Scott Forbes and Pat Rocco
in association with
Golden Gate Performing Arts present

The San Francisco Gay Freedom Day
Marching Band and Twirling Corps
The San Francisco Gay Men’s Chorus

In Concert at Hollywood High School
Saturday, June 30, 1979, 8:00 p.m.
THE SAN FRANCISCO GAY FREEDOM DAY MARCHING BAND AND TWIRLING CORPS

People have trouble remembering the name of the band, many just call them, "the Gay band"; but everybody who hears them sure knows who they are. The San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps was formed for the 1978 Gay Freedom Day Parade. Following a tremendous reception by 161,000 people in that parade, the group was invited to participate in the Columbus Day Parade, where they proceeded to take first prize. In San Francisco's St. Patrick's Day Parade they also won first prize. Winning second prize in the city's Chinese New Year parade, the group also gained national television exposure.

From a beginning of only sixty-five members, it has grown in membership to over a hundred and is comprised of men and women musicians from all walks of life. They include doctors, accountants, nurses, attorneys, clerks, teachers, secretaries and business executives. Musical background ranges from Masters Degrees from the Juilliard School of Music to less than a year's experience in high school or private study. A large segment of the membership returned to their musical instruments after many years of pursuing business and professional careers, having not performed since high school or college.

The Twirling Corps is lead by Joe Poltrone who in 1974 was honored as National Twirling Champion. The newly formed Flag Corps premiered in last Sunday's Gay Freedom Day Parade in San Francisco.

Having already presented two symphonic concerts in San Francisco to sold-out audiences, the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band has performed at The Family Kite Festival, the Easter Sunrise Service at San Francisco's Glide Memorial Methodist Church, Francis Ford Coppola's birthday party as well as many San Francisco area events. Last week the Band, with the Gay Men's Chorus presented "A Gay Musical Celebration at Grace Cathedral" to an overflow crowd welcomed by Mayor Diane Feinstein. The group has maintained a wide selection of music ranging from the jazz of Duke Ellington, the marches of John Philip Sousa, the symphonic music of George Gershwin to Glenn Miller's big band arrangements and contemporary film score adaptations.

JON R. SIMS

Whether directing the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band on a concert stage, leading them in a parade, or acting in an administrative capacity, Jon R. Sims is realizing a personal dream.

Sims is a native of Smith Center, Kansas where he was his high school's drum major. At Wichita State University he was head drum major and earned a Bachelor's Degree in French horn as well as in theory and composition. After earning a Masters Degree in French horn at Indiana University, he taught music for six years at elementary and middle school levels, last teaching in Daly City, California. He has played with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, guest conducted the California Bach Society, studied arts administration and has had professional experience in public relations in the San Francisco area. Jon Sims has also done post-graduate work at the Dalcroze School of Music in New York City, where he studied eurythmics, a system of teaching and experiencing musical skills and concepts through a combination of music and bodily movement. He has studied composition under composers Darius Milhaud.

In the Spring of 1978, Sims made his decision to stop teaching in public schools and to form a gay marching band. The idea began to take shape and the group's first appearance was last year in the Gay Freedom Day Parade.

Mr. Sims is now involved exclusively with the various musical organizations which have become a reality since the inception of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps.

THE BAND

| THE BAND | Neill Sims
| --- | --- |
| Piccolo | Carol Turnbull
| Flute | Dorothy Vinals |
| Oboe | Tenor Saxophone |
| English Horn | Lois Allen
| Bassoon | Jeff Giles
| French Horn | Bruce Jewett
| Trumpet | Larry Sharp |
| Saxophone | Baritone Saxophone |
| Clarinet | Glen Alward |
| Bassoon | French Horn |
| Bassoon | Richard Berg
| Oboe | Bill Bromm |
| English Horn | Steve Colby
| Trumpet | Rick Eckel |
| Clarinet | Don Gray |
| Saxophone | Bob Gurney |
| French Horn | Irv Kirschenbaum |
| Tenor Saxophone | Bob Shapiro |
| Trombone | Jim Weyman
| Alto Saxophone | Stu Cox |
| Trombone | Bob Erickson |
| Baritone | James French |
| Alto Saxophone | David Kelsey |
| Tuba | Mike Flanagan
| Flute | John Krauss |
| English Horn | Frank Medina
| Clarinet | David Wright |
| Trumpet | Peter Fellini |
| Bassoon | John Mead |
| French Horn | Tom Meade |
| Baritone Saxophone | John Orlando |
| Tenor Saxophone | John Karr
| Trombone | John Rainey |
| Alto Saxophone | John Reddick |
| Alto Saxophone | John Revenge |
| Trombone | John Sperzel |
| Alto Saxophone | John Taggart |
| Trombone | Jim Temple |

THE SAN FRANCISCO GAY MEN'S CHORUS

On the evening of December 20, 1978, over 100 men joined the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band in concert and for the first time, under the direction of Dick Kramer, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus made a significant social and musical statement.

The members of the chorus have a wide spectrum of musical backgrounds. Several members of the chorus have sung in the San Francisco Opera chorus and with other respected musical organizations in the Bay Area. Many have received Masters Degrees in musical training. Others have found a place in the chorus singing for the first time since their high school days.

The group's repertoire is varied. It ranges from the music of Brahms, Bach and Handel to Sigmund Romberg. The smaller swing chorus, the "Men About Town", presents music from Broadway shows and the swing era. In addition to the Men's Chorus and the "Men About Town", a group called the "Chamber Singers" performs works of Scarlatti, Schubert and other chamber selections. The Chorus, founded in October 1978 by Jon R. Sims as an outgrowth of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Marching Band and Twirling Corps, first sang in November 1978 at a Memorial Service for the late Mayor.
PROGRAM

San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band
Jon R. Sims, Director

HIS HONOR ............................................. Henry Fillmore

San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus
Dick Kramer, Director

BEHOLD MAN ............................................. Ron Nelson

FOUR LOVE SONGS ................................. Johannes Brahms
   A tremor's in the branches
   Nightingale, thy sweetest song
   Bird in air will stray afar
   From yon hills the torrent speeds
Piano: Mark Whiting & David Hoefer

San Francisco Gay Men's Chamber Singers
Dick Kramer, Director

EXULTATE DEO ......................................... Allesandro Scarlatti

DU, DU LIEGST MIR IM HERZEN ........................ arr. Shaw-Parker

San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus

ALLELUIA ............................................. Randall Thompson

I'VEZZOSI .............................................. Anonymous 18th Century
   A free translation:
   Long live all those charming men.
   Those dear lovers that have no cruelty. May they live always.
   Those dear lovers, those charmers, the source of our happiness.
   A baritone we called "Ziggy" adapted the original Italian text.
   Ziggy was a passenger on fateful DC-10 Flight 191, on his way to
   Los Angeles to visit a brother after attending his sister's wedding
   back home in Indiana. Jim Zielinski's name remains listed on our
   roster. His joyful spirit lives with us still.

San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band

AN AMERICAN IN PARIS ............................. George Gershwin

ELLINGTON PORTRAIT ................................ Setting by Floyd E. Werle

THEME FROM SUPERMAN ............................. John Williams

STRIKE UP THE BAND ............................... George & Ira Gershwin

INTERMISSION

The Varsity Drag, featuring Nicholas, Glover & Wray
Jon R. Sims, Director

DON'T GET AROUND MUCH ANYMORE ................... Duke Ellington

LI'L DARLIN' ............................................. Neal Hefti

IN THE MOOD ........................................... Joe Garland, arr. Glenn Miller

Men About Town
Jon R. Sims, Director

JAVA JIVE ............................................. Ben Oakland

San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus

FROM THE SILENCE ..................................... Jean Sibelius
   This choral composition has been transformed with new poetry by
   Gerald Pearson, a second tenor, originally from Utah. Gerald is the
   father of four children and an active member of the Board of
   Directors of Golden Gate Performing Arts.
   Surely, surely, from the silence,
   Breaks the song that we never sang,
   Come the words that we never spoke,
   The love that we've always hidden.
   Once all men feared so to say it,
   The love that dare not speak its name.
   At last, long last from the silence
   Lovers come bringing gifts of song.
   Voices sing of manly love.
   No more will we hush the singing,
   Never more will we hide our love.
   No more will our joy be silenced.
   Manly love has its melody.
   Lovers too have a song to sing.

STOUTHEARTED MEN ..................................... Sigmund Romberg
Piano: Mark Whiting

MY BUDDY .............................................. Walter Donaldson

JACK WAS EVERY INCH A SAILOR ...................... arr. Ralph Hunter

GUTE NACHT ............................................ German Folk Song

San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band

MACARTHUR PARK ...................................... Jimmy Webb
THE CHORUS

George Moscone and Supervisor
Harvey Milk on the steps of San Francisco City Hall. In May 1979 the chorus, which now has over 150 members, performed their first concert at Everett Middle School in San Francisco. The tickets sold out so rapidly that a second concert was scheduled, also a sell-out. And in concert with the Band, the Chorus performed last week at a SRO concert at San Francisco's Grace Cathedral.

The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus has proved to be a source of pride not only within its membership but throughout San Francisco's gay community.

DICK KRAMER

A native of California, Dick Kramer is the director of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. He grew up in West Los Angeles and graduated with honors from Occidental College where he specialized in choral music. As a professional singer, Dick has performed with the Santa Fe Opera, toured with the Roger Wagner Chorale, and has sung with the Santa Fe Opera, toured with the Dale Richard Men's Chorus. He grew up in West Los Angeles and graduated from Occidental College where he taught at the highly respected Kamehameha Schools in Honolulu, Hawaii and in public schools in Pasadena, Oakland and in New Jersey. He has extensively studied Sensory Awareness and his strong background in this body consciousness activity facilitates his teaching of singing.

As director of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, he has been in a position to watch the group grow in size to over 150 members. Dick notes that "our purpose is to encounter our gay brothers and sisters and to show the larger community that we have this healthy musical as well as social activity." In addition to his directorship of the chorus, Dick also keeps a heavy schedule of private musical instruction.

First Tenor
Audie Stouffles
Bill Ganz
Bill Powell
Bill Tucker
David Kerlick
David Lamm
Don Levine
Gregg Lossing
Jack Torres
Jim Gilman
John P. Riccardi
Joseph Loza
Kari Brown
Kevin Conduit
Kurt Thomson
Mark Luke
Michael Poniatowski
Raymond Dirodos
Richard Sheskie
Robert E. Morris
Thom Kumorok
Victor Seth Sargeant
Vincent Sofia

Second Tenor
Albert Jones
Arthur B. Murphy, Jr.
Bob Emery
Brian Douglas
Dale Richard
Dale Sorenson
Dan Scott
David Goldman
David Scull
Eric Graybeal
Gary J. Strach
Gene Guenther
Gene Tangul
Gerald Pearson
John Beeman
John Haddad
Jon Jones
Kevin McKinney
Larry Garrigan
Lee Barber
Marion Besco
Mark Whiting
Paul Pukas
Perry A. George
Rick Slavsky
Terry Althoff
Tom Ammiano
Tom Mitchell
Baritone
Arthur Reed
Bill Randley
Bob Bercaw
Bruce Reynolds
Dan Hampshire
Darren MacGavin
David Hoefer
David Stohler
Denny McDowell
Donald Leighton
Douglas Shader
Edward Brener
Evan Friedman
Glenn Beardsley
Gordon Grover
Guy Vaughn
Jay
Jerry Ellis
Jim Mabry
Jim Zielinski
(memoriam)
Joe Hooker
John C. Hawkes
John Simo
Lee Duck
Len Leschander
Mark Hermes
Mark W. Olsen
Marty O'Connell
Michael Farrell
Raymond Arthur
Rick Heald
Ronald Conrad
Steven M. Prokasky
Terry Chan
Tim Burbo
Tony Zarlinco

Bass
Bernard Dion
Bob Klang
Bob Rogers
Brian J. Duckworth
Bud Foster
Chris Lirely
Dave Braun
David Goff
David Reaves
Dean Halsey
Douglas Dickinson
Ed Lucas
Edward E. Dryer
George Vail

Glen Van Ingen
Jack Campbell
Jim McCloud
John Krause
John Stegner
Larry Geis
Mike Kocher

Nelson Parker
Robert Beale
Robert Rulo
Scott E. Howell
Skip Aiken
Ted Dunlap
Theodore Sparks

PROCEEDS FROM THIS CONCERT

The proceeds from this concert will benefit the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, as well as, Los Angeles' Hudson House.

Hudson House was founded in 1974 by Pat Rocco with the assistance of Morris Kight, the Rev. Robert Humphries, Mary Ann Cook, Al Gordon and the United States Mission. It has been one of the most important gay institutions in recent L.A. gay history. Hudson House is actually three houses located in the heart of Hollywood providing emergency food, housing and job assistance for gay men and women in Los Angeles. In their first year, Hudson House served the needs of more than 600 people.

The proceeds from this concert will benefit

A CONCERT PRESENTATION OF . . .

Golden Gate Performing Arts was incorporated in March of this year to serve as a support mechanism for the operations and growth of performing arts groups in the San Francisco gay community.

The musical groups performing tonight have affiliated with GGPA in achieving a shared goal of creating a culturally expressive community that promotes personal growth and well-being. As the organization's founder, Jon Sams, has said, "We have been struggling for survival up till now. Now we can do more than just survive. We can participate freely in artistic expression, we can share with each other philanthropically and through performance of the arts. We have more to live for now than survival."

The artistic direction of the various musical groups resides within the groups — through the corporate structure of GGPA, the affiliates receive administrative, legal, fiscal and production services. The public relations and fund raising activities of GGPA, as with all other components of GGPA's services, come from individuals who are committed totally in support of performers and patrons alike.

If you are interested in supporting the musical groups and the work of Golden Gate Performing Arts with volunteer energy or financial support — or if you are interested in participating musically with the groups — contact Golden Gate Performing Arts at 826-1538.

Or write Post Office Box 14665, San Francisco 94114.

Scott Forbes (co-producer) is president of Studio One, one of the most popular gay discos and nightclubs in the United States. He is founder of Fun Productions, whose creation of "Gay Nights" at Disneyland, Magic Mountain, Great America and Knott's Berry Farm have been such outrageously successful expressions of our playfulness and sense of community. He is also president of the Los Angeles Tavern Guild and owner of the L.A. Bar on Santa Monica Boulevard.

As a member of the Board of Directors of the Gay Community Services Center for the past four years, he has initiated many positive changes in that important facility. Mr. Forbes has been the recipient of many achievement awards for his work in the gay community.

Pat Rocco (co-producer) gained notoriety over the past decade as a gay filmmaker, producer, and director. In 1974 he conceived a gay carnival as part of the annual Gay Pride celebration in Los Angeles, and it has been a successful practice ever since. Mr. Rocco was one of the original founders.
and Vice President of the Stonewall Democratic Club in Los Angeles, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Gay Community Services Center currently serving on their Community Advisory Board. Recently, he also co-produced the Harvey Milk-George Moscone Memorial Tribute at the Pilgrimage Theatre.

Pat Rocco is chairperson of Gayfaire, which stages an annual gay carnival in the Fall turning over all profits to needy gay organizations. Among numerous other activities, he is Director of Hudson House whose work is described elsewhere in tonight’s program. These and Mr. Rocco’s other achievements have affected many gay people’s lives in a meaningful and positive way.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Concert Coordinators
Jon R. Sims
George DeWoody
Pat Rocco

Concert Hosts & Hostesses
Parents & Friends of Gays
Pat Paddock
Bette Weintraub
Adele Starr
Bea Bernstein

House Manager
Jim Lunsford

Stage Manager
Stephen Zendt

Set Consultant
David Miles

Lighting Consultant
Ron Hamm

Slide Show
Guy Corry
Fun Productions
Rose DeCastro, projectionist

Hollywood High School
Senior Stage Manager
Paul Gatson with the Hollywood High Stage Crew

Hollywood High School
Faculty Advisor
Jerry Melton

Travel & Logistics
Stewart Cox
Jay
Rick Hansen, Pegasus Travel
Sam Serino, Mercury Tours

Music Librarians
Jim Kanelos
Tom Mitchell
Bob Beale

Costumes & Uniforms
Bill Goldstein
Fern Tracey
Howard Moffet
Bruce Reynolds

Publicity
Allen White
Tim Peske
Pat Rocco
Ken Maley

“Gay” Poster & Program Design
Our Town, San Francisco

Typography
Bruce Purdy, Terrific Graphics

Program Notes
Allen White
George DeWoody
Larry Geis
Pat Rocco

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Additional Assistance
Residents of Hudson House

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L.A. Police Department
Parents and Friends of Gays
Pat Campano
Roos-Atkins, San Francisco