hatred which, in the past, have characterized the awareness of homosexuality for many. Finally, GMCH hopes to educate its audiences about the beauty of the diversity in the human condition, reaching out beyond our lovers, families and friends to the greater community at large of which we are all a part.

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF HOUSTON

John-Michael Albert, Artistic Director

FIRST TENORS

Thom Von de Bohne-Behning
 Thomas Chelena
 Jay Ferranti
 Ken Hansen
 Shane MacIntyre
 Larry Powlesland
 Robert Seiler

SECOND TENORS

Marlon Bourque
 Jason Cabot
 George Calbillo
 Ron Chesmore
 Bob Dieker
 Rex Gillit
 Stephen Julien
 Bill Keller
 Tait Peterson
 Joseph Singer

BARITONES

Berlin
 Jean-Louis Amand
 Glenn Edwards
 Edward Gunnick
 Michael Hunter
 John Kemp
 Henry Lopez
 Daniel Malachowski
 Robert Martinez
 Patrick Newport
 John Sandstrom
 Robert Spierto
 Paul Zeigler

BASSES

Calvin Buckley
 Kenneth Hayes
 Lawrence Jackson
 David Neu
 Tommy Petrie
 David Webre
 Chuch Zickerman

1992-93 Officers

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Lawrence Jackson, President | David Neu, V.P. for Membership |
| Ken Hayes, Treasurer | Robert Seller, V.P. for Operations |
| Rex Gillit, Secretary | Richard Spierto, V.P. for Performance |
| Jackson Cabot, V.P. for Public Relations | |



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HEARTSONG Houston's Women's Chorus

HeartSong began in 1986 with several women who shared a need to sing women and life affirming songs. Hard work and vision led to a memorable community debut opening for Kate Clinton. The following years brought successful solo concerts, many appearances for local, state and national gatherings, and their debut at the National Women's Choral Festival. Hailed for their spirit and sound, HeartSong sang at the inauguration of Texas Governor Ann Richards in 1991. In November of that year, they brought the National Women's Choral Festival to Houston with a public concert in Jones Hall. True to its roots, HeartSong has continued to evolve as an all-inclusive group singing the songs of their hearts. As their audience expands, their hope is simply to continue making a difference by raising in song a collective voice of spirit and enthusiasm for this life we all share.

HEARTSONG Houston's Women's Chorus

Gail Berkowitz
Melissa Blankenship
Denise Bullock
Margaret Hale
M. M. Hall
Debbie Hunt
Johanna Johanson
Kim Jordan
Kim McConathy

Mary Helen Merzbacher
Judi Messina
Marian Newman
Pam Parker
Anne Rhodes
Ava Roberts
Rawslyn Ruffin
Jill Short