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PRESENTS

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GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON DC

Jeff Buhrman, Artistic Director

Presents

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Artistic Staff

Artistic Director ..... Jeff Buhrman

Principal Accompanist ..... Theodore Guerrant

Choreographer ..... Stefan Sittig

Vocal Coach ..... Philip Rogerson

Director, Potomac Fever ..... Jeff Buhrman

Director, Rock Creek Singers ..... Paul Leavitt

Sectional Rehearsal Leaders ..... Paul Leavitt, James Galdieri, Anthony Vitelli, Mark Zimmerman

Stage Director ..... Angie Prater

Artistic Interpreters ..... Silvio Menzano, Jina Lynne

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GMCW BIO

Now in its 23rd season, GMCW is at the forefront of the gay and lesbian choral movement, continuing its vision to affirm the gay experience and promote a culture of diversity through musical and performance excellence.

Founded in 1981, GMCW quickly became a staple of the Washington choral music scene. Over the years, GMCW has performed at the Kennedy Center, the National Theatre, the Warner Theatre, Constitution Hall, the Lincoln Theatre, and Lisner Auditorium on the George Washington University campus, along with a number of other venues in and around the District. In addition, GMCW has toured many of the major cities in the United States and, in 1998, three Scandinavian capitals. During its 20th anniversary season, GMCW performed at Symphony Hall in Boston and Carnegie Hall in New York City.

GMCW performs three subscription concerts annually: a holiday concert, a spring concert, and a summer concert. GMCW also appears at a number of community events, including programs for PFLAG, Whitman-Walker Clinic, and The Human Rights Campaign. While in Scandinavia, GMCW was received by Sweden's Princess Christina to thank chorus members for singing in support of Noah's Ark, a Swedish AIDS services organization.

GMCW has been in the forefront of commissioning new works for men's chorus. Recent commissions include *Changing Hearts* for men's chorus and chamber orchestra; and *Oseh Shalom* for men's chorus and brass quintet. In addition, GMCW sponsors three small ensembles: Potomac Fever, a close-harmony group; Rock Creek Singers, a 20-voice chamber music ensemble; and a dance troupe. The three small ensembles serve as representatives of GMCW at many community functions.

GMCW has won a number of awards, including the prestigious Mayor's Arts Award for artistic excellence in 1989, and the Washington Area Music Association's WAMMIE award in 2002 for outstanding classical-choral recording (for *I Dream of a Time*) and in 1995 for outstanding gospel-inspirational performance (for *Live at the Lincoln*). *Pride and Joy*, GMCW's holiday music CD, was nominated for both a WAMMIE and a GLAMMA award, given by the national Gay and Lesbian Music Association. In addition, GMCW can be heard on the CDs, *Singing Free, Let It Shine!, Pride and Joy, And In That Moment, I Dream of a Time,* and its latest release, *You've Got To Be Carefully Taught: The Songs of Sondheim and Hammerstein.*

GMCW's choruses are an activity of the Federal City Performing Arts Association, a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization, which also sponsors a chorus fundraising group called the Capital Club. Information on upcoming GMCW events can be obtained by calling 202-338-SING or by visiting the Chorus' web page at www.gmcw.org.

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

DAVID STREIT

Sometimes it is about the gifts!

I have to admit my weakness; I love the gifts. Big or small, it is always the joy of the surprise.

Being Chairman of the Board, I am especially blessed by the multitudes of gifts to the Chorus. Often surprising and always treasured, I have seen an outpouring of charity. From audiences like the one you are a part of tonight, who have been moved by the inspiration of song. From parents that now support their children as singers, when not so long ago they could not accept who their children were. From loved ones and strangers who support this Chorus and its mission of touching hearts and changing minds.

I must admit that the gifts of the Chorus members, singing and non-singing, are always amazing to me. This group works long hours in rehearsals and performances and still puts plenty of capital into this organization to ensure its financial well being. Their gift of song through benefit performances makes a difference in this world that none of us can do alone.

The current Board of Directors for the Chorus is truly a gift. These individuals, who have amazingly complicated lives already, have taken on a multitude of tasks for the Chorus, from marketing to fundraising. They are putting their talents to work and making a major difference in what we can achieve.

I always hesitate to single any one out. There are so many that deserve mention. But just this once, I need to thank Steve Herman. His dedication since the inception of this Chorus has been heroic. His never-ending commitment of time and talent to the group has benefitted us all. He also has the distinction of being the greatest single donor to the Chorus in the past year. I gave up trying to count it all up when it passed the $40K mark, but it was amazing.

And of course, your sharing this evening with us is the best gift of all. These moments are always unique and memorable. They give us all hope and inspiration. Thanks, I wish you all a world of gifts.

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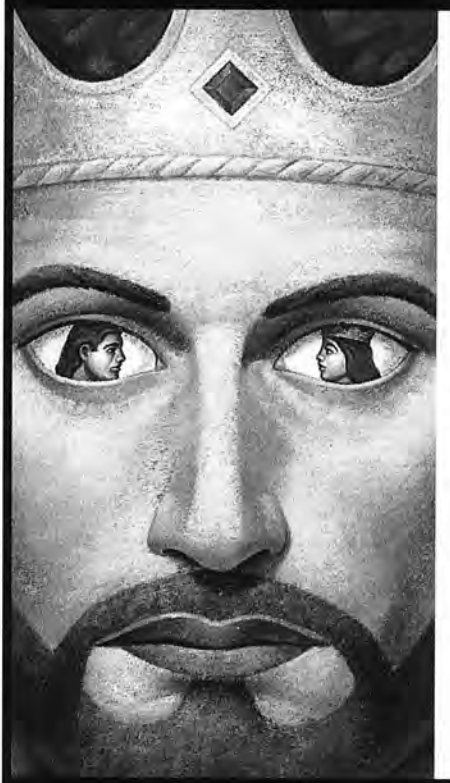

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FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

JEFF BUHRMAN

Is Coming In March!!

The Time:	1959
The Place:	Sweetapple, Ohio
The Event:	Rock and roll sensation Conrad Birdie is coming to Sweetapple to plant "One Last Kiss" on one of his fans, Kim Macafee, an average American BOY.

The Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC will take you back to smalltown America in the late fifties...but we'll do it with a twist...actually, lots of twists.

Our Sweetapple will be more loving, more accepting, more gay, and definitely more fun than any other town in America.

Please don't miss the singing, the dancing, the sets, the costumes, the lighting, the 17 piece pit band, and especially the all-male cast.

Performances at Lisner Auditorium
Friday, March 26 at 8 pm
Saturday, March 27 at 8 pm
And a special family matinee on Sunday, March 28 at 3 pm

And don't forget our third annual Cabaret!
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FROM THE CHORUS PRESIDENT

DAVID JANSING

"Secret and self-contained and solitary as an oyster."
– Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*

As fall comes to a close, the days draw in and nature goes dormant. It falls asleep until the warmth of spring arrives to slowly resurrect that which was thought dead. In the holiday classic tale, *A Christmas Carol*, Scrooge exists in this same sort of living death. He survives as a shell of a man, filled with his own greed and pain, unaware of the other people who struggle around him. It is only through the influence of his dead partner Marley and the three Christmas Spirits, that Scrooge has an epiphany, an enlightenment, a change of heart. The three Spirits remind him of the past, wake in him an awareness of the present, and give him the bleak, lonely view of one possible future. It is the combined voices of the Spirits that breathe the warm winds of spring into Scrooge. This season, GMCW summons a spirit of change to the Washington, DC area. We present to you a season of "Changing Hearts."

So often, after we have presented a show to our friends, family, co-workers and neighbors, we hear stories of how the show, or a piece within the show, provided the catalyst for remarkable transformation. We continue this tradition by presenting you three unique shows: *A Brassy, Sassy Holiday; Bye, Bye Birdie; and Changing Hearts.* Just like the three spirits in *A Christmas Carol*, each of these shows has a distinctive voice and personality. We present traditional carols and hymns, along with new songs of the holidays, in *A Brassy, Sassy Holiday*. GMCW gives a new meaning to the word "family" as we have lots of fun presenting the classic Broadway show *Bye, Bye Birdie*, layered with the campy twist provided by an all-male cast. You'll be relieved to know that our third concert of the season, unlike Dickens' third Spirit, is neither mute nor grim. In fact, *Changing Hearts* is filled with the optimistic voices of our singers, friends, and families. For that new choral work, commissioned by GMCW, several of the stories of how our music has changed hearts have been set to music. Each of these shows will delight and enchant you, but, more importantly, we hope that they warm and lift the spirits of all those who experience them.

It is my hope that this holiday season brings peace and tranquility to you and your family.

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gmcw
OF WASHINGTON DC

A BRASSY SASSY HOLIDAY

ACT I

BRASSY

with members of The Washington Symphonic Brass

WASHINGTON SYMPHONIC BRASS

Toccata on *Carol of the Bells* ..... Mykola Leontouych
Arranged by Rose and Price

GMCW

Christmas Comes Anew ..... Arranged by Mark Riese

Christmas Cantata ..... Daniel Pinkham

I. Maestoso
II. Adagio
III. Allegro

ROCK CREEK SINGERS

A Christmas Madrigal ..... Paul Leavitt
Resonet in Laudibus ..... Arranged by John Leavitt

GMCW

Bayom Hahu ..... Michael Isaacson

Soloists: James Galdieri and Patrick Moore
Flutist: Ellen Hinkle

The Glory Manger ..... American Spiritual
Arranged by Jon Washburn

Soloist: Jere Lorenzen

WASHINGTON SYMPHONIC BRASS

Joy to the World ..... Arranged by Richard Price

GMCW

Oseh Shalom ..... Paul Leavitt

O Come, All Ye Faithful ..... Arranged by Paul Leddington Wright

INTERMISSION

ACT II
SASSY
with DC SWING!

GMCW

Cool Yule ..... Steve Allen
Arranged by Patrick Sinozich

Dancers: Czar Agus, Gary Knight, Matt Komornik,
Jere Lorenzen, Ed Oseroff, Scott Roewer

Love Turns Winter to Spring ..... Matt Dennis and Frank Killduff
Arranged by Patrick Sinozich

POTOMAC FEVER

Jing-a-ling ..... Don Raye and Paul J. Smith
Arranged by Patrick Sinozich

When I Fall In Love ..... Victor Young and Edward Heyman

DC SWING!

Jump, Jive an' Wail ..... Louis Prima
Arranged by Roger Holmes

GMCW

Little Jack Frost ..... Al Stillman and Ellis Seger
Arranged by Patrick Sinozich

Solo: Russ Capps

The Fight Before Christmas ..... Music by Scott Henderson
Lyrics by Debbie Greig

Bill: Sean Robinson
Bruce: Chuck Walker
Esther: Leo Luberecki

DC SWING!

Frosty the Snowman ..... Steve Nelson and Jack Rollins
Arranged by Jerry Novak

GMCW

The Man with the Bag ..... Irving Taylor, Dudley Brooks,
and Hal Stanley
Arranged by Patrick Sinozich

Cool Yule ..... Steve Allen
Arranged by Patrick Sinozich

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TRANSLATIONS

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

I What did you see, shepherds? Tell us? Proclaim to us what was revealed to you on this earth! "We saw a Child and a chorus of angels!"

II O great mystery, and wonderful sacrament, how the animals watch over the Son of God laying in a manger! Blessed mother, whose pure womb carried Christ.

III Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth and goodwill to all!

v. 1: Let all the earth praise the Lord and serve the Lord joyfully!

v. 2: Come into our sight rejoicing!

v. 3: Know now that the Lord is God. He himself made us, and not only us. Alleluia!

BAYOM HAHU

And let it be said that the Lord is King over all the earth.

On that day, the Lord will be one.

And his name will be one.

OSEH SHALOM

May He who establisheth peace in the heavens,

grant peace unto us and unto all Israel; and say ye, Amen.

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Photo of Daniel Breaker and David Sabin by Richard Termine

PROGRAM NOTES

by Jeff Buhrman

We open our holiday concert with *Christmas Comes Anew*, arranged by Mark Reise, and originally commissioned by the New York City Gay Men's Chorus. It is based on the 15th century traditional French carol *Noel Nouvelet*.

The long and illustrious career of Daniel Pinkham (b.1923) includes a large body of choral works, symphonies, concertos, documentary film scores, and chamber works. Pinkham, a conductor and teacher as well, has taught at Boston University, Harvard and New England Conservatory of Music. His *Christmas Cantata* is his most often performed work. Subtitled *Sinfonia Sacra*, the texts are drawn from the Mass as well as various Christmas services. The three-movement work is scored for three choirs: one vocal, one brass and one organ. In the first movement Pinkham uses contrasting textures and rhythms in the conversational text. The second movement evokes a medieval atmosphere with its modal tonality and long, sustained melismas. The final movement is accompanied by brass alternating with *a cappella* statements of the psalm *Rejoice in the Lord, all ye lands*. This is followed by the final, joyous *Alleluias*.

The famous *Bayom Hahu* is a quotation from the prophet Zechariah 14:9. It is part of the vision of the prophets who imagined a day when God would reign over the whole world. This lovely arrangement was written by Michael Isaacson, the founding Music Director of The Israel Pops Orchestra. Isaacson enjoys a distinguished career as a composer, conductor, producer, and educator with over 400 Jewish and secular musical compositions published; and 40 CDs. You can hear this arrangement of *Bayom Hahu* in the Barry Levinson film *Liberty Heights* and on an episode of the FOX TV sitcom *The Nanny*.

The American Spiritual *The Glory Manger* was arranged by Jon Washburn, the Conductor and Artistic Director of Canada's outstanding professional vocal ensemble, the Vancouver Chamber Choir. Washburn is well known internationally for his mastery of choral technique and interpretation.

We feature the world premiere of a new commission composed by GMCW bass Paul Leavitt...see the article about Paul in this program. *Oseh Shalom* is derived from a phrase in one of the best known prayers in Judaism, the Kaddish. It is a hope for the Lord to establish peace in one's life, in Israel, and throughout the world.

We conclude the first half of the concert with an arrangement of *O Come All Ye Faithful* that is new to GMCW. Please join in singing at any time during this rousing first half finale.

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OSEH SHALOM...A NEW COMMISSION

by Bob Reeg

GMCW has had the pleasure of performing very beautiful works in Hebrew at holiday concerts. However, the fact remains that there is a dearth of choral music in Hebrew arranged for men's voices. With that in mind, GMCW commissioned Paul Leavitt to write a new musical work in Hebrew for this year's holiday concert.

Paul has been a member of the GMCW family since January, 2001, when he arrived in DC after living in Parish for nine years. An accomplished director, composer and pianist, Paul is currently the Director of Music & Art at Church of the Reformation on Capitol Hill. He also directs GMCW's small ensemble, the Rock Creek Singers.

As a composer, Paul has written for piano, chorus, dance, theater and film. Recent Film scores include *The Last Refuge, Soirée*, and *Focus on Me*. In February 2001, The George Mason University Dance Company choreographed Paul's composition *Three Songs*. He has also written incidental music for the play *Le Roman d'un Tricheur* by Sacha Guitry with Jean-Laurent Cochet of the Comédie Française, which toured Europe for 2 years. Paul's published choral works are available through Yelton-Rhodes Music.

Making his debut as a concert pianist at the age of 15 with the Albany Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Julius Hegyi, Paul holds a Bachelor's from SUNY Purchase and a Master of Music degree in piano performance from The Juilliard School in New York. A laureate of the International Steinway Competition in Paris, France, Paul performs regularly in Europe and the United States.

About Oseh Shalom

The prayer reads as follows: May He who establisheth peace in the heavens, grant peace unto us and unto all Israel; and say ye, Amen.

To Paul, writing a new work to this text, which already enjoys tremendous world-wide popularity as a song composed by Nurit Hirsch, seemed tantamount to rewriting the Beatles' "Let it Be". What emerged is a composition that resembles the original song only in its lyric.

Appreciative of the efforts of Jewish people to preserve, and perpetuate their culture through art, song and dance, Paul has gone to considerable lengths to fashion a work close to stylistic conventions characteristic of "Jewish" music. The theme is based on a musical scale that includes the 2 strategically located augmented seconds, including melodic inflections and rich harmonic embellishments reminiscent of Middle Eastern music. To extend the brief two-line prayer into a five-minute work, a new melodic line was created, introducing the prayer sung in unison. The second, more dance-like theme is introduced by the brass quintet, and then sung by the chorus. What follows is an elaboration and development of the two principle themes, as song and dance weave in and around each other, with dramatic shifts in tempo and dynamic.

Song and dance play important, vital roles in both the Gay and Jewish cultures. It is easy for many Gay people to relate to the need for making shalom, which means peace and well-being, among us all. Celebration through song and dance and a jubilant ending close the work, establishing Oseh Shalom by Paul Leavitt as the newest addition to the gay choral repertoire.

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Sharing the gift of giving with our Holiday audience.

For over a dozen years, GMCW's own Bob Wonneberger would bring the joy of giving to his fellow chorus members and other friends at his annual holiday toy party. Bob's party would collect hundreds of toys that would be distributed to DC's needy through Community Family Life Services. The party became a gift to us by allowing each of us to share in the spirit of the season.

Bob Wonneberger left this world in October of 2002, but his spirit and his love remain. GMCW has sought to carry on his love by continuing his annual toy collection. And this year, we share it with our audience family. We hope this joy of giving will become as much a tradition for you as it is for us...thanks to "Wanda."

The Gift of Giving
In memory of Bob Wonneberger

GMCW's 2002 Toy Party
honored Bob Wonneberger
by collecting hundreds of toys
for needy children in the DC area.

Thank you for your participation in our toy drive. Toys will be distributed through Community Family Life Services.

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If you're lucky, there will be a restaurant in the town where you live that's comfortable, serves good food, stays open long hours, and where you'll feel like a regular after just one visit. In Washington, that place is Annie's Paramount Steak House.

Walk in on a Friday night at the end of a long week and you'll find the tables and bar full of people who gather week after week to enjoy sizzling steaks, the company of good friends, and the views of the passing parade on 17th Street. In fact, Annie's is probably the one area restaurant where people sit willingly in the smoking section where they can see the street!

But Annie's is not just the place to be on Friday nights. With its weekend midnight brunch and 24 hour operation, Annie's is bustling all the time.

Nicknamed for Annie Kaylor of the Katinas family, Annie's has been a family operation since 1948. This year marks Annie's 55th Anniversary. And because the family makes dining so comfortable, their steakhouse has become a "home away from home" for many in the gay community.

Over the years, Annie's Paramount Steak House has been one of the most loyal supporters of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, and has been a sponsor of our annual Holiday concert since 1993.

GMCW is enormously grateful to Annie's for their continuing support and invites our audience to head on over to 17th Street, ask for Annie, and give her a personal word of gratitude for sponsoring the fine music you're hearing at this concert. Besides, if you were quite taken with that cute tenor in the third row, you're likely to run into him at Annie's too!

—by Bill Eadie

And now a word from Annie's:

Annie's has been, and always will be, a simple place—a place where people can come and feel at home. It has been our motto since our beginning that anyone and everyone who walks through our doors should be and will be treated with dignity and respect. We honestly believe that through our doors walk the finest people—you, our customers!

At the end of our 55th, moving into our 56th year, we would like to say thank you for your faithful support of Annie's Paramount Steak House.

Sincerely,
Annie & Staff

WHO'S WHO

Jeff Buhrman, Artistic Director

This is Jeff's fourth season as Artistic Director of GMCW. During his tenure the chorus has performed in Carnegie Hall in New York, Symphony Hall in Boston, and at the Kennedy Center. In December, 2002 GMCW was featured at the Kennedy Center Honors, appearing in the CBS television special in which they sang a tribute to Elizabeth Taylor. Under Jeff's leadership the chorus has grown to over 200 singers and has recorded three compact discs. GMCW's 20th anniversary CD, "I Dream of a Time" won the 2002 Washington Area Music Association's WAMMIE award for outstanding choral recording. Consistently praised by local critics GMCW was hailed as "one of the finest male choruses in the world" in 2001 by a Washington Post critic. Another noted that "huge choruses often sound thick and ponderous, but conductor Jeff Buhrman educed a light, limber, beautifully balanced sonority that ebbed and shimmered, framing lyrics with coronas of color".

Jeff began his association with GMCW directing the small ensemble Potomac Fever in 1988, a job he held for the next 10 seasons. In 1989 he began an eight-year run as Assistant Director of the chorus, working alongside Music Director Jim Holloway. Jeff had the honor of directing GMCW at an inauguration concert for President Clinton in 1996.

Under Jeff's direction, Potomac Fever attained a wide following with its distinctive style, which was characterized by fluid phrasing and warmth of tone. Through his tenure the group performed many concerts and fundraisers within the gay community. The highlight of his decade with the group came in 1997 with the release of the CD "In Our Lifetime," followed by a European tour, at which Potomac Fever sang at the opening ceremony of the European Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses festival in Munich. Potomac Fever had the distinction of being the only American group to perform at the festival. Jeff is once again directing Potomac Fever this year. The group will be singing concerts in Ft. Lauderdale in February and at the GALA festival in Montreal in July.

A lifelong musician, Jeff holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in music education and voice from Montclair State University. In addition, he studied voice with Marden Bate and conducting with David Randolph and received additional training in voice with Walter Blazer of the Manhattan School of Music. He has performed with such preeminent choral conductors as Robert Shaw, Roger Wagner, David Randolph and Dennis Keene.

Jeff has more than 20 years of experience as a choral director, working with high school choruses, community choruses and church choirs. A devotee of musical theater, Jeff has also directed a number of musicals including "Bye Bye Birdie," "Once Upon a Mattress," and "Bells are Ringing." He was also musical director for many others including GMCW's productions of "Little Shop of Horrors" and "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown". Jeff brought his love of cabaret singing to GMCW when he initiated the first cabaret in 2002, "Love Songs and Other Fairy Tales" which was made into a CD. This year's cabaret, "Let Me Be the Music...the Songs of David Friedman" will have four performances over the first two weekends of February.

Jeff has a Master of Arts degree in counseling from George Washington University. He ended a 26 year tenure in education in 2000 when he became GMCW first full-time Artistic Director.

Continued on page 27.

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Continued from page 25.

The Washington Symphonic Brass

The Washington Symphonic Brass in its eleventh year, has established itself as one of the country's foremost professional brass ensembles. Each individual member of the WSB is a virtuoso in his or her own right. The results are indisputably exciting when these first rate performers join together to make music. The WSB has recorded three CDs for Summit Records that have won widespread critical acclaim from audiophile magazines and recording reviewers.

Conductor Milt Stevens and Trumpeter Phil Snedecor formed this group of players out of their love of and excitement about this fine literature. Members of the WSB have performed with many of the nation's best orchestras, such as The National Symphony, The Baltimore Symphony, and The Philadelphia Orchestra, among other illustrious institutions. The WSB performs throughout the Washington and Baltimore metropolitan area, appearing at some of the great performance spaces on the east coast. Specializing in compositions written for large brass ensemble and percussion (four trumpets, four horns, four trombones, euphonium, tuba, timpani, and percussion instruments) with organs, choruses, and other instruments optional, the varied repertoire of the Washington Symphonic Brass covers five centuries.

Members of the Washington Symphonic Brass

Matthew Harding, trumpet
Scott Sabo, trumpet
Amy Horn, horn
Bryan Bourne, trombone
Cameron Gates, tuba

DC Swing!

Chris Raitzyk, Music Director

DC Swing! is the newest performing group under DC's Different Drummers. DC Swing! can be found playing for various charity events in the DC area including Whitman Walker's annual volunteer recognition event and Service Member's Legal Defense Network's annual End the Witch Hunt dinner.

DC Swing!'s mission is to provide a place for fans of the music of the Big Band era to come together, play great music, build friendships, and share our talent with the GLBT community and beyond. DC Swing! is available to perform for charity events as well as private parties. For more information, please visit their web site at www.dcdd.org.

Music Director Chris Raitzyk is a graduate of the Baltimore School for the Arts. She has been playing saxophone for over 25 years, including five years as lead alto sax with the San Diego Freedom Swing Band. Chris has been a member of DC's Different Drummers for over 10 years and has a great love of music from the Big Band era.

DC Swing!

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Jenny Cameron
Brian "Peaches" Johnson
Ron Maas
Chris Raitzyk

Trombones
Jennifer Dreyfus
David E. McBee
Randy Sanders

Drums
Steve Collins

Trumpets
Mark Sievers
Mark Swope

Piano
Steven Messina

Guitar
Yoshi Nishio

Bass
Paula Laidlaw

Continued on page 29.

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WHO'S WHO

Continued from page 27.

Theodore Guerrant, Principal Accompanist

Now in his 20th season as GMCW's Principal Accompanist, "Dr. Teddy" first came on board in 1983 as Jim Holloway's other two hands, as it were, under the baton of the late Dr. Jim Richardson. Subsequently, after serving under conductors Bruce Trinkley, Jim Holloway, and Greg Ruffer, he now gaily accompanies Jeff Buhrman. He has traveled with the Chorus from Vancouver to Scandinavia and from Boston to San Francisco, and passed his own half-century mark at the end of the 1999-2000 season as he and the Chorus headed for San Jose and the fifth GALA experience together.

A nephew and student of the late Georgian pianist Eliza Holmes Feldman, he holds five degrees in Keyboard performance: the Bachelor of Music cum laude in piano and the Master of Fine Arts in harpsichord from the University of Georgia, the Master of Music in piano from the University of Wisconsin, the Doctor of Musical Arts in piano performance-literature from the University of Maryland, and the Graduate Performance Diploma in organ from the Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. He was the recipient of several academic scholarships and studied piano additionally in England with Denise Lassimonne.

Dr. Guerrant is Organist-Choirmaster at Saint Margaret's Episcopal Church on Connecticut Avenue in Washington, DC (where Dignity worships); Associate Organist at Saint Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church in Hyattsville; Assisting Organist at the University of Maryland Chapel; and accompanies, additionally, the Laurel Oratorio Society and the Montgomery County Masterworks Chorus. He is Coordinator of Accompanying Activities for the University of Maryland School of Music and currently belongs to seven professional music organizations. In his spare time he is fascinated by fans, clocks, organs, telephones, cats, metaphysics, and musclemen.

Stefan Sittig, Choreographer

Stefan is delighted to join GMCW where he most recently choreographed the chorus' production of *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. His choreography credits include *Jessie* (Off-Broadway/The Chelsea Playhouse), *Trabajadores* (World Premiere of the Spanish version of Stephen Schwartz's *Working* in Montevideo, Uruguay), *Noël & Gertie* (MetroStage), *Polaroid Stories* (The Studio Theatre Secondstage), *Hollywood Pinafore* (The American Century Theater), *Bee* (A.S.I.A. Theatre) and many other regional theatre productions in Washington, D.C., Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania. Before turning his attention to choreography, Stefan danced in several productions for regional theatres up and down the East coast including *Follies, Side Show* (Signature Theatre), *West Side Story, Joseph & The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Olney Theatre Center), *Gypsy* (TheatreVirginia), *Red, Hot & Cole* (The Barksdale Theatre), *Peter Pan, The Music Man* (Theatre IV) and *West Side Story* (Heritage Repertory Theatre). Stefan holds an MFA in Theatre and teaches Acting at University of Maryland University College and Movement For The Actor at The National Conservatory of Dramatic Arts in Georgetown. He is an associate member of the Society of Stage Directors & Choreographers. For more info: www.stefansittig.com

Continued on page 31.

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WHO'S WHO

Continued from page 29.

Phil Rogerson, Vocal Coach

A native of West Virginia and a private teacher of voice and piano in the Washington area, Phil has been an active member of the Chorus since it was founded in 1981. He is a graduate of West Virginia University with bachelor's and master's degrees in music education.

Phil, along with the other members of the music staff, listens to the auditions of prospective new Chorus singers as well as to the "vocal reviews" that all GMCW singing members must pass. For members who have never had formal vocal instruction, he teaches a class in vocal technique each Sunday for an hour before regular rehearsal. Phil conducts sectional rehearsals and assists individual singers with vocal problems. He is active in many local music organizations, and has served as president of the Southern Maryland Choral Society, the Choristers' Guild, and the Prince George's Music Teachers Association.

David Bielenberg, Executive Director

This is David's third season as Executive Director of GMCW. He brings to the Chorus more than twelve years of experience in Arts Administration, most recently as Director of Development for the New Haven Symphony Orchestra and previously as Associate Director of Development for Long Wharf Theatre in New Haven, Connecticut. Before moving to New Haven, he worked for a number of performing arts organizations in New York City, including the Paul Taylor Dance Company, the Tisch School for the Arts at NYU, and the concert series at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine.

A native of Baltimore, David also has an extensive background in choral music. Since the age of nine, he has sung regularly with school and community choruses as well as with professional church choirs in Baltimore, New York, New Haven and now Rockville, MD. He also conducted an acapella choral ensemble at the Tisch School for the Arts from 1995 to 1996.

David earned his Bachelor of Music with a business minor from New York University, and is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Arts Administration through Goucher College in Baltimore.

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Lauderdale Ranks 2nd In Gay Households

Census lists percentages for U.S. Cities

By Jonathon King
STAFF WRITER

Fort Lauderdale counts a larger percentage of gay households than any other large city in the nation except for San Francisco, according to census figures released today.

Although the numbers are small - 1,400 of the 68,000 households in the city - the ranking gives yet another measure of a metropolis growing more diverse, cosmopolitan and socially accepting over the past several years, say political and business leaders in the city's gay community.

" I guess my reaction is that it's amazing we're ranked that high, but the actual number of households sounds low. Only 1,400? I would have thought we had that many in one neighborhood alone."

Jim Naugle
FORT LAUDERDALE MAYOR

Sun-Sentinel (Local-Section B)
Thursday, March 13, 2003

10 Hottest Housing Markets

Thirty-nine markets had double-digit gains.

Market	Increase	Median Price
Sacramento, Calif.	26.7%	$224,200
San Diego, Calif.	26.6%	$379,300
Providence, R.I	24.6%	$206,100
Nassau-Suffolk, N.Y.	23.6%	$333,600
Monmouth-Ocean, N.J.	22.1%	$261,700
Melbourne-Titusville-Palm Bay, Fla.	20.9%	$115,600
Ft. Lauderdale-Hollywood-Pompano Bch, Fla.	20.8%	$204,800
Anaheim-Santa Ana, Calif.	20.4%	$434,600
New York-North N.J.-Long Island, N.Y.	20.2%	$320,300
Bradenton, Fla.	20.1%	$156,800
National Average	**8.8%**	**$161,600**

Based on year-over-year change
Source: National Association of Realtors
http://money.cnn.com/2003/02/11

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It's Tough to be a Fairy,
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Note 2: Section Leader
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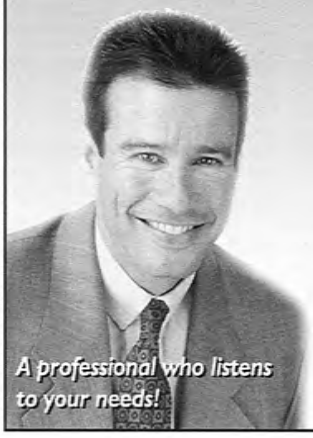

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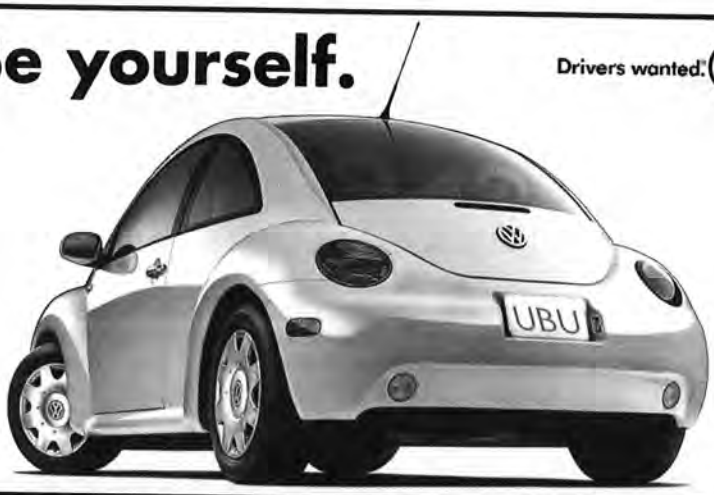

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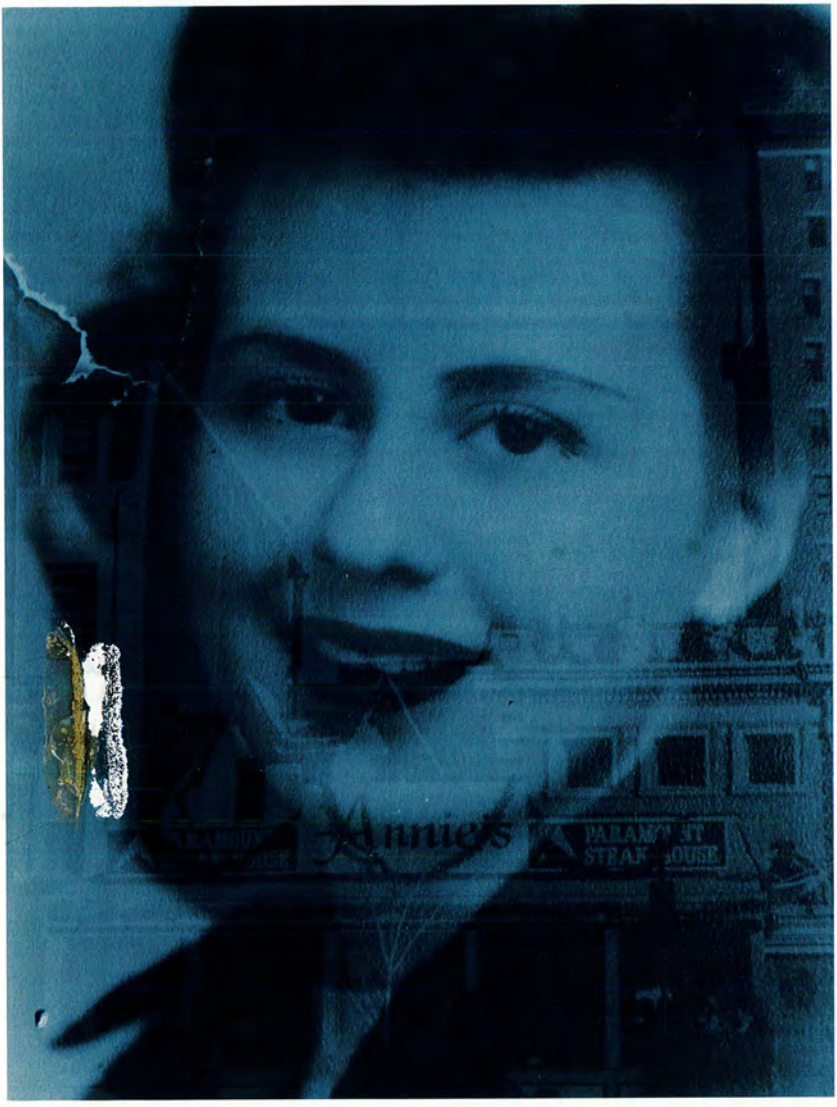

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