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not so
A SILENT NIGHT

featuring

The San Francisco Winds of Freedom
&
The Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco

Saturday, December 7, 1991
First Unitarian Church
8:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 8, 1991
First Congregational Church
4:00 p.m.
THE JON SIMS CENTER  
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

We are a community of women and men who use the power of performance as a multi-disciplinary force to promote artistic freedom and cultural democracy. Beginning with our core constituency, the lesbian/gay community, our performers reach out as “Ambassadors of Joy” to a cultural rainbow of diverse people. Our heart-lifting work is a mosaic of compassion, strength, hope, and love. We celebrate, empower and transform the lives of all people.

The Center is the largest lesbian/gay arts organization in the world. Our founder, Jon Sims, was a visionary musician who founded the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps in 1978. The Band was the first lesbian/gay musical organization in the world. Inspired by the force of his genius, musical organizations in the City were revolutionized. Thus a national and international movement was begun in the Bay Area.

The inclusiveness of our work makes us a unique community arts resource. Our Board and Artistic Directors take pride in the community outreach of our programs. We welcome and look forward to working with people who represent the extraordinary cultural diversity of the Bay Area. We currently sponsor six performing arts groups, one production support unit, and are home to over twenty different artists who provide some of the best dance and music training in the Bay Area. If you would like further information about our membership activities, educational programs, or performance opportunities, please call us at: 415-621-5619.

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The Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco

The oldest continuing "mixed" chorus in the country, the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco demonstrates the power and joy inherent in a united community. The Chorus motto, Together in Harmony, refers to the music the Chorus women and men make together, the spirit of "family" within the Chorus, and the driving force behind the Chorus' many community outreach programs.

Founded in 1980, the L/GCSF has performed in holiday concerts, Gay Pride events, AIDS fundraisers, Gay Games ceremonies, hospitals, senior centers, and benefits for youth centers and other community organizations. While most of its activities are local in focus, the L/GCSF has not confined its message of strength through togetherness to the Bay Area. Chorus members joined the 1987 National March on Washington, D.C. with Ménage and sang at the Russian River for a 1989 AIDS benefit organized by Sonoma County's F.A.C.E.S. In addition, in 1989 the Chorus flew, en masse, to Seattle to perform for and with forty other lesbian and gay choruses from the United States and Canada.

The L/GCSF concerts range in style from its 1989 Spring concert series celebrating lesbian and gay composers, to its 1990 Cable Car Award-winning Broadway concert, to Ménage and Fiddlestix's solo cabaret-style appearances. The Chorus' music changes with the seasons, but the intent remains the same: in harmony, the women and men of the L/GCSF raise their voices and join hands to share the power and love they find singing and working together.

Ménage

Organized in October 1986 as an ensemble of the Lesbian/Gay Chorus, Ménage acts as front-runner and fund raiser for the Chorus. Special appearances have included The York Hotel's Plush Room, the Domestic Partner's celebration at City Hall on Valentine's Day, and other community events. The 1991 Cable Car Award winning octet, which has the distinction of being the only Bay Area vocal group to perform at the March on Washington in 1987, will be presenting an evening of jazz in January at Kassman's Recital Hall.

GALA Choruses

The Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco is a member of GALA Choruses (Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses), an international alliance of over 90 men's, women's and mixed choruses dedicated to providing leadership and inspiration to the lesbian and gay movement through excellence in the choral arts. GALA Choruses produces a choral festival every three years — the next is in Denver in 1992. GALA Choruses also plans annual conferences for directors and managers, addresses problems of mutual concern, and assists with the sharing of music holdings.

GALA Choruses is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation with offices at 1617 East 22nd Avenue, Denver, CO 80205.
Nancy Corporon
Conductor and Artistic Director, San Francisco Winds of Freedom

In January 1990, Nancy was named Artistic Director of the Winds of Freedom, the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band and the Lesbian/Gay Spirit Band. Her debut brought critical acclaim to the band, “an impressive performing troupe — as dynamic and finely tuned in serious repertoire as they appear in light classics and pops.”

Nancy’s involvement in the lesbian/gay music movement extends back to 1979 when, inspired by long-time friend Jon Sims, she founded and conducted the New York Gay Community Marching Band (now the Lesbian and Gay Big Apple Corps). Most recently Nancy was honored to be named Artistic Director for the September 6, 1992 concert celebrating the 10th Anniversaries of Lesbian & Gay Bands of America (representing over 500 instrumentalists in 23 cities in U.S. and Canada) and the first Gay Games.

For 15 years Nancy freelanced as a French horn player and has performed with such groups as the Chicago Symphony, the New York City Opera Orchestra, the Brooklyn Philharmonic and the New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players. She also performed on Broadway in *West Side Story*, *On Your Toes*, and *Tap Dance Kid*.

Pat Parr
Artistic Director, Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco

Pat brings to the Chorus a wide variety of musical experience. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from Oklahoma City University with a Bachelors of Music degree in piano performance and a Bachelors of Music Education degree in vocal music education. In 1981 he became an accompanist for the San Francisco Girls Chorus. Pat conducted the Transamerica Chorus for two years and sang with the Dick Kramer Gay Men’s Chorale prior to being chosen as conductor for the L/GCSF.

Dwight Okamura
Accompanist

Dwight is originally from Honolulu, Hawaii. He received his B.A. degree in composition from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music in 1982. Since then, he has been accompanist for various instrumentalists and vocalists, including the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco and the San Francisco Symphony. Dwight was chosen accompanist for the Concert Chorus of the San Francisco Girls Chorus in 1988.
Present its

COMMUNITY CONCERT SERIES

1992 Performance Dates:
February 11, April 14, June 9, August 11
All Performances Tuesdays at 8:15 pm
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Bethany United Methodist Church
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The Winds Of Freedom, the seated version of the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band presents evenings of marches and light classics throughout 1992. The Community Concert Series is presented free to our many supporters. Other 1992 performances of note:
Sept. 6 – 10th Anniversary of Gay Games & Lesbian & Gay Bands of America
December 6 – 5th Anniversary Christmas Gala & Dance-Along Nutcracker

WIN a complete dinner for up to eight friends!
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The Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco presents

Dinner at Eight

Raffle tickets are on sale in the lobby, $3 each, 4/$10
Place: Chorus member's home or your preferred location
Date: Arranged in January or February
Drawing held December 23

The San Francisco Winds Of Freedom is a member unit of the Jon Sims Center For The Performing Arts

The Center is funded in part by Grants from the Arts of the San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund, the California Arts Council, a state agency, the Zellerbach Family Fund, and the San Francisco Foundation

Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco Staff

Artistic Director ................................................................. Pat Parr
Acting Administrative Director ........................................... Patty Moore
Financial Coordinator ................................................................. Julie Barrow
Accompanist ................................................................. Dwight Okamura
Administrative Section Leaders
Soprano - Leslie Steere, Maura Sullivan
Alto - Sherry Anderson
Tenor - Michael Carey, Larry Kuester
Bass - Chris Decker

Archivist ................................................................. Chris Decker
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ACT ONE

Santa at the Symphony
Waltz of the Flowers
Toy Symphony
Russian Christmas Music
Sing Joy!
Angels We Have Heard On High
Audience Sing-Along

ACT TWO

Medley
Winds of Freedom
Tchaikovsky
Winds of Freedom
Mozart
Winds of Freedom
Reed
Winds of Freedom
Huff
Winds of Freedom
Lesbian/Gay Chorus

Blue Rondo a la Christmas
Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas
Orkney Lullaby
Oma, vom Renntier Überrannt
Light One Candle
Celebrations

Winds of Freedom
Lesbian/Gay Chorus

Happy Holidays!
A Not So Silent Night

PROGRAM NOTES

Santa at the Symphony

One of Santa’s more mischievous elves got hold of this piece. The result—a Mozartean, jingle-belled “1812” Overture to our “Not So Silent Night.”

“Waltz of the Flowers” from The Nutcracker

A holiday season without The Nutcracker is unthinkable, so we offer “Waltz of the Flowers,” previously featured in our famous “Dance-Along Nutcracker,” which will make a joyous return to the Bay Area in the 1992 holiday season.

Toy Symphony

Formerly attributed to Franz Joseph Haydn, Leopold Mozart’s “Toy Symphony” features several members of the band playing toy instruments. You might say the whole idea is a little “cuckoo.”

Russian Christmas Music

The inspiration for “Russian Christmas Music” was the liturgical music of the Eastern Orthodox Church. Since only vocal music was permitted in the Orthodox service, many passages are evocative of chants, with much liberty taken with tempos. Listen carefully for the beautiful “voice” of the English horn, and the majesty of church chimes.

Sing Joy!

For the band and the chorus, bringing musical joy into the lesbian and gay community is more than what we do—it’s what we are all about. With brass fanfares, driving rhythms and upbeat lyrics, we now join together to “sing joy”!

Angels We Have Heard On High

French Traditional

Audience Sing-Along

Joy To The World
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Up On The Housetop
Silent Night
Deck The Halls

We promised you a “Not So Silent Night,” and now you can help make it so. You’ve already donned your “gay” apparel—now lift up your voices as we sing a few, familiar favorites.

Blue Rondo a la Christmas

Ménage performs a take-off of Dave Brubeck’s “Blue Rondo a la Turk” which is a take-off of Beethoven’s “Rondo a la Turk.” Great music never dies, it just gets recycled. The song expresses in both words and rhythms the franticness many of us associate with those last few days before December 25.

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

A holiday standard since Judy Garland sang it in “Meet Me In St. Louis,” this arrangement is by Bill Pflugradt, conductor of the Stonewall Gay & Lesbian Chorale in New York City.

Orkney Lullaby

This haunting song actually has nothing to do with Christmas per se. It is merely a lullaby to a child based on a folk tune from the Orkney Islands—which are off the coast of England. Anyone familiar with the Mary Steward books about Merlin will recognize the Orkneys as the hiding place of Mordred in his youth.

Oma, vom Renntier Überrannt

The Chorus premiered this little known adaptation of a moving German carol set loosely to Beethoven’s “Moonlight Sonata” at last year’s holiday concert with the Gay Men’s Chorus. We are performing it again today upon the special request of Nancy Corporon.
Program Notes, cont’d...

Light One Candle

Peter Yarrow

*arr. by Robert DeCormier*

The story of the struggle for freedom faced by the Hebrew people during the Maccabean revolution is retold in this beautiful Hannukah piece. The song can also serve as a reminder to the Lesbian/Gay Community to continue the fight for freedom, to remember those who have died in the struggle, and to “Let anger not tear us apart.”

Celebrations (Cantata #3)

for Chorus and Wind Ensemble

Vincent Persichetti

I. Stranger
II. I Celebrate Myself
III. You Who Celebrate Bygones
IV. There Is That In Me
V. Sing Me The Universal
VI. Flaunt Out O Sea
VII. I Sing The Body Electric
VIII. A Clear Midnight
IX. Voyage

Celebrations, rituals — by these we mark our lives. Set to the poetry of Walt Whitman, this cantata encourages us to reflect on the many facets of our lesbian and gay experience, and to celebrate our lives — lives which have seen great happiness as well as deep sorrow, sincere caring as well as societal exclusion, family warmth as well as family rejection. In the end, it is ourselves, and our courage to carry on, that we celebrate here tonight.

A Not So Silent Night Production Staff

Co-Producers: Doug Litwin, Pat Parr
Program, Art Design: Briana Connell
Wardrobe, Telemarketing: Mary Cantrell
Tickets: Marty Cormier, Kathy Hennig, Lauren Hewitt
House Manager: Marty Cormier
Technical Director: Phil Hernandez
Transportation: David Cole
Outreach: Stephen Litzenberger
Publicity: Carol Northrup
Stage Manager: Larry Willette
Audio: Keith Sklower
Box Office: Jerry Abrams
Ushers, Concessions: The Guild
The San Francisco Winds of Freedom

In 1978, Jon Sims formed the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps to march in the Gay Freedom Day Parade. The Band has grown and expanded into three groups which reflect the diversity of music and places where they perform: the San Francisco Winds of Freedom performs in concerts, the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band performs in parades, and the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Spirit Band performs at smaller community events. In their quest for the development of an ever-larger and more diverse audience, the band remains dedicated to Jon Sims' vision — presenting lesbian and gay musicians as our community's Ambassadors of Joy!

Flute/Piccolo
Jay V. Kast
Quentin

Oboe
Greg Holbrook
Keith Sklower

Clarinet
Lee Francke
Kathy Hennig
Robin Jones
Douglas A. Litwin
Steve Rocha

Alto Clarinet
Beth Brown

Bass Clarinet
Rick Rowland

Bassoon
Lon Wright

Alto Sax
Ted Easley
David Slattengren

Tenor Sax
Leslie Lind

Baritone Sax
Wesley J. Asakawa

Euphonium
Mike Lias
Diane Little Bear

Tuba
Michael L. Mehr

Trumpet
Heidi Beeler
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Kelly Shannon

Horn
Gary J. Bryan
Wendy H. Chinn
Craig Fruetel
Franklyn P. Jones

Trombone
Billy Green
David Malespin
Pat Mullan
Brian J. Saiger
Daniel Weinstein

Percussion
Sally Canjura
Wayne L. Love
Bryan Nadeau
Neila Waters
Linda Werner
Vicki Zalewski

The Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco

Soprano
Eve Benton
Janice Bowen
Joy Breed
Sybil Charlton
Jules Dantin
Yolanda de Byle
Doreen DiBiagio
Chris Fahrenbach
Ruth Gurney
Angelika Kasten
Nancy Kramer
Lee Lanou
Rose Mary Mitchell
Patty Moore*
Linda Rohde*
Marsha Seeley
Marjorie Sheffield
Maura Sullivan
Raffaella Taddei
JoAnn Thomas
Joan Zawaski

Alto
Sherry Anderson
Leah Bailey
Ellen Banks
Julie Barrow
Dennise Brown
Jodel de Oliveira*
Cheri Duperrault
Kestin Feist
Lisa Fiorelli
Joan Helmes*
Jackie Hicks
Shirley Kelly
Sara Kendall
Barbara Maher
Karen McMickle
Vicki Saltzer
Elisa Shore
Kathy Wells

Tenor
Joe Callanan
Mary Cantrell
Michael Carey
Stan Christensen
Mark Elliot
John Gullotto*
Clyde Howell
Tony Imbruglio
Robert Kirsch
Larry Kuester
Michael McDonald
Bob Newbold
Tim O'Bayley
Andrew Pelfini
Satoru
Abigail Smith
Paul Sotak*

Bass
Phil Barber
Bill Beirsdorfer
Lou Ceci
Steve Collier
Chris Decker
Tom Dobbin
Paul Ellis
David Giltinan
Jack Hamilton
Dave Levasseur
Stephen Litzenberger
Michael Lucero
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*Ménage
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