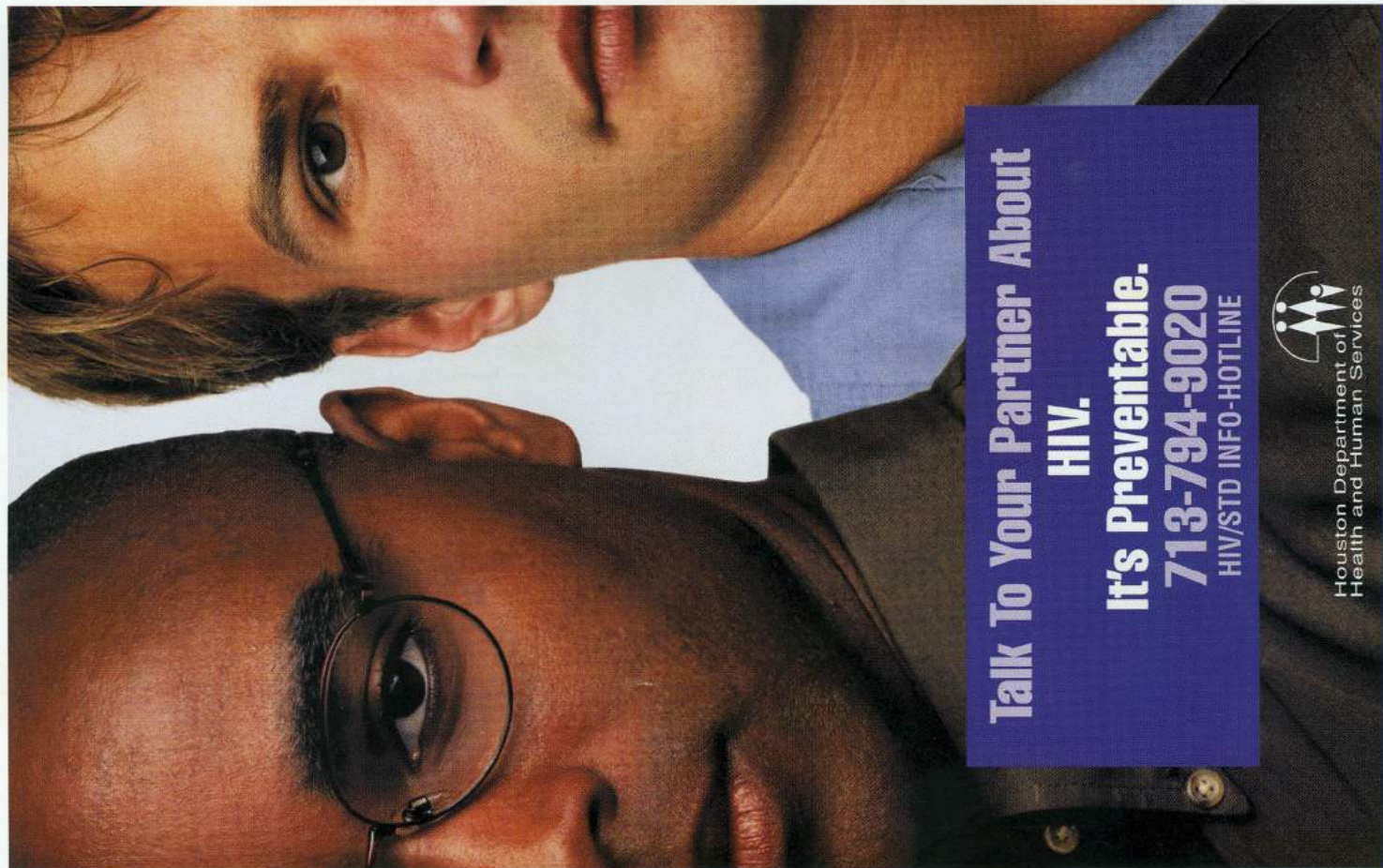
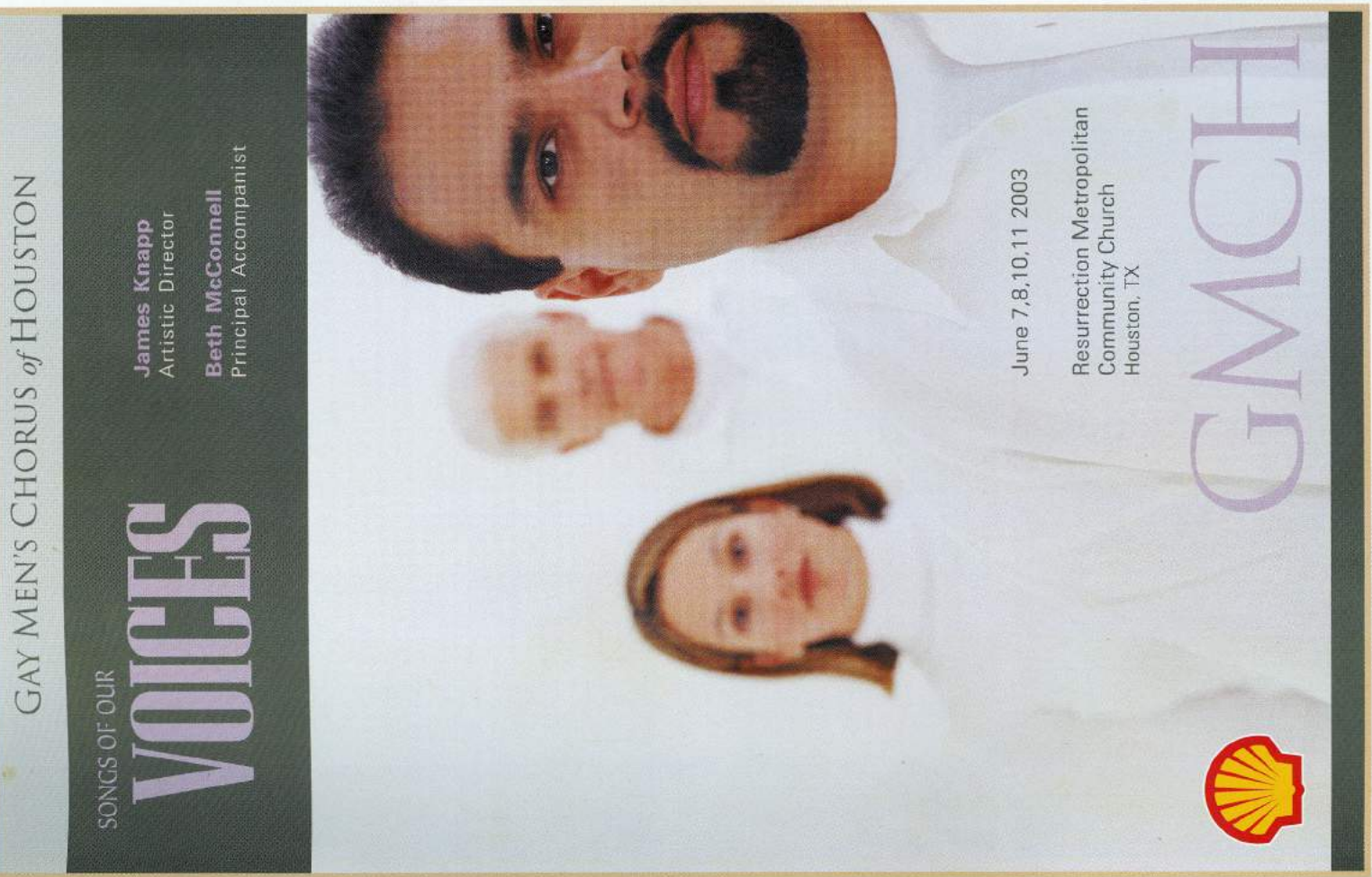




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GAY MEN'S CHORUS *of* HOUSTON

SONGS OF OUR
VOICES

James Knapp
Artistic Director
Beth McConnell
Principal Accompanist

June 7,8,10,11 2003

Resurrection Metropolitan
Community Church
Houston, TX



GMCH



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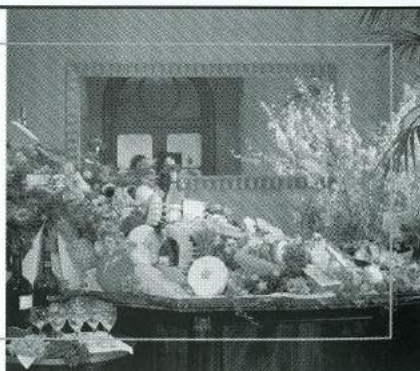
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WELCOME to Songs of Our Voices!

EXILE

*"I, a desert, once barren and parched, I, an island, once disowned.
Now the new Eden for wandering hearts. I am Exile. I am Home."*

EXILE is a millennial celebration of Love! Weaving together the threads of the millennium's proclamation of hope and new ideals with the distinctive strands of our lives as gay men, its music and text create a rich tapestry of extraordinary coloration. Defined not as a condition of banishment, but as a spirit of transformation, EXILE calls us to that place where the journey home always begins... the human heart.

From the profound revelation of self-discovery to the joy of love's fulfillment, EXILE speaks with poignant intimacy about the nature of our relationships and their shared universality with all people. While never forgetting the stark nakedness of our unique struggles or our losses, EXILE sings of a new day! A day embraced by the powerful declaration: "What a journey it has been!"

EXILE is about renewal! Reconciliation! A reunion of soul and flesh! A whirlwind of change. A season of awakening that embodies the dreams of our children's children, whose lives will be measured not by time, but by love. And who, because of the legacy we leave behind, will discover the journey home... in the exile of each other's heart.

Robert Espindola, Librettist
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extrABBAganza!

Take a chance on the greatest hits of ABBA! They topped the disco charts around the world during the 1970's. The song writing talents of Benny Andersson and Bjorn Alvaeus are characterized by complex harmonies, moving melodies, and lyrics that stay on your mind all day. ABBA's legendary music became the standards of the day, and conjure up great memories of dancin' till dawn.

The music of ABBA has been revisited today in Broadway's smash hit "Mamma Mia". GMCH delivers their smash hit tonight...as only GMCH could! It may be hard to stay in your seat so...the aisle are wide, the beat is strong, come and join us, we hate to dance alone! Thank you for the music, ABBA!



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GMCH

James Knapp Artistic Director
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GAY MEN'S CHORUS of HOUSTON

OUR MISSION

We sing to achieve excellence in men's choral music. We provide a nurturing environment for our members and offer a source of pride, unity, and support to our diverse communities.

ABOUT US

THE GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF HOUSTON is the most visible face of diversity in Houston. Since our founding in 1979 as The Montrose Singers, audiences have been healed, uplifted, moved, and delighted. With a membership of over 100 performers supported by 40 volunteer staff, GMCH represents the finest collective talent in Houston's GLBT community. We are part of the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA) with over 10,000 members worldwide. GMCH is continuing to grow thanks to our recent success brought about by the addition of James Knapp, our Artistic Director. The men and women of GMCH stand before you as proud individuals, bound together as a group by their common love of the power and wonder of music. We are your sons and daughters, your neighbors, your coworkers, and your friends. Our song is from the heart, and we present to you One Voice.

ABOUT GALA CHORUSES

GMCH is a member of GALA Choruses, the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses, Inc., the world's only association committed to serving the GLBT choral movement. The mission of GALA Choruses is to provide leadership and inspiration to the Lesbian and Gay movement through excellence in the choral arts. GALA is open to all gay, lesbian and gay/lesbian supportive choruses. Through workshops, festivals and ongoing networking and administrative support services, GALA fosters the continued artistic and organizational growth of its 200-plus member choruses of over 10,000 singers. Visit the GALA Choruses web site at www.galachoruses.org.

MEMBERSHIP

The Gay Men's Chorus of Houston is always looking for people who are interested in joining the chorus, whether as a singer or a volunteer associate member. If you enjoyed tonight's concert and would like to be a part of this exciting organization, please let us know. The chorus rehearses Monday evenings from 7-10 p.m. at Bering Memorial United Methodist Church, 1440 Harold. Rehearsals begin on September 8, 2003 for our 25th season Holiday concert. Visit our recruitment table in the lobby, give your name and phone number to a chorus member, or contact us below:

713.521.7464

membership@gmch.org

www.gmch.org

GMCH DIRECTORY

Artistic Director	ad@gmch.org	Corporate Sponsorship	dev@gmch.org
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Development	dev@gmch.org	Box Office Tickets	800.494.8497

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James Knapp

Principal Accompanist

Beth McConnell

Executive Director

Mary Jean Tiernan

Small Ensemble Director

Eric Wm. McAnallen

Sign Interpreter

Nancy Busch

Librarian

Barb Easterly

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David A. Carter, Vice President
Jerry Aucoin, Secretary
Tony Adam, Treasurer

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Lou Anderson
Margie Babbidge
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Mark Church
Bill Clark
Mac Clark
Ana Clerc
Martin Corbello
Brett Cullum
Chuck Dudonis
David Durham
Barb Easterly
Val Ficco
Frank Garcia
Gary Garrett

Associate Members, cont.

Rex Gillit
Rene Gomez
Sean Greene
Ed Gumnick
Conrad Hernandez
Barbara Hibits
Brad Hodgell
Sally Huffer
Sara Jean Jackson
David Jessee
John Keathley
Dave Keeton
Cheryl Kinion
Alec Kohler-Vega
David Kohn
Channing Landes
J. T. Lee
Debbie Leflar
Chad Libertus
Daniel Lim
Sal Lira
Barry Liss
Homer Luna
Grant McCloud
Shaun McGuffin
Charlotte Miller
Dale Miller
John Miller
Randy Mitschke
Moises Nascimento
Neil Neugebauer
Bill Nix
Steve Phan
Michael Pitkin
Danny Ransdorf
Randy Reddemann
Adam Renfro
Javier Requena
Deana Roberts
Edward Ruwaldt
Ken Schilke
Stuart Shields
Irv Smith
Jane Smith
Ruthie Stevenson
Peter Torres
David Weber
Sandy White
Daryl Williams

Singers on Leave

Tony Adam
Joe Alcorta
Bill Alexander
John Berry
David Bonett
Eduardo Botello
Alan Briones
Jason Cabot
Josué Casillas
Jose Cavazos
Gary Chamness
Al Clerc
Neil Coburn

Singers on Leave, cont.

Edgar Coronado
Bob John Cromeans
Jim Cross
Donald Daniel
Abe Freilich
Greg Gondron
Mark Gonzalez
Danny Gothard
John Harle
Jackson Hearn
Brian Herrera
Callum Hiller
Michael Howland
Jerry Hu
Paul Humphrey
Ron Jones
Alex Lopez
Henry Lopez
Greg Mathews
Michael Melnick
Clay Mewbourn
Kevin Meyer
Warren Morales
David Neu
David Opheim
Kenny Pleasant
David Reams
Mark Reynolds
Kenneth Rogers
Vasco Rosania
Dewayne Ross
Jason Sechrest
Aaron Snyman
Paul St. Denis
Don Tucker
Luis Villarreal
Richard White
Michael Wiggins
Ron Williams
Gary Workman

Upper First Tenor

Jack Bush
David Gebo
David Hoey
Robert Johnson
Miguel Rivero
Stew Zuckerbrod

Lower First Tenor

Daniel Bennett
Danny Bothwell
Henry Ligon
Eric Wm. McAnallen
Tim McConico
Frank Humberto Ortiz
Augie Paz
Jeff Salazar
Steve Yocom

Upper Second Tenor

Jay Bagdanoff
Kenny Chua

Upper Second Tenor, (con't)

Kenneth E. Clayborne
Mike Evans
Mark Hastings
Tom Ly
Craig Miller
Macko Nobleza
Christian Rios
Scott Stethem
Michael Stewart
Vu "Docker" Tran

Lower Second Tenor

Rayan Al Jurdi
James Black
Ryan Carroll
Joseph Guerrero
Teck Lee
Drew McDiarmid
Bill Mertz
Dennis Myers
Robert Parker
Larry Powlesland
Ryland Springer
Kris Sumantri
Dave Swart
Tom Tinsley
Tracy Webber

Upper Baritone

Frederick Allen
Marlon Bourque

Upper Baritone (con't)

David Brodie
Larry Brown
Chris Cefalu
Nelson Esquillo
Ron Gilmore
Scott Humphrey
Rolle Johnson
Tim Lankford
Juan Jose Laureano
David McKinnis
Steve Nazarenus
Chris Riddle
Danny Valdivia
Theo Young

Lower Baritone

Phil Agler
Jerry Aucoin
Brady Brown
David Carter
Albert Gamboa
Doug Hill
Tim Hill
Richard Hudkins
Ron LaCarna
Joe Martin
Mike Nelson
Kevin Newman
Anthony White
Abel Zamora

Upper Bass

B.J. Almond
Richard Arduengo
David Blackwell
Andy Bowden
Antoine Bufford
Dave Chase
Tracy Clark
Frank Conley
Mike DeMastry
David Hughes
Ken Loustalot
Neal Massey
Mike McNamara
Rick Mendiola
Ryan Raser
Phil Smith
Skip Willett
Don Zurbriggen

Lower Bass

Charles Brown
Doug Harrington
Billy Marberry
Mike Olson
David Page
Ed Perez
Warren Porter
Whit Sanders
Rick Stambaugh
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Larry Butler
Gary McArdle

Accompanist

Rob Hult

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Bob Dieker
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Terry Jones
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John Mata
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Frank Allen
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Allan Hall
Frankie Harbison
Luther Jenkins
Bill Keller
Steve Larkin
Scott Miller
Robert Seiler
Ralph Terry
Terry Ulrey
Bruce Wood

Baritone

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Michael Cox
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Mo Jones
John Kemp
Dayna Lynn
Don May
Harry Mielteka
Tom Moore
Nate Sebastian
Ron Tompkins

Bass

Jeff Cothran
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Richard Sarno
Wayne Swallows
Robert Turner

"Though much is taken, much abides."

Tennyson

**Congratulations to the
Gay Men's Chorus of Houston
on their twenty-fourth season!**

Break a leg, Guys!

**...and stop by after the concert
for a cold one!**



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CREATING OUR HERITAGE - PART II

GMCH wants you to become a part of our legacy!

During this past season GMCH has gone into the recording studio to capture the magic of our concerts. We are proud to announce that the first of two new CD's will be released in September 2003. The second CD will be released in March 2004. Here is how you can become a part of our heritage:



Sponsor a CD:

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Deadline for Sponsorship: July 15, 2003 For more information call: Gary Workman 713-529-2595

SONGS OF OUR **VOICES** PRIDE CONCERT 2003

The instrumentalists for GMCH's performance of Robert Seely's EXILE have been made possible by a generous gift from Pauline Davis Parker and her sons Robert and Carl in memory of husband and father

Fred Parker, celebrating his 40 years of choral and instrumental music ministry in the Southern Baptist Church and the public schools of southeast Texas. His love of music and its timeless power to nurture and unite lives on...even now.

1
EXILE

Music by Robert Seeley Words by Robert Espindola

Who Will Come?

Our Children's Children

Exile

The Prodigal

Further Along

Our Two Souls

Naked In The Leaves

Standing Still

Even Now

INTERMISSION

SONGS OF OUR **VOICES** PRIDE CONCERT 2003

JUNE 7, 8, 10, 11 2003
RESURRECTION METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
HOUSTON, TEXAS

James Knapp
Artistic Director

Beth McConnell
Principal Accompanist

2
extrABBAganza!

Benny Andersson Björn Alvaeus Arranged by David Maddux

Opening

Take A Chance On Me
Super Trouper
Mamma Mia

One Of Us

Does Your Mother Know

Breakup Suite

The Winner Takes It All
Knowing Me, Knowing You
Angeleyes

Destiny Suite

SOS
Waterloo

Lay All Your Love On Me

Money, Money, Money

I Have A Dream

Gimme, Gimme, Gimme

Finale

The Way Old Friends Do
Thank You For The Music



JAMES KNAPP, Artistic Director

Closing his second season as the highly acclaimed artistic director for the Gay Men's Chorus of Houston, James Knapp brings an extraordinary talent, boundless energy and a true love of men's choral music to GMCH and the Houston community. James' reputation for excellence in choral music extends from the United States to England, Austria, Russia, South Africa, Singapore, and Thailand. His choirs have appeared in concert with the Moscow Philharmonic, the International Church Music Festival in Coventry, England, and on KUHF-FM Houston's Public Radio.



BETH McCONNELL, Principal Accompanist

Beth McConnell completes her second season as GMCH accompanist with the talent, enthusiasm and energy that leave our audiences with nothing to say but *Wow!* As a pianist, composer, and teacher, Beth has performed throughout Texas and the United States in a variety of venues covering an array of musical styles including jazz, gospel, popular, Broadway, and rock. Beth's love of the piano is evident in the beauty and joy she brings to her work with the chorus.



NANCY BUSCH, Sign Interpreter

Nancy has been signing for over 20 years. She first learned sign language in Austin, TX and later moved to Denton, TX to continue her studies. Musical interpretation is a first love for Nancy. It portrays her inner voice, heart and soul. She hopes as you watch and listen that you not only hear the beautiful music, but that you truly feel it.

SOLOISTS

EXILE

Our Children's Children

June 7, 10 - Kenneth E. Clayborne
June 8, 11 - Stew Zuckerbrod

Naked in the Leaves

June 7, 10 - Charles Brown & Dennis Myers
June 8, 11 - Mike Evans & Kevin Newman

Standing Still

June 7, 10 - Frederick Allen & Frank Humberto Ortiz
June 8, 11 - David Gebo & Ron Gilmore

extrABBAganza!

Souper Trouper

June 7, 8, 10, 11 - David Hoey

extrABBAganza!

One of Us

June 7, 10 - Eric Wm. McAnallen
June 8, 11 - Nelvin Esquillo

Winner Takes It All

June 7, 8, 10, 11 - Jay Bagdanoff

SOS

June 7, 10 - Kenny Chua
June 8, 11 - Christian Rios

Finale Trio

June 7, 10 - David Carter, Robert Johnson,
Rick Stambaugh
June 8, 11 - Chris Cefalu, Augie Paz,
John Tomasine

GMCH SMALL ENSEMBLE

"Does Your Mother Know"

"Lay All Your Love On Me"

Eric Wm. McAnallen, Director

Jerry Aucoin	Ron Gilmore
Jay Bagdanoff	David Hoey
Andy Bowden	Eric Wm. McAnallen
David Carter	Mike McNamara
Kenneth E. Clayborne	Frank Humberto Ortiz
Mike Evans	John Tomasine
David Gebo	Theo Young

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Trumpet:	Jeremy McBain
	Thomas D. Tillotson
Horns:	Eric Bell
	Robert Cook
	James W. Graber
	Chris Shelburne
Trombone:	Brian Logan
	John McGinnis
Tuba:	Ali Jackson
Piano:	Beth McConnell
Bass:	Giancarlo Caffarena
Synthesizer:	Katie McGee
Percussion:	Adam Renfro

GMCH DANCE TROUPE

Albert Gamboa, Choreographer	
Jay Bagdanoff	Tom Ly
Edward Botello	Rudy Martinez
Nelvin Esquillo	Moises Nascimento
Mike Evans	Travis Ochoa
Albert Gamboa	Augie Paz
David Hoey	Kenny Pleasant

SPECIAL THANKS

GMCH would like to extend a special Thank You to the following for their generous support of this concert:
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Les Wood
Dr. Stan Hill
The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus
Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church
Vintage Oasis
That 70's Shop
The Greater Houston GLBT Chamber of Commerce

ABBA FANS

Lou Anderson	Sally Huffer
Margie Babbidge	Alec Kohler-Vega
Rob Bell	Bill Nix
Barbara Easterly	

MUSICAL SECTION LEADERS

Tenor 1: Eric Wm. McAnallen
Tenor 2: Kenneth E. Clayborne
Baritone: David Carter
Bass: Mike McNamara

ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION LEADERS

Steve Yocom	Richard Hudkins
Daniel Bennett	Ron LaCarna
Dave Swart	Donald W. Daniel, Jr.
Vu "Docker" Tran	David Hughes

SECTIONAL REHEARSAL CONDUCTORS

Kenneth E. Clayborne
Eric Wm. McAnallen

PRODUCTION

Production Director:	Gary L. Workman
Lighting Design:	Gary Archer
Choreographer:	Rozanne Damone Curtis
Dance Captain:	Jay Bagdanoff
Program Design:	Charles Brown

Brass instrumentalists for
"Songs of Our Voices" are members of the
Keynote Chamber Players
Josué Casillas, Artistic Director

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EXILE

Who Will Come

Behold, behold, behold this moment!
Behold this hour! Behold this day!
Fleshed, but immortal, whirlwind of change!
Observe its coming and its going forth.
Behold its voice and prophetic course.

A new awakening of heart and mind.
A new awakening that measures life by love, not time.
Shout and sing in exaltation! Man and earth in
jubilation!

Long awaited mystery.
A thousand years its reign shall be!
Who now will come to live this dream?
To claim its hope...and their destiny!

Our Children's Children

They come, our children's children.
They come to claim their destiny.
They come our children's children, they come,
E'en so they come. Children of the millennium.
They come, our children's children.
They come to claim their destiny. They come,
Our children's children. They come,
E'en so they come, they come!

Tomorrow's house belongs to them. It is not ours to
enter in. This moment yields unto their dreams,
And gleams with joy, e'en so they come, e'en so they
come! Children of the Millennium,

They come, they come our children.
They come beyond time's barricade.
They come, they come, our children's children.
They come, e'en so they come, they come!

Where yesterday's echo and tomorrow's voice bridge
each others' way. One foretelling the other dwelling
this long awaited day. E'en so they come, e'en so they
come, e'en so they come! Children of the Millennium.
We come, we come your children. The hour has come!
Our dream has begun! E'en so, at last we come!
Children of the Millennium, Children of the Millennium.
At last we come!

Exile

When tears of longing cease to fall, and dreams of
your children become theirs after all; When loneliness
no longer feels like a home, and the Spirit of man by
compassion is known. Then my yearning soul, behind I'll
leave, and in humanity believe.

I am Genesis, now reborn! I am life and love
transformed! The pilgrim shore where non are judged
By who they are or choose to love.

I am desert, once barren and parched.
I an island once disowned.
Now, the new Eden for wandering hearts.
I am Exile! I am home!

When words are heard as kindly deed, and all lives are
lived without want, without need; when captive minds
by truth are freed. And peace speaks of earth's
prosperity. Then my doubting soul behind I'll leave, and
in humanity believe.

I am Genesis, now reborn!
I am life and love transformed.
I am what was, what shall be again, heart light of earth,
star shine of heaven.

I am beauty by love beguiled! I am innocence,
undefiled! I am the season of tomorrow's child! I am
here! I am now! I am Exile!

The Prodigal

Are you listening? Can you hear me? Far across the
lonely silence where you lie sleeping? I have left a light
on the porch turned on, and placed a key beneath the
mat, should you ever find your way back home.

Are you listening? Can you hear me? Far across the
empty years where fear lies sleeping? Have you left a
light on the porch turned on? Is there still a key beneath
the mat, if I ever find my way back home?

Night has come again, and I'm sitting here alone,
wondering where you are, how you are, out there.
Sometimes I lie awake in bed and imagine all the
words you never said and wonder if you had the chance,
would you dare to say them now?

How many tears you must have cried, those years of
longing held deep inside. How many years must still
pass by until you feel the love I denied?

Broken promises seem never left behind. Second
chances seem to never come in time. But when you
think the time is right I'll be waiting, I'll be waiting
tonight sitting by the light...left on just for me?

Are you listening Can you hear me? Far across the time
that's gone. What was lost, now is found. This prodigal
is homeward bound. Coming home just as I am! Coming
home just as he is. He is mine, and I am his.

Further Along

No further from me than breath are you, that I have
loved so deep. No further from you than breath am I, in
the love that you shall keep. In times of joy, or times of
sorrow, tossed by storms and shifting sand. No further
were we from one another, than reaching for each
others' hand.

No further from death than breath we journeyed, too
swiftly, it scattered our days. But no further from me
than thought are you, across eternity.

Heart upon heart, soul upon soul,
Your life in mine lives on and on...until the end of time.
For your love will live on long after you're gone,
Touching others further along.

Our Two Souls

Near to your soul I could not lie. Love once forbidden to
one as I. Torn and tempted, my emptiness cried. Near
to your soul, near to soul I could not lie.

But you and I, our souls undressed,
Chose to clothe our nakedness for one brief moment
Flesh to flesh and found soul and flesh together sway,
One does not the other betray. Flesh to flesh, each
moment of bliss touched our hearts, blessed our lives
with the promise of love's lasting kiss. To fill forever
the emptiness of our two souls.

Naked in the Leaves

My hair is gray now, well, my hair is gone. I'm not as
handsome, is anyone? My face is wrinkled, ravaged by
time. You only mirror what I see in mine. My hands
have grown weaker, my memory is poor. What are you
saying? I'm not quite sure. I guess what I'm saying,
what I need to know...Was it worth growing old with
me, now that I'm old?

Do you remember the place where are love first began?
The two of us, young at heart, building castles in the
sand. Like flowers newly blossomed, dancing wildly in
the breeze, we laughed just like children playing hide
and seek between the trees.

Do you remember making love, where anyone could
see? Impassioned lovers, unafraid, lying naked in the
leaves. Where have all the seasons gone? Summer
sunsets, autumn's dawn. Time so quickly slipped away,
Our tomorrows melting into yesterdays.
What are you saying? I'm not quite sure. That I am so
grateful, you've been the one that I could lay my love
upon. So if you were wondering and need to know...
It was worth growing old with you, now that we're old.

Standing Still

I never thought that time would bless me, or speak so
kindly or so long. I never thought that grace would keep
me, or love compel me to journey on. I never thought
my life would tarry, with strength to carry me up this
hill. I never thought I'd be here, and yet I am here,
standing still.

Climbing high, yet higher climbing! Breathtaking view!
Infinite sky! My voice is stronger, my eyes are clearer,
And dearer are those who could not finish the climb.

I never dreamed my dreams would flourish beyond the
fears of yesterday. I never thought I'd see tomorrow, or
it's horizons, catch my gaze. I never dreamed my voice
would linger to sing my song upon this hill. I never
thought I'd be here standing, and yet I am here,
standing still.

Climbing high, yet higher climbing! Breathtaking view!
Infinite sky! My voice is stronger, my eyes are clearer,
and dearer are those who could not finish the climb.

Those who knew this day and dawning were beyond
the reach of weary lives. Who could not live to live this
dream, and see this moment with their own eyes.

And yet whose hearts of joy and courage with angel's
wings ascend this hill. Beyond their dreams they now
are climbing, and with me here are standing still.

Even Now

And here we are again, as lovers and as friends
Holding still the dreams that love and friendship bring,
And that time seems never to end.

We've journeyed on so far in each others arms. Tear to
tear we stood, smiling when we could, and keeping
laughter in our hearts.

What a journey it has been, what gifts of peace our
lives have found. As we share our love with joyfulness,
and lift our voices in song. No matter what the future
brings, our hearts as one will always sing as they do for
each other, even now.

So we sing our song anew, as friends and lovers often
do. Remembering again the lovers and the friends
whose hearts and voices saw us through. What a
journey it has been what gifts of hope time has
allowed. As we share our lives with joyfulness, and lift
our voices in song.

We know when all is said and done, it always comes
back to the ones, that we have loved, and love, and
sing of even now, even now, even now.

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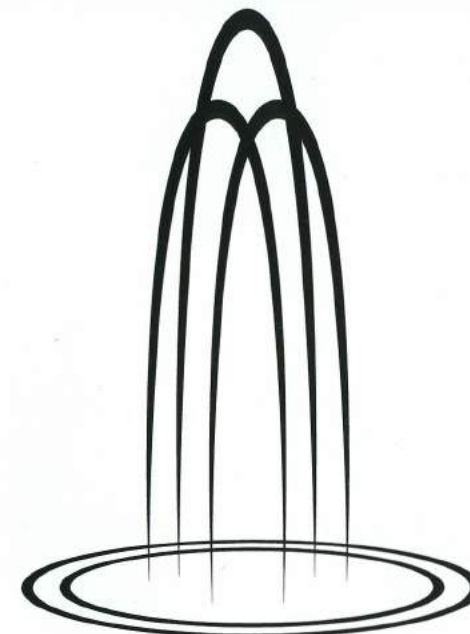
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