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GREGORY RUFFER, INTERIM MUSIC DIRECTOR

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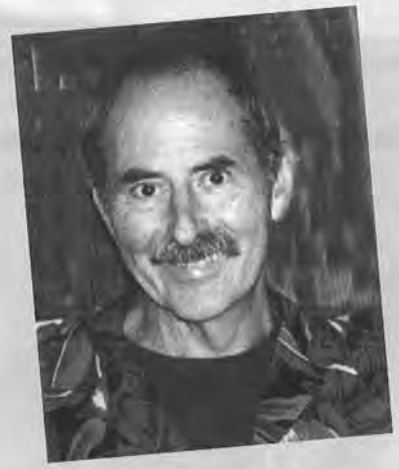

This concert is dedicated to the memory of

R. Andy Horsley

(May 4, 1940 - August 10, 1999)

former second tenor with GMCW
and beloved friend to so many.

FAMILY

Isabelle Horsley, Mother
Kristen Horsley, Daughter
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Pat Horsley-Potter, Sister
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The above individuals have made this dedication possible

(List complete as of November 23, 1999)

A message from Andy,
"We often take for granted the celebration of the gift of life - until faced with our mortality. So let this time be an opportunity to celebrate and to give to each other - shaped by the music and words that have helped me to focus on and to celebrate all that life has given me. So have fun, sing out, enjoy yourselves, and share that love with each other that you have shared with me."

Singing has always seemed to me the most perfect means of expression.

Georgia O'Keeffe (1887-1986)

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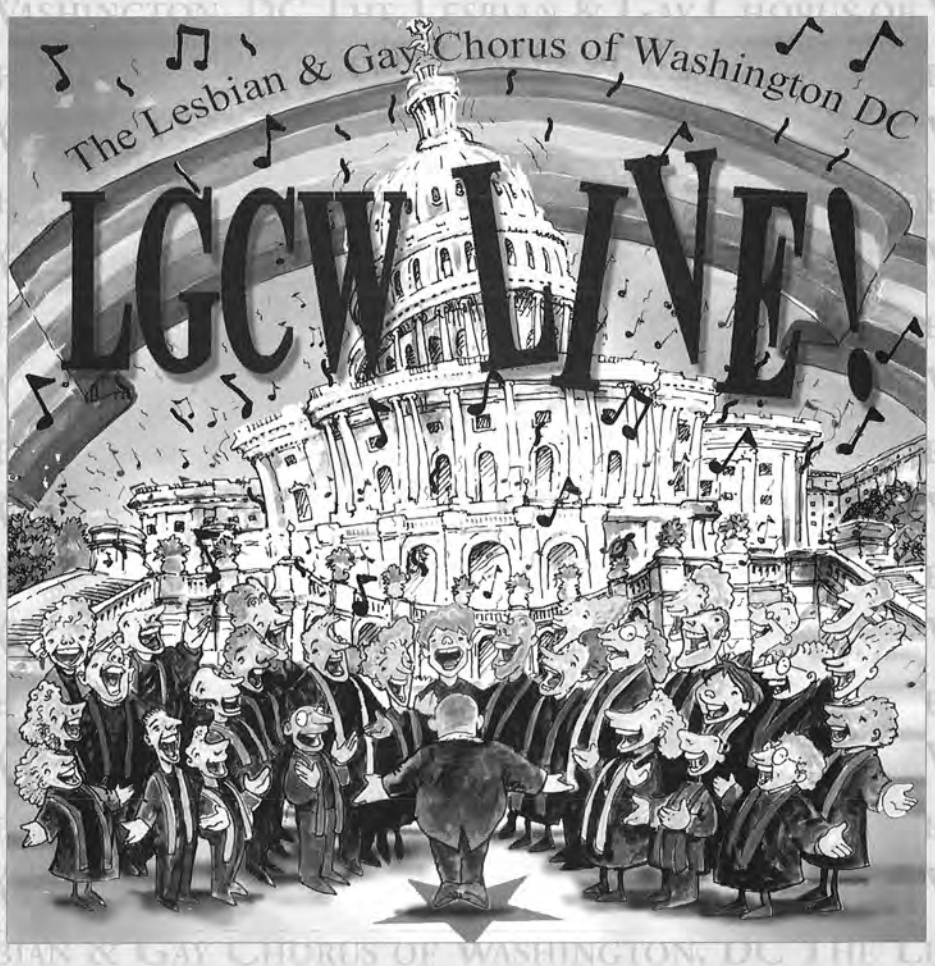

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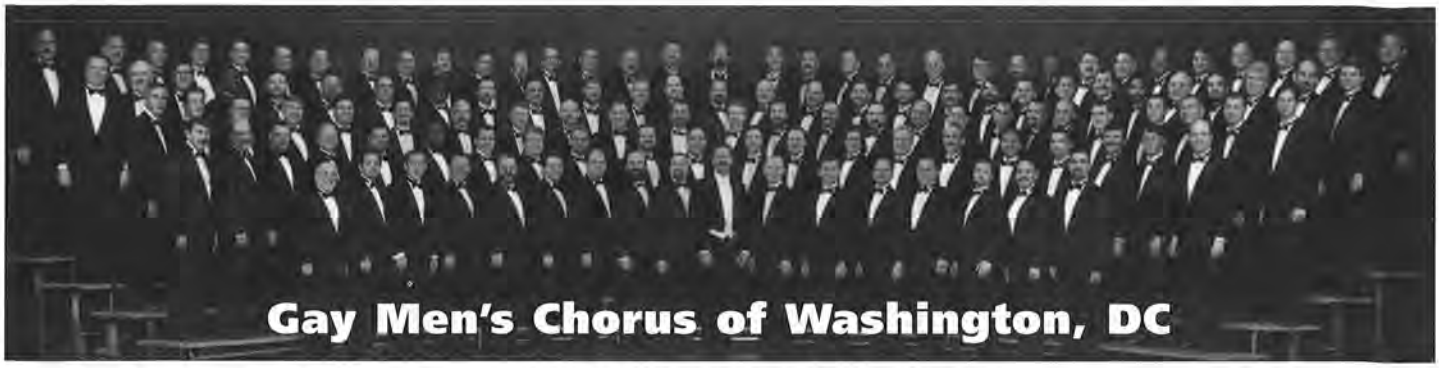

Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC

Gregory Ruffer, Interim Music Director

Tenor One

Timothy Allmond
Joe Bloomer AC
Brad Boekeloo
Fred F. Boykin
Peter R. Brayton[AC]
Joe Cannon*
Bill Cutter
Michael Daugherty
Jarrin Davis[PF]
Brian S. Day
Timothy M. George[PF]
Paul Harouff
Chip Heath
Michael Horton
Nicholas Kyrus
Craig Lustig[AC]
Gordon J. McGraw III
Dean E. Miller[AC]
Dan Patton*
Robert Perkins
Gary M. Regan
Jack Reiffer
Robb Rexroth*
Philip M. Rogerson
David F. Streit
Jeffrey Van Luyn
Kevin Webster
K. David Weidner*
James W. Williams[AC]
Michael C. Wilson[PF]
Robert K. Wonneberger

Tenor Two

Ayran Allen Athey
Carl Baldwin
W. Eric Balthrop
Marty Barron[PF]
Chuck Baxter
Corey Bent*
Roger C. Bergstrom
Andrew Boles-Lare
Frank Bruno
Dave Carmody
Jerry Carpenter
Chris Cochran[PF]
Harvey Cohen*[AC]
Larry Crow, Jr.
Daniel J. Duch*
Bill Eadie[AC]
Roger Edens
Roland D. Emenheiser
Rod Fiorito
Mark D. Golden
Don Griesheimer
James Hambuechen
Robert E. Hensley*[AC]
Chuck Jarrett
Jeb King
Stuart Kopperman
Quang Le
James P. Madigan III[AC]
Kris Marshall
Pierre Méthot
Tom Nichols
John A. Niemi
Jeff Peirce
Stan Piotroski
Michael R. Quasebarth
David Robinson[PF]
David Smith
Joseph E. Voelker
Chuck Walker
Juan Washington
John White
James Williams
Mark S. Zimmerman

Baritone

David Akridge
John Andrews
Will Bellais
Robert T. Boaz[PF]
Matthew G. Borkowski*[PF]
Jeffrey L. Bowers
Joseph Canter
Donald Chandler
Gary Chappell
Jeffrey Allen Chelsky[AC]
Larry Cohen
Andrew Cordonnier
Dwight Dekeyser
David M. Dolecki[AC]
Stan Drake[PF]
David Edmiston
Doug Fowler
Thom Gibb
Christopher M. Grieder
Gregg Grisa
Karl Holtzer
David J.
Eric Johnson*[AC]
Dan Kaufman
Ned Kieloch
Grant Klink
Dean Lester[AC]
Darrell L. Lewis
Bill Lipsett*
James D. Matthews
Michael D. McElvaine
Ed Pierce
Stephen Rappaport[AC]
Michael P. Rease
Charles Sarner
Ken Senior
Patrick Shea
Michael Brendan Smith[AC]
Steve Spar
Gordon O. Tanner
David Taylor
J. Douglas Walker
Bob Williams

Bass

Terry M. Ayers
C. Michael Baker[AC]
Russ Capps
Jim Carey
Daniel Chadburn
Mikel D. Clinton
Kenneth T. Cole
Ted Collins
Tom DiGiovanni
Micheal diPaula
Bob Dragoset
Robert Featherstone
Dennis Jaffe[PF]
Jerry Lee
Harold Lewis*[AC]
Jim Lopresti[AC]
Charles F. Merk
James Murphy
Nick Neagle
Rob Neighbour
Yoshiyuki Nishio
Todd Paul*
Bob Reeg*
Paree L. Roper[AC]
Rick Rosendall
Wes Shank
J. Kirke Smith[PF]
Warren Turner[PF]
Tom Tyler
Marvin Weeks*[PF]
Barrett Whitener

Support

Barry W. Bugg*
Christopher B. Clotworthy
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Bob Bester
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Craig R. Bowen
C. David Bury
Ted Butler
Jim Campillo
Randy Cooke
Daniel Coombs
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Bob Edwards
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Oscar Garcia-Vera
Ciro J. Graziano
Peter Griffith
George Guarino
Barry Hahn
Roger Harlow
John B. Henderson
Scott Herring
Jim Hix
Michael Hodge
R. Andy Horsley
Gary L. Janus
Jim Jochen
Gary Johnson
Dan Jones
Willis R. King
William Kranick
Steven LeBlanc
Wayne Longest
Steve Maddox
Leonard Matlovich
James McCann
Tim McDonough
Jim Meany
Mark Mennel
Phil Moss
David Nieto
Norman Nusinov
Ron O'Leary
Len Padgett
Ron Paglia
Rex Paul
Todd Payich
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Harlan Powell
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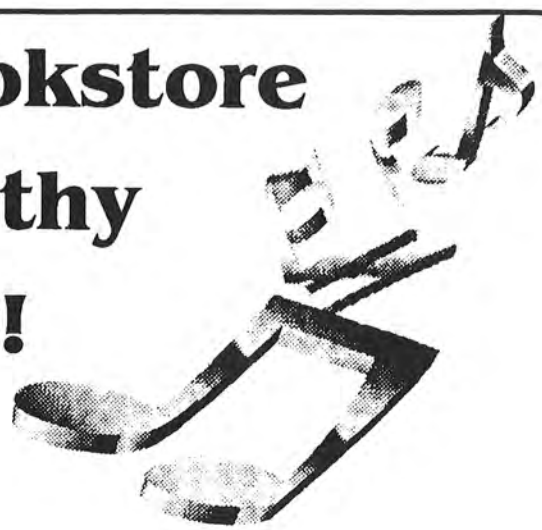

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President's Message

Darrell Lewis

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC, I welcome you to the first subscription concert of this, our nineteenth season! From its humble beginnings nineteen years ago, GMCW has grown into a highly respected, award-winning music organization. We are a leader in the Gay and Lesbian choral movement, and our local audiences continue to grow and diversify. We have sung for Presidents and Mayors, Princesses and other "royalty," straight audiences and Gay, in some of the world's most famous performance venues. Our recordings have been recognized for their excellence both locally and nationally. And we continue to attract some of the area's most talented singers into our ranks.

While we are obviously proud of our past accomplishments and honors, we look forward to the current season, and this concert, with even greater pride and excitement. We are so pleased that you have chosen to spend a little time with our chorus family as we celebrate the holidays with music of the season. Whether you are here with us for the very first time, or have made our annual holiday concert a part of your own holiday tradition, we hope you all feel a part of the warmth and spirit of our special musical family.

As we prepare to celebrate the new millennium, Holiday Traditions With Our Family is sure to strike a responsive chord as its familiar songs conjure up holiday memories of old and not so old. Feel free to hum along as the chorus sings your holiday favorites – from the hauntingly beautiful Silent Night to the clever and humorous songs from The Grinch. Please accept these gifts of music from our hearts to yours this holiday season to make your spirits bright and your New Year one of peace and joy.

And speaking of gifts, we'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who share their financial gifts with us throughout the year to make all that we do here in this community possible. Ticket sales cover only a fraction of the costs required to keep this organization in business. Without the special support of our Capital Club and other individual donors, as well our special concert and season sponsors, our voices would be silent. As you review that holiday gift list, consider a tax-deductible contribution to GMCW. With your help we can continue to bring our positive Gay message to the Nation's Capital and beyond.

Finally, when you're making those New Year's resolutions for 2000, resolve to come back and enjoy our other subscription concerts this season. Our spring concert will feature fabulous favorites from the stage and screen as we host the first Oscars party of the new century...GMCW style. You won't want to miss this fantastic event! And in June we celebrate Pride Month as we feature the music that we will take to San José as GMCW represents Washington, DC at GALA Festival 2000. A truly special celebration of GMCW's voice in the Gay community of our Nation's Capital!

Thanks again for being here, and for your support! Enjoy the show! And Happy Holidays to you and yours!

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Who's Who

Gregory Ruffer

Timothy M. George

Theodore Guerrant

Gregory Ruffer
Interim Music Director

Gregory Ruffer is the Interim Music Director of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington and Director of Potomac Fever. He is also Director of Music at College Park United Methodist Church. Greg holds an MM and a BM in Music from Bowling Green State University, where he studied voice with Andreas Poulimenos, Virginia Starr and Tina Sandor Bunce. He has also done continued voice study with Carmen Balthrop at the University of Maryland. His conducting teachers have included Emily Freeman Brown, Mark Kelly, Kyprous Markou, Louis Gorelick, and Dale Warland.

He is currently in his fourth season singing with The Washington Chorus, where he sang for the Grammy Award-winning CD, Of Rage and Remembrance, under the direction of Leonard Slatkin. Greg has also sung with the Paul Hill Chorale, Capital Camerata, Findlay Light Opera Company, and as a guest singer with the Washington Singers professional chamber choir. As a baritone soloist, Greg has appeared with the McLean Choral Society and the Capital Camerata, as well as at churches throughout the Mid-Atlantic and Mid-West regions. He has had the pleasure of singing under the direction of many distinguished conductors, including Robert Shaw, Leonard Slatkin, Dale Warland, Robert Shafer and Paul Hill.

For 2 years Greg was the Music Director for the University of Findlay Summer Stock Repertory Theatre, where he directed productions of Guys and Dolls, Carousel, and Lend Me a Tenor. He also served as the Music Director for productions of Pirates of Penzance and The Fantasticks.

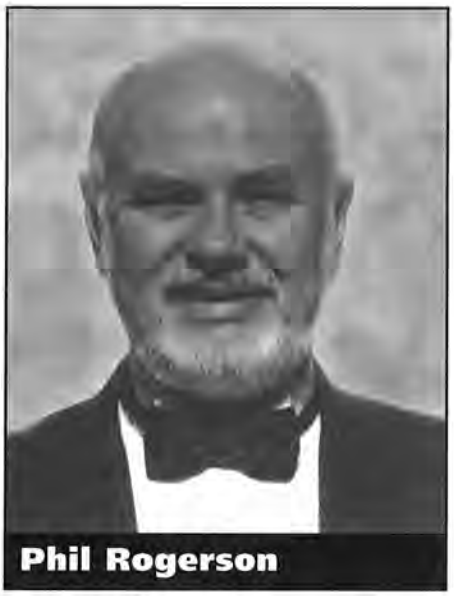
Greg has professional memberships with the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS), the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), The Conductors Guild, Chorus America, the Contemporary Acappella Society of America (CASA), GALA Choruses, and is a voting member for the Grammy Awards with the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS). In 1989, 1996 and 1998 he was named an Outstanding Young Man in America.

Greg's day job finds him working as the Website Manager and Program Assistant for the National Initiative to Preserve America's Dance at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Timothy M. George
Interim Assistant Music Director

Timothy George, Interim Assistant Misic Director of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, is in his third season with the Chorus as a first tenor, and is also a member of Potomac Fever. Tim holds a BMus in vocal performance from Grand Rapids Baptist College (now Cornerstone University) in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He also attended the Cooke School of Church Music at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, as a graduate organ student.

Prior to moving to Washington, DC, Tim was assistant director of music and organist for St. Matthews United Methodist Church in Louisville. As a recovering church musician, he currently serves as a substitute and interim organist for area churches. In his spare time, Tim is a sales representative with Stark Carpet Corporation at the Washington Design Center. He has also run the Marine Corp Marathon, twice (he pleads temporary insanity). Tim lives in Alexandria with his partner, Dave Tipton, and their two cats, This and That.



Phil Rogerson

John E. Perkins

Theodore Guerrant
Principal Accompanist

Theodore Guerrant (aka "Dr. Teddy"), now in his 17th season as GMCW's Principal Accompanist, began piano and organ studies at an early age. By the time he was a senior in high school, as a student of his aunt, the late Georgian pianist Eliza Holmes Feldmann, he was accompanying four choral groups and playing five church services every Sunday.

From there he went on to receive the Bachelor of Music 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 John Hopkins University. He studied additionally in Buriton, England, with Denise Lassimonne.

Dr. Guerrant is Organist-Choirmaster of Saint Margaret's Episcopal Church (where Dignity meets, just above Dupont Circle across from The Musical Source and Lambda Rising) in Washington, DC; Associate Organist at Saint Mark's Catholic Church in Hyattsville; Assisting Organist at the University of Maryland Chapel; and, in addition to GMCW, accompanies for the Montgomery County Masterworks Chorus and the Prince George's Choral Society. He is Coordinator of Accompanying Activities for the University of Maryland School of Music.

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 vocal warm-ups and sectional rehearsals and assists soloists and 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.

John E. Perkins
Executive Director

John is celebrating his third season as GMCW's second full-time Executive Director. He previously served in senior management positions here in Washington, DC, with the Council on Post-Secondary Accreditation, Trade Communications Inc., the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, and George Washington University. He holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in Music History and Literature from Florida State University.

A fan of the Chorus since its founding, John has been a member of the Capital Club since 1987, serving as its Vice Chairman and chair of the annual auction in 1992-93, and three terms as Capital Club Chairman, from 1993 to 1996. He received the GMCW President's Award in 1994 and was elected by the Chorus to a two-year term on its Board of Directors in 1995, serving as Secretary in 1996-97. When not occupied with the management of the Chorus and overseeing its development efforts, John's avocational interests lie in the areas of architecture, cooking, gardening and literature.

John recently served as a judge in the 3rd Annual Gay/Lesbian American Music Awards (GLAMAs). He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry.

Program Notes

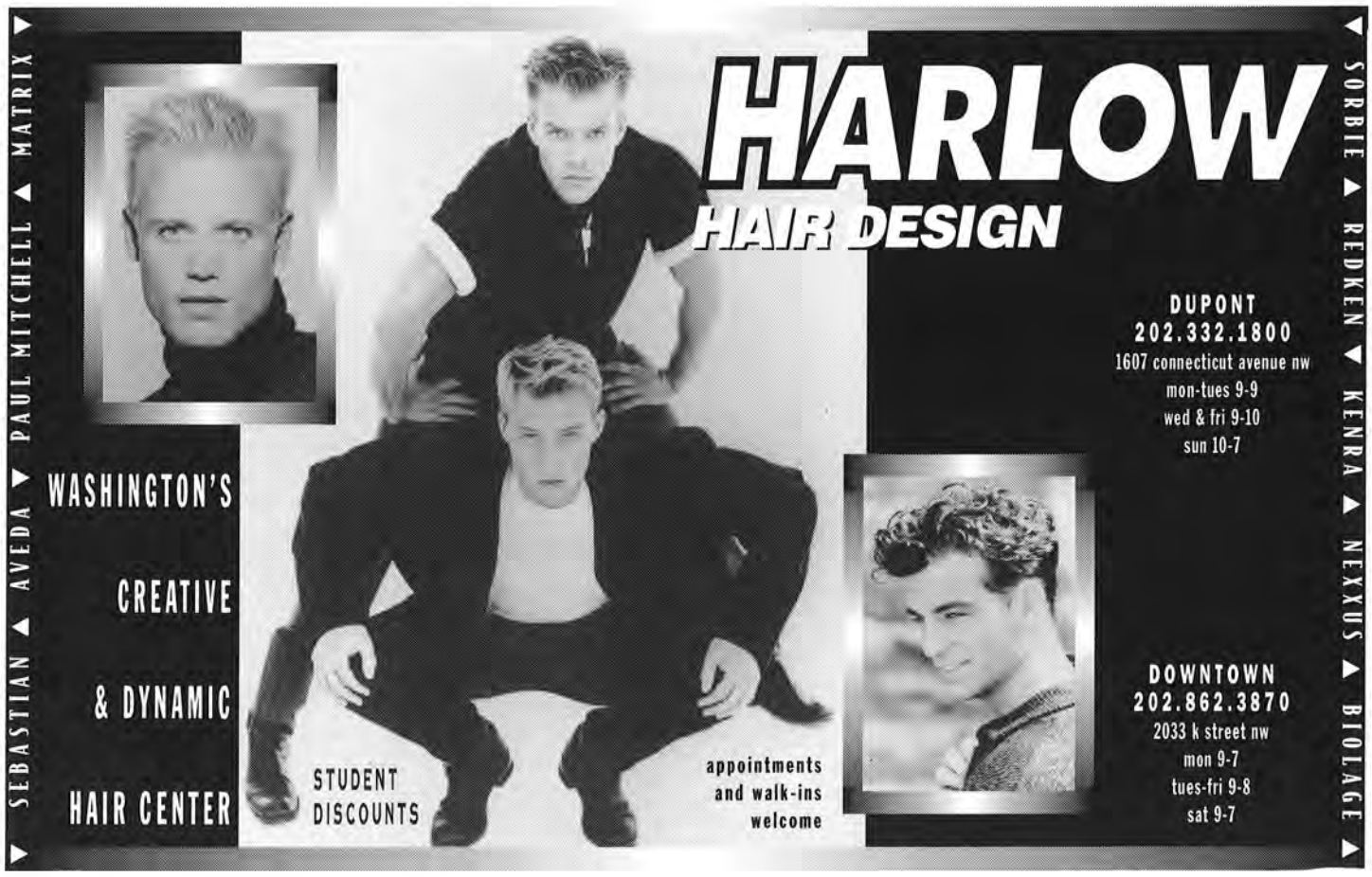
by Gregory Ruffer

Our program this evening is one of premieres for GMCW. The first piece on the concert, Fanfare for the New Millennium, sprung from the idea to begin our final concert of 1999 with a brass fanfare looking to the coming millennium. The obvious choice for this commission was David Hanson (b. 1945), mentor and friend to Greg Ruffer. David has been the Chair of the Orchestra Department of the Findlay City Schools in Ohio for 31 years, and is also the string bass instructor at Heidelberg College. Tonight's fanfare marks Dave's ninth composition for brass and percussion. GMCW is proud to bring you this exciting new work, and dedicate it to the bright future of our chorus.

Franz Biebl's (b. 1906) Ave Maria is, without question, his best-known work here in the United States. Listen for the wonderful rising melodies, exquisite interplay between the antiphonal choir and the chancel choir, and the loving, simple treatment of this homage to the Virgin Mary as the choirs sing almost exclusively in the key of C major. GMCW was fortunate to spend some time working on this piece with the amazing Frank Albinder, whose recording of Ave Maria with Chanticleer is widely considered, the finest available.

You will notice that there are a number of pieces on tonight's program arranged by Larry Moore, former staff arranger for the New York City Gay Men's Chorus. We are pleased to offer Larry's non-traditional arrangements of traditional carols, Les anges dans nos campagnes, Here We Come A-Wassailing, and Deck the Halls. You will recognize the bilingual Les anges as the popular "Angels We Have Heard On High." Moore's ingenious setting, with the choir of "angels" over your head, is truly heavenly! Polyphony abounds in Deck the Halls as the GMCW Antiphonal Choir finds itself enmeshed with the full chorus in musical merriment. And, did you know that "wassailing" was a term that meant to wish good health on apple trees?

Timothy George makes his conducting debut this evening with two popular Christmas songs: The Holly and the Ivy and It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year. An



organist and classical singer by training, Tim brings a little British flavor to "Holly," and the magic of the season to "Most Wonderful Time."

Norman Luboff's arrangement of Still, Still, Still continues to live as one of the most beautiful songs of the season, nearly 40 years after its premiere. This lullaby, with warm writing for men's voices and a toy-like piano accompaniment, wraps the audience in a blanket of sound.

Festival Alleluias was arranged for men's voices by Interim Music Director Gregory Ruffer with the blessing and assistance of the original composer, William Ferris. Though this piece has been popular with mixed choruses for nearly a decade, tonight is the premiere of the men's chorus arrangement. Mr. Ferris, founder and director of the William Ferris Chorale in Chicago, created this setting of the "alleluia" to accompany the magnificent "Toccata" from Symphony No. 5 by Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937).

In his program notes for the SATB score, Ferris wrote: "The story of this setting is a story of the links between teacher and pupil. Dr. Arthur C. Becker (1895-1976), who studied with the composer-organist Charles-Marie Widor in Paris, suggested the idea of adding voices "chorale style" to the famous "Toccata" from Symphony No. 5. Widor approved. It was many years later that I studied with Dr. Becker in Chicago. He had sketched out a version for chorus and organ, and asked me to work out a complete performing version, based on his sketches, for chorus, brass, timpani, and organ. I am pleased to have been able to fulfill his vision in Festival Alleluias, and dedicate it to his memory." Dr. Theodore Guerrant, GMCW's accompanist extraordinaire, is featured on the organ and on the "Teddy Cam."

Bobby T. has done it again! Potomac Fever, highlighting the talent of our resident arranger Robert T. Boaz, honors The Flirtations with a parody of their hit, Mr. Sandman. Listen carefully to Mr. Santa; can you guess what the PF boys want for Christmas?

Nashville arranger Jeff Bowen makes his debut with GMCW tonight in the "epic" A Television Christmas. Hosted by our own "Pearl Ives" (Roger Bergstrom – the beard is REAL!), the boys of GMCW take you back to your childhood with songs from those animated specials: Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, The Year Without a Santa Claus, How the Grinch Stole Christmas, A Charlie Brown Christmas, Santa Claus Is Coming to Town, and John Denver and the Muppets: A Christmas Together. The chorus laughed and shared warm moments together as we learned these fun songs. We hope they bring back wonderful memories for you, too.

Silent Night has become the most beloved carol of the Christmas season. The lyrics were written in 1816 by Joseph Mohr, an Austrian priest. On December 24, 1818, Mohr took these lyrics to his friend, the music teacher Franz Gruber. In a matter of hours the two put together this lovely, 6-verse carol, that they would sing that night during the midnight mass at St. Nicholas Church in Oberndorf. The original setting, for two voices, guitar and choir, was arranged many more times by these men between 1820 and 1855. Tonight's setting, by the late Dean X Johnson, is a study in 11th and 13th chords, parallelism, and accompaniment that could have been written by Debussy or Faure. It is an exquisite, shimmering depiction of that "silent night."

Georg Frederick Handel (1685-1750) wrote the oratorio Judas Maccabaeus between July 8 and August 11, 1746. It was performed to great success at its opening and in subsequent productions by the composer. On April 18, 1747, Catherine Talbot wrote in a letter to a friend, "Those oratorios of Handel's are certainly (next to the hooting of owls) the most solemnly striking music one can hear. I am sure you must be fond of them, even I am who have no ear for music, and no skill at it. In this last oratorio he has literally introduced guns, and they have a good effect." Hallelujah, Amen, from Judas Maccabaeus, concludes tonight's performance in splendor.

From the Conductor

The December holiday season has always been one of my favorite times of the year. Maybe it's the memories of snowy Ohio Christmases as I grew up; or the festive atmosphere that pervades even the most trying days; or the anticipation of decorating the Christmas tree with my partner, Peter. Whatever the reason, I look forward to this time of year, and these concerts, more than any other. I'm happy that you have come to share the season with the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington.

—Gregory Ruffer

Congratulations to the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC, on your nineteenth season!

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A Message from PFLAG

The Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C. is proud to honor the momentous accomplishments of D.C. Metro PFLAG (Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays) during our Holiday concerts. We are pleased to embrace this very important community force in our long-standing community outreach program.

Please listen to these heartfelt words by **Barbara Warner, President of Metro-DC PFLAG:**

What a wonderful idea to include PFLAG in this concert dedicated to HolidayTraditions with our Family! PFLAG is proud of its work to keep families together so that the traditions we love to celebrate can truly be inclusive of all.

My son Andrew knew early on that I was reluctant to involve myself in his life after he came out to me. Most of his suggestions were met with excuses.One afternoon he invited me to a concert by the Washington, DC Gay Men's Chorus and our lives will never be the same again.

For more than two hours I was surrounded by the most loving and caring group of people I had ever experienced. At the same time, I was infused with the spirit of pride that was celebrated over and over in the music of the night.
I was forever changed by the experience of the concert and will always be grateful to my son for knowing what was good for me!

Slowly but surely, one step at a time, I began the journey so many had taken before me. A journey towards acceptance of my son and a celebration of his integrity and honesty. Today, I continue on the journey as I work to change one heart and one mind at a time so that someday all will be accepted and celebrated with love.

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December 10, 11, 12, 1999
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Gregory Ruffer - *Interim Music Director*

Timothy M. George
Interim Assistant Music Director

Theodore Guerrant
Principal Accompanist

Philip Rogerson
Vocal Coach

Fanfare for the New Millennium - David A. Hanson (1999)

Les anges dans nos campagnes - arr. Larry Moore (1997)

Ave Maria - Franz Biebl (1964)
soloists:
Michael Brendan Smith / Robert E. Hensley *(Friday)*
Dean Lester / Paul Harouff *(Saturday)*
David Jansing / Joseph E. Voelker *(Sunday)*

Here We Come A-Wassailing - arr. Larry Moore (1996)
Potomac Fever

What Child Is This? - arr. Mark Riese (1990)

The Holly and the Ivy - arr. Larry Moore (1996)
Timothy M. George, *conductor*

Still, Still, Still - arr. Norman Luboff (1960)

White Christmas - Irving Berlin (1941)
Robert R. Weidner, *Guest Conductor*
The audience is invited to sing along using the words printed on page 22 in your program.

Sleigh Ride - Leroy Anderson /arr. Hawley Ades (1962)

Festival Alleluias - William Ferris / Charles Widor / arr. Gregory Ruffer (1999)
Timothy M. George, *conductor*
Theodore Guerrant, *organist*

Intermission

Deck the Halls - arr. Larry Moore (1995)

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year - Eddie Pola / arr. Hawley Ades (1972)

Timothy M. George, *conductor*

Mr. Santa - arr. Robert T. Boaz (1999)

Potomac Fever

A TELEVISION CHRISTMAS - arr. Jeffrey Bowen (1999)

Pearl Ives, *narrator*

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

Overture / Holly Jolly Christmas

We Are Santa's Elves, *soloists:* Joe Cannon, Mikel Clinton

We're a Couple of Misfits, *soloists:* Todd Paul, Jerry Lee

Silver and Gold

Mean Characters of Christmas

You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch, *soloist:* Jeffrey Allen Chelsky

Mr. Snow Miser, *soloist:* Joe Cannon

Mr. Heat Miser, *soloist:* Carl Baldwin

Put One Foot In Front of the Other

The Santa's of Christmas

Santa Claus Is Coming to Town

I Believe in Santa Claus, *soloists:* Steve Spar, Gregg Grissa, Michael Brendan Smith

If You Sit On My Lap, *soloist:* Todd Paul

Here Comes Santa Claus

The Welcoming of Christmas

Christmas Time Is Here

Welcome, Christmas

It's In Every One of Us

soloists:

Gordon McGraw / Brian Day *(Friday)*

Mark Zimmerman / Gordon McGraw *(Saturday)*

Brian Day / Joe Bloomer *(Sunday)*

The Christmas Wish

soloists:

Christopher Cochran *(Friday)*

Chuck Walker *(Saturday)*

Timothy Allmond *(Sunday)*

Holly Jolly Christmas reprise

Silent Night - Franz Gruber / arr. Dean X Johnson (1996)

Hallelujah, Amen *(from Judas Maccabaeus)* - G. F. Handel (1746)

Sing-A-Long

"WHITE CHRISTMAS"

By Irving Berlin

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
Just like the ones I used to know.
Where the treetops glisten,
And children listen,
To hear sleigh bells in the snow.

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
With every Christmas card I write.
May your days be merry and bright;
And may all your Christmases be white.

"HOLLY JOLLY CHRISTMAS"

Have a holly, jolly Christmas,
it's the best time of the year.
I don't know if there'll be snow,
but have a cup of cheer.
Have a holly, jolly Christmas,
and when you walk down the street,
say 'hello' to friends you know,
and everyone you meet.
Oh, ho, the mistletoe,
hung where you can see.
Somebody waits for you,
kiss 'em once for me.
Have a holly, jolly Christmas,
and in case you didn't hear,
oh, by golly, have a holly, jolly Christmas,
this year!

Brass Ensemble

Todd Taylor, Trumpet
Tom Pulantz, Trumpet
Rob Kraven, Horn
Jerry Amory, Trombone
John Voth, Tuba
Ken Krohn, Percussion

The Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC

Founded in 1981, the 150-voice Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC quickly became a staple of the Washington choral music scene. Over the years, GMCW has performed at The Kennedy Center, National Theatre, Warner Theatre, Constitution Hall, Lincoln Theatre, and Lisner Auditorium on the George Washington University campus, along with a number of venues in and around Washington, DC. In 1997 it became the first gay chorus to perform as part of a Presidential Inaugural. In addition, GMCW has toured to many of the major cities in the United States and, in 1998 became the first gay chorus to sing in the Tivoli Gardens concert hall in Copenhagen, as part of its 1998 tour of Scandinavia.

GMCW performs three subscription concerts annually: a holiday concert; a spring concert that alternates between a serious music theme and a comic revue or musical; and a summer concert that often includes appearances by guest choruses. GMCW also appears at a number of community events, including programs for PFLAG and 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.

In addition, GMCW sponsors Potomac Fever, a 13-man a cappella ensemble. The ensemble performs benefit concerts for many community organizations, especially those addressing issues of HIV/AIDS. Potomac Fever presents three full-length concerts this season, including performances with Tessitura and Bowen-McCauley Dance Company, and a performance at the ACDA Mid-Atlantic Conference.

GMCW has won a number of awards, including the Mayor's Arts Award for artistic excellence in 1989 and the Washington Area Music Association's WAMMIE award in 1995 for outstanding gospel performance (for "Live at the Lincoln," featuring New Arts Six). 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 CD, Singing Free, and on our recently-released Let It Shine.

GMCW Presents made its debut in 1996 by producing Forever, For Love and For Life: Holly Near. In January, 1999, GMCW partnered with Olivia Productions to present the first production outside of New York of Dan Goggin's hit musical, *Nunsense A-Men!*

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. Corporate sponsorship to GMCW has been provided by companies such as AT&T, Eastman Kodak, American Express Financial Services and United Airlines. Information on upcoming GMCW events can be obtained by calling 202-338-SING or by visiting the Chorus' web page at www.gmcw.org.

Special Thanks

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The benefits of your tax-deductible gift to the Capital Club include priority seating, a special red Capital Club Polo shirt, lapel pin, invitations to special events & receptions, and special recognition. The following gifts were received as of November 18, 1999.

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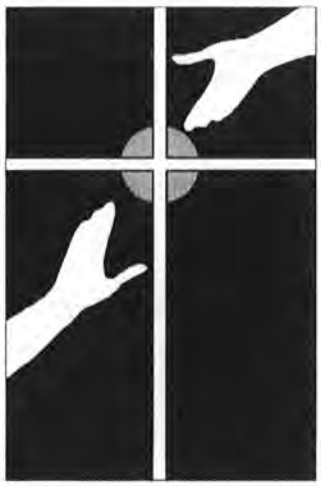

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Thomas W. Dudley Memorial Fund

Established in 1986, the Dudley Fund honors one of GMCW's founding members. Tom was a member of the Board of Directors, fund-raising chairman *extraordinaire*, and friend to all.

In his will, Tom left GMCW a significant sum of money. This bequest provided the seed for what became the fund that bears his name.

The Dudley Fund is an interest-bearing account with two basic goals: to assist needy Chorus members in participating in Chorus events; and to permit the Chorus to provide increased outreach to the gay and lesbian community, as well as to the general local community.

You can help keep the fund growing with your tax-deductible gift, or by including GMCW in your will.

Please designate your donations to the "Thomas W. Dudley Memorial Fund," GMCW, 2801 M St. NW, Washington, DC 20007. Make checks payable to FCPAA or GMCW. Your gift will keep Tom's dream alive.

Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC

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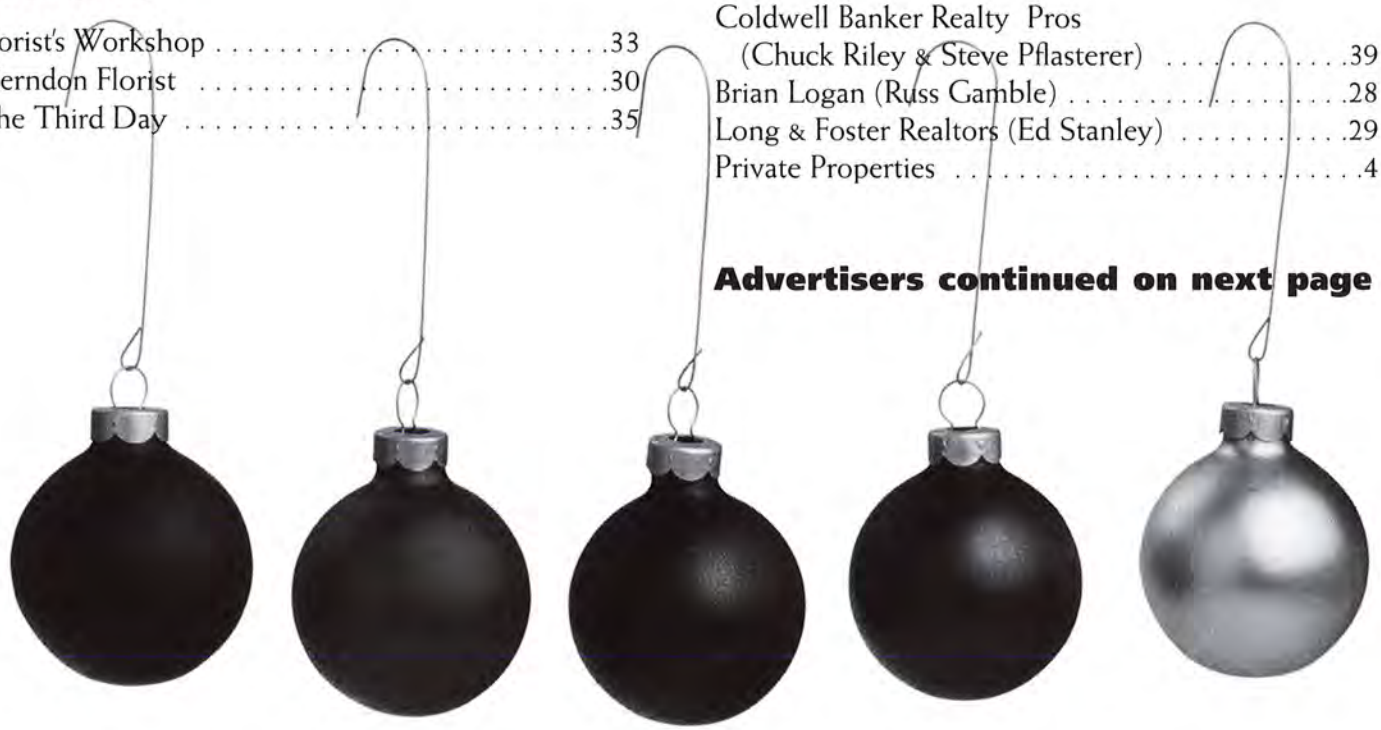

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