GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON DC

PRESENTS

Strike the Harp!

INCLUDING

"A HOLLYWOOD Christmas"

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INCLUDING

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Assistant Music Director ..... Daniel Meyer
Principal Accompanist ..... Theodore Guerrant
Vocal Coach ..... Philip Rogerson
Accompanists ..... David Lindsey, Paul Leavitt, Jeff Hamlin
ASL Interpreters ..... Silvio Menzano, Jina Lynne
Director, Potomac Fever ..... Daniel Meyer
Director, G-Men ..... Robb Rexroth
Director, Rock Creek Singers ..... Jeff Buhrman
Choreographers ..... Carlos Barillo, Darren Wayne Marquandt, Terry Ayers, Chuck Walker
Bass ..... Mary Scott
Percussion ..... Vin Novara, Gary Dwyier
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GMCW BIO

Now in its 21st 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 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. Last 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.

In addition, GMCW sponsors three small ensembles: Potomac Fever, a 12-person close-harmony group; G-Men, a song-and-dance troupe; and Rock Creek Singers, a 25-voice chamber music ensemble. 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 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* and *Let It Shine!*, *Pride and Joy* and two new CDs from their 20th Anniversary season, *And In That Moment* and *I Dream of a Time*.

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 sponsorships to GMCW have been provided by companies such as ***AT&T, Eastman Kodak, American Express 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.

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—Carol Wayman

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

David Streit

What brings you here? It is a fairly common question at social events. I know many of you are here to support a friend or spouse, a coworker or relative. These common bonds are important to us all. Some of you are here for the pure joy of music, one of the most emotional bonds that society has. Others are here to be a part of the community, be it the arts community, the gay community or our greater D.C. community. Whatever the reason, please know that you are a part of our Chorus family tonight.

The events of the past few months have made community and bonds and family so very important. This Chorus will share itself in songs that help to give solace, comfort and inspiration that is so needed at a time like this. I have been honored to be a part of this family for all people and to serve as Chairman of its Board this season. The time put in by the members of this extraordinary group is inspirational in itself. I extend the invitation to support this group in whatever way you can in the months and years ahead.

Please take the joy of this evening with you into the world. It will make it a better place for all of us.

David Streit
Board Chairman

come out
and play
this holiday

Blues in the Night

On the Jump

True West

Polk County

A Moon for the Misbegotten

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Michael Baker

Music and laughter seem especially necessary during difficult times, and the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C. will be offering a little of both for you this weekend and throughout our 21st season. Tonight we're presenting our annual holiday concert, Strike the Harp!. Those of you who have been with us for previous holiday concerts already have an idea of what's in store. And if this is your first time with us, you are in for a treat. The show is filled with warmth and love. In addition to beautiful traditional songs of the season, we're featuring a mini-musical called "A Hollywood Christmas." The extravaganza takes the form of a holiday TV spectacular and will bring back the always larger-than-life Maxie Starr, this time trying to fight off a determined young Tinseltown rival named Holly Berry. So sit back and enjoy.

Our season will continue in March with a fully-staged production of "The Wizard of Oz." All of us have made the trip down the yellow brick road many times with young Dorothy Gale and her friends the Scarecrow, the Cowardly Lion and the Tin Man. Now close your eyes and try to imagine the GMCW version. There are bound to be lots of surprises! We'll be in residence at Lisner Auditorium on March 22, 23 and 24, 2002. Get your tickets early…it's sure to be a sellout.

We are very excited that we'll be back in the Kennedy Center Concert Hall next June 15 for an evening of songs by Oscar Hammerstein and his protege, Stephen Sondheim. For that one enchanted evening we will be joined by special guest Laura Benanti, a Tony-nominated Broadway star. She'll be taking the night off from her starring role as Cinderella in the new Broadway revival of "Into the Woods" to join us. And if that isn't enough for one season, we will travel to Cincinnati next July to participate in the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses Eastern Regional Festival. There will be approximately 35 gay and lesbian choruses singing for one another…and for you. If you would like to join us in Cincinnati, call the chorus office for details at (202) 338-7464.

All of these performances require hundreds of hours of volunteer labor from our members and supporters. The production crew builds sets and props at night and on weekends, the costumers sew for weeks, the singers devote endless hours to learning the music and dance steps, and our top-notch staff works tirelessly to assure it all comes together for you, our audience.

And returning for a second season at the baton is Jeff Buhrman, who has become GMCW's first full-time Artistic Director. His love, inspiration and guidance are invaluable to us.

All of us in the GMCW family wish you and your loved ones health, peace and happiness through the holiday season and beyond. And we'll see you on the yellow brick road in 2002.

A Hollywood Christmas

with

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Gay Men's Chorus of Washington

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Jeff Buhrman

There is so much to be thankful for this year. For me, just being here for this wonderful concert is a special gift. You may not see me on the podium a great deal tonight because I had surgery in September and am still mending. In my place is our talented Assistant Music Director, and I'm proud to say, my friend, Dan Meyer. Dan took over the podium at rehearsals beginning in September and has done incredible work with the chorus. And what a commitment he has made to GMCW. Dan lives in Baltimore and drives to DC several times a week for chorus rehearsals, Potomac Fever rehearsals, sectional rehearsals and meetings.

In addition to his work with PF and the chorus, Dan is a music teacher at the Midtown Academy in Baltimore. He also found the time to make his New York City cabaret debut in September at Rose's Turn with the show "Just Say Blow Me". Dan composed several songs and was on stage accompanying for this one-woman show, which starred Susan Mele. Somehow he fit 5 performances in NYC and 9 performances in Baltimore into his hectic fall schedule.

Dan has published several sacred choral works and has written music and lyrics to numerous theatrical productions. And…he is working on an original mini-musical for our 2002 holiday concert.

I can't thank him enough for all that he has done for GMCW.

It is also exciting that GMCW has 2 new recordings from our hugely successful 20th Anniversary season. Our new holiday recording, released in June, "And In That Moment" includes all of the music from last year's holiday concert. Our brand new recording, "I Dream of a Time" was released on December 1st. Dedicated to the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, this special CD contains music from our 20th Anniversary Gala Concert that we shared with our friends from the San Francisco chorus. It is the first time that 2 gay choruses have produced a joint CD. We hope that you are excited as we are about these recordings.

Happy Holidays!

Jeff Buhrman

Two great choruses.
Twenty years of amazing music.
One incredible new CD.

Twenty years ago, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus' historic performance at the Kennedy Center inspired the formation of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C. This past June, both choruses commemorated that event with a sold-out Kennedy Center concert. And now, we offer this 20th Anniversary tribute to the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus.

The new CD, *I Dream of a Time*, captures the magic of that June evening – with treasured favorites like "We Kiss In A Shadow," "The Great Peace March," "Marry Us" and "In Whatever Time We Have," plus beautiful new pieces.

Pick up your copy in the lobby tonight. And don't forget GMCW's new holiday CD, *And In That Moment – Treasures of the Holiday*. Both CDs make great stocking stuffers.

"One of the world's best male choruses, the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C. showed its usual impeccable musicianship, witty choreography and just plain spirit."
– *The Washington Post*, March 2001

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GAY MEN'S CHORUS
gmcw
OF WASHINGTON DC

Jeff Buhrman, Artistic Director
Daniel Meyer, Assistant Music Director
Theodore Guerrant, Principal Accompanist
Philip Rogerson, Vocal Coach

Strike the Harp!

Hodie! ..... Music by John Leavitt
Traditional Latin Text

Over the Skies of Yisrael ..... Music by Robert Seeley
Solo: Eric Belkengren — Lyrics by Robert Espindola

Selections from "A Ceremony of Carols" ..... Benjamin Britten
Wolcum Yole!
There is no Rose
That yongë child
Solo: Martin Good
Balulalow
Solo: Brad Boekeloo
This little babe
Spring Carol
Duet: Van Neel and Brad Boekeloo
Adam lay i-bounden

Carol from an Irish Carol ..... Music by Dale Wood
Arranged by Dennis Coleman

John and Fred ..... Music and lyrics by Dale Gonyer
Solo: Russ Capps

Our First Christmas ..... Music and lyrics by O'Connor & Johnson
Solo: Jeff Hamlin

Imagine ..... Music and lyrics by John Lennon

O Come, All Ye Faithful ..... Music by John Francis Wade
Latin Hymn

Intermission

HOLLYWOOD

A Hollywood Christmas ..... Arranged by Bob Krogstad
Chorus and Potomac Fever

Tinseltown ..... Music and lyrics by Eric Lane Barnes
Chorus, Maxie Starr, and Holly Berry

My Simple Christmas Wish ..... Music and lyrics by David Friedman
Holly Berry

Christmas Medley ..... Traditional
Potomac Fever

Drama Queen ..... Music and lyrics by Eric Lane Barnes
G-Men

A Holly Jolly Christmas ..... Music and lyrics by Johnny Marks
Maxie Starr

A Holiday Tree Pageant ..... Arranged by Dan Meyer & Jeff Buhrman
Maxie Starr, Holly Berry, and Trees

Favorite One ..... Music by Cy Coleman
G-Men and Chorus — Lyrics by Betty Comden & Adolph Green

Christmas At Dupont Court

Christmas At Dupont Court ..... Music by Henry VIII
Villagers — Lyrics by Michael B. Smith

The Princes' Plea ..... Anonymous
Prince #1 and #2 — Lyrics by Michael B. Smith

Branle—Washerwoman ..... Music by Pierre Attaingnant
Maxie Starr and Holly Berry

Branle—Gay ..... Music by Thoinot Arbeau
Maxie, Holly, and the Princes

Joy to the World ..... Music by George F. Handel
Villagers — Lyrics by Michael B. Smith

A Hollywood Christmas (Reprise) ..... Arranged by Bob Krogstad

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"A Hollywood Christmas" Cast

Maxie Starr ..... Robert Wonneberger
Holly Berry ..... Michael Horton
Dupont Court Trio ..... Shane Perry, Eric Belkengren, Todd Paul
Prince #1 ..... Carl Baldwin
Prince #2 ..... Brandon Dubroc
Queen #1 ..... Rick Johnson
Queen #2 ..... Chuck Walker
Santa ..... Matt Komornik

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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 53rd 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 53rd, moving into our 54th year, we would like to say thank you for your faithful support of Annie's Paramount Steak House.

Sincerely,
Annie, Peter & Staff

GAY MEN'S CHORUS
gmcw
OF WASHINGTON DC

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WHAT ELSE WE HAVE PLANNED!

THE WIZARD OF OZ

GMCW presents a fully-staged all-male cast of this classic show.
March 22, 23, 24
Lisner Auditorium

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Kennedy Center Concert Hall

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Imagine

Music and lyrics by John Jennon

Imagine there's no heaven
It's easy if you try
No hell below us
Above us only sky
Imagine all the people living for today

Imagine there's no countries
It isn't hard to do
Nothing to kill or die for
No religion too
Imagine all the people living life in peace

Imagine no possessions
I wonder if you can
No need from greed or hunger
A brotherhood of man
Imagine all the people sharing all the world

You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope some day you'll join us
And the world will live as one

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The Musical

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Joel Paley

Music by

Marvin Laird

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Produced by
Steven Haber & Robb Rexroth

Directed by
Randall Jones

Sets by
Gary Turner

and *stunning* costumes by
Rick Johnson

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Chris Cochran
Steven Haber
Robb Rexroth
Chuck Walker
Bob Wonneberger

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PROGRAM NOTES

by Jeff Buhrman

We open our holiday concert with "Hodie!", a contemporary arrangement of the traditional Latin text. The English translation is: Today Christ is born, today the savior has appeared. Today the angels sing, the archangels rejoice. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and good will to men. Alleluia!

Commissioned by the Seattle Men's Chorus, "Over the Skies of Yisrael" is a soaringly beautiful choral work by Robert Seeley and Robert Espindola, who are best known for composing "Naked Man". The Hebrew text, the Shehecheyanu is the quintessential prayer of thanksgiving of Judaism. It is a blessing of gratitude for being allowed to be in this time, and in this place. Aside from being the third blessing recited or sung on the first night of Hanukkah, is often associated with first occasions, and ones which are particularly joyous: dedicating a synagogue; the birth of a child; reaching the milestone of yet another New Year. The Shehecheyanu dates back about fifteen hundred years, to the Talmudic period in Judaism. The third syllable of the word, "che,' is the root of the word L'Chaim, meaning life. Literally, shehecheyanu means "(to the one) who bestowed life unto us."

"A Ceremony of Carols" is perhaps Benjamin Britten's most famous choral work. Britten wrote the Ceremony in March 1942, while aboard the M.S. Axel Johnson. The piece in its final form was debuted by the Morriston Boys' Chorus, with the composer directing, and soon became one of the beloved seasonal standards for treble choir and harp. Most of the text is taken from early English 14th to 16th century poems featured in The English Galaxy of Shorter Poems.

The hauntingly beautiful "Carol From An Irish Cabin" was arranged for men's chorus by Dennis Coleman, the Artistic Director of the Seattle Men's Chorus. The composer Dale Wood paints a clear picture of the winter wind and snowfall.

"John and Fred" from the "Gay 90's Musical" may not be a holiday song, but it's theme of family and inclusiveness is certainly an important message that we like to share during the holiday season.

The freshness and sparkle of celebrating the holidays in a new relationship makes "Our First Christmas" truly special. It's the simple things like the first tree and first wreath together that make for lifelong remembrances.

The holiday perennial, "O Come, All Ye Faithful" was written in the mid-18th century by John Francis Wade, an English Catholic refugee who lived out his days in Douay, France, creating and selling beautiful manuscript books. Wade wrote the song in Latin, and so it remained until 1841, when a London clergyman named Frederick Oakley produced the now-familiar English translation for his congregation at the Margaret Street Chapel. We offer this as a new GMCW holiday tradition, and are performing it this year with harp and organ accompaniment.

The Lesbian and Gay Chorus of Washington, DC

Coming Attractions:

"Of Places and Faces"

Ray Killian, Music Director

LGCW's Winter Concert , featuring madrigals both fun and formal, music from eastern Europe and from Ysaye Barnwell, and a tribute to Gian Carlo Menotti's 90th birthday

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and
Sunday, February 3rd, 2002, 4pm
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WHO'S WHO

Jeff Buhrman, Artistic Director

Jeff Buhrman's association with GMCW began in 1986 when he joined the baritone section. Less than a year later he was tapped to direct the chorus's close harmony ensemble, Potomac Fever, 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. PF had the distinction of being the only American group to perform at the festival.

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. He founded and led a five-voice early music ensemble, Friends and Aires, in the 1980's. 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 has also served as musical director for many other productions including GMCW's 2000 production of "Little Shop of Horrors."

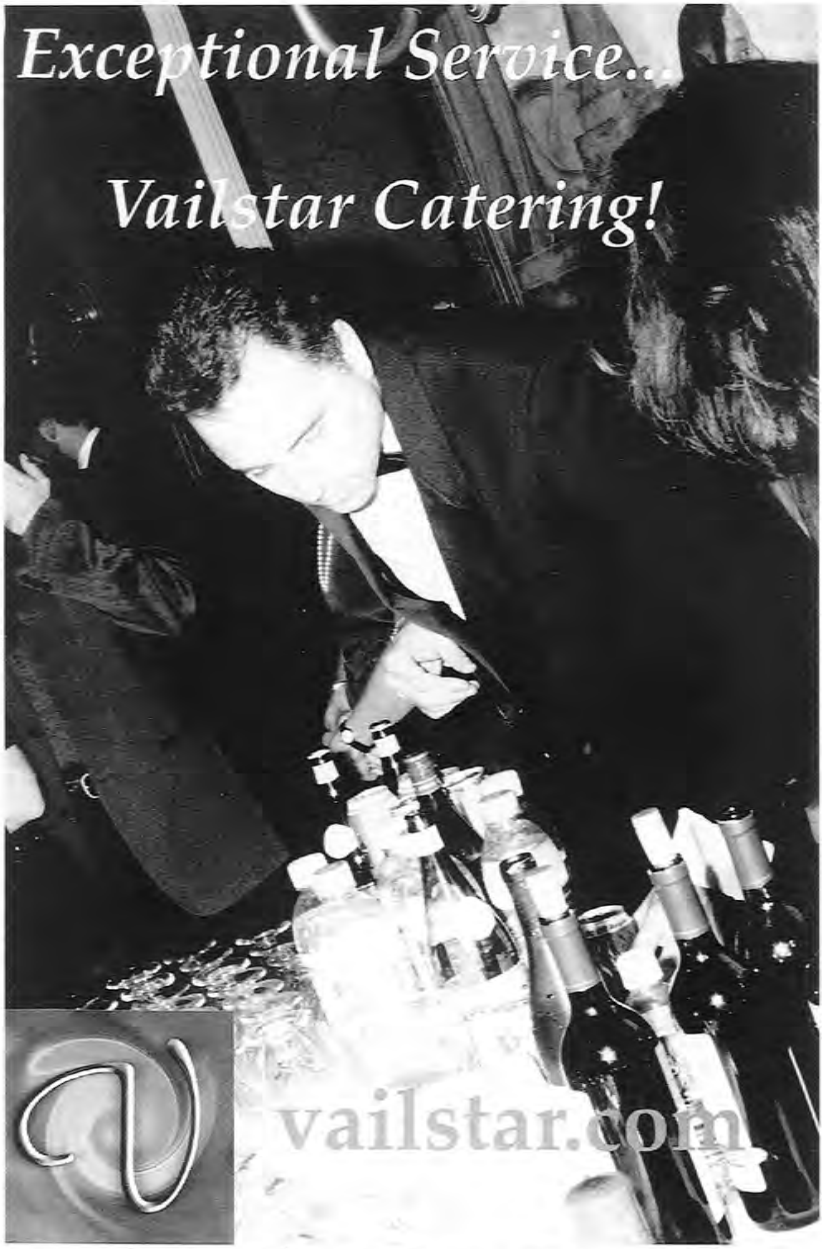
Jeff also has a Master of Arts degree in counseling from George Washington University. He recently retired from the field of education after serving 26 years as a choral director, administrator and counselor.

Daniel C. Meyer, Assistant Music Director

Daniel C. Meyer was appointed Director of Potomac Fever and Assistant Director of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC in 2000. Originally from Muskegon, Michigan, he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in music composition from Calvin College and a master's degree in theory/composition from Westminster Choir College. While a student at Westminster Choir College, Dan was awarded the Karl F. Mueller Scholarship for Choral Composition and the Ruth and Raymond Young Composition Award. Dan has studied composition with John Worst, Joel Phillips and Stephan Young and conducting with Anton Armstrong and James Jordan.

Dan has served as a faculty member at Baltimore City Community College and Midtown Academy in Baltimore. He has been the music director for Honolulu Theater for Youth and assistant director of the Saipan Choral and the Guam Symphony. While with the Guam Symphony, Dan performed as soloist in Cesar Franck's Symphonic Variations for piano and orchestra.

Continued on page 25.



(202) 338-2314

Meyer continued from page 23.

Several of Dan's musical theater compositions have been performed, including "Divine!," "Baltimorgue," "Michelangelo at 15," "The Ballad of Emily Brown," and "The Biological Oratorio." In 1998 he was commissioned by Baltimore's Action Theater to compose incidental music for the world premier performance of "Psychology of the Beautiful." Dan made his New York City cabaret debut in September at Rose's Turn. For this gig he composed original songs for the one woman show "Just Say Blow Me," which was also performed in Baltimore in November.

"Eulogy for the Rooster," a collection of choral music composed by Dan, was workshopped and sung by the Gregg Smith Singers. His choral music is published by GIA Publications, Inc. of Chicago.

Theodore Guerrant, Principal Accompanist

Entering his 19th 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, under conductors Bruce Trinkley, Jim Holloway, and Greg Ruffer, he now gaily accompanies Jeff Burhman. 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.

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.

Continued on page 27.

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B. Scott Button

Rogerson continued from page 25.

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 individua1 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.

Robb Rexroth, Director, G-Men

Robb has been a member of the GMCW family for 12 years. Better known to many in our audience as "Olivia", the hostess of "Let Us Entertain You", Robb has worked for the chorus in many different capacities including fundraising and membership. Robb is currently the director of GMCW's song and dance group G-Men…a group he is extremely honored to work with. Robb was instrumental in creating GMCW PRESENTS, our non-subscription series of shows and concerts. During the past few years he has co-produced and starred in "Nunsense A-Men," "Little Shop of Horrors," "Pageant," and this year's production, "Ruthless." A member of Potomac Fever for 4 years, Robb has also been a featured soloist in many GMCW concerts including performances at the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall in NYC, Symphony Hall in Boston, and in Amsterdam, Munich, Copenhagen, Oslo and Stockholm.

Robb is employed at DOOLITTLES on Capital Hill.

David Bielenberg, Executive Director

This is David's first season as Executive Director of GMCW. He comes to the Chorus with 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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