



# BLOCKBUSTER Concert

## Our Legacy = Our Song



**A history of GALA Choruses through choral commissions, photos and stories**

**Hosted by Dan Savage and Vanessa German**

Photo by Christopher Staton 2010



**Sunday, July 8  
Buell Theater  
9:00 pm**

### **When We Made the Music The World Stopped to Listen (1977)**

*Commissioned by Anna Crusis Women's Choir and performed with MUSE: Cincinnati's Women's Choir*

Conducted by Catherine Roma  
Music and lyrics by Kay Gardner  
Sea Gnomes Publishing (4:30)

### **We Shall Go Forth (1977)**

*Commissioned by Anna Crusis Women's Choir and performed with MUSE: Cincinnati's Women's Choir*

Conducted by Jackie Coren  
Music and lyrics by Margie Adams, arranged by Kay Gardner  
Sea Gnomes Publishing (3:30)

### **We Are a Gentle, Angry People (1978)**

Conducted by Jane Ramseyer Miller  
Words and music by Holly Near  
Manuscript (2:30)

### **Never Ever from "Naked Man" (1996)**

*Commissioned by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and performed with the Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus*

Conducted by Stan Hill  
Music by Robert Seeley, lyrics by Robert Espindola  
Sterling Rose Music (3:19)

### **I Shall Miss Loving You from "When We No Longer Touch: A Cycle of Songs for Survival" (1991)**

*Commissioned by Turtle Creek Chorale and performed with the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus*

Conducted by Tim Seelig  
Music by Kristopher Jon Anthony, lyrics by Peter McWilliams  
Manuscript (5:00)

### **Give Us a Death Undiminished from "Hidden Legacies" (1992)**

*Commissioned by Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles*

*Performed by the GALA Festival HIV+ Chorus*

Conducted by Reuben Reynolds  
Music by Roger Bourland, lyrics by John Hall  
1992 Yelton Rhodes Music YR1000.3v1 (2:30)

### **Springtones: Variations on Kassa (2012)**

*Commissioned by Our Song: Atlanta Gay and Lesbian Chorus*

Conducted by Robert Glor  
Music by Chuck Cogliandro, lyrics traditional  
Cogliandro WLG136 (3:45)

*The chant and the basic rhythms of this piece hail from Guinea in West Africa. Sung in the Malinke language the song is repeated to the farmers when they are working the fields, and it means "this is the thing we love to do most, we were born into this life to do this."*

*continued on next page*



**Gender Polka from “Boys and Girls with Stories” (1997)**

**Commissioned by the Seattle Lesbian and Gay Chorus**

Performed by Rainbow Harmony Project & Desert Voices  
Conducted by Vic Hooper  
Music and lyrics by David Maddux  
Yelton Rhodes Music (4:41)

**Clangor, Clamor, Clapperclaw (1996)**

**Commissioned by Sound Circle and premiered at the 1996 GALA Festival**

Conducted by Sue Coffee  
Music by Carol Matthew  
Manuscript (3:30)

*Composer’s note: Traditionally, in many cultures, women have not been allowed access to the instruments of the holy. They have been admonished to be silent and to worship without sound or presence. In our country today, gay men and lesbians have been told “Don’t ask, don’t tell.” We have been kept and have kept ourselves invisible for the most part, unable or unwilling to grasp the sounds of the holy, and be heard. This is my response. We must always be courageous. We must always take risks. We must never be silent.*

**Wait With Me (2011)**

**Commissioned by Una Voce: The Florida Men’s Chorale**

Conducted by Dwight M. Thomas  
Music by Rene Clausen, lyrics by Arthur Mampel  
Manuscript (4:15)

*Underwritten by the American Composers Forum’s Community Partners program, with funds provided by Dwight Joyner, a former GALA Choruses board member*

**There Comes A Time (1987)**

**Commissioned by the Vancouver Men’s Chorus**

Conducted by Willi Zwozdesky  
Words and music by Connie Kaldor, arrangement by John Valleau  
Connie Kaldor, Coyote Entertainment (2:25)

*First performed by the Vancouver Men’s Chorus in Seattle as the opening of their concert block during Festival 1989. It was subsequently taken up by a number of GALA Choruses, becoming a popular anthem over the years.*

**Gay Vs. Straight Composers (2008)**

**Commissioned by the San Francisco Gay Men’s Chorus**

Conducted by Eric Lane Barnes  
Music and lyrics by Eric Lane Barnes  
EBL005 (3:00)

**The Older I Get from “Changing Hearts” (2003)**

**Commissioned by the Gay Men’s Chorus of Washington DC**

Conducted by Jeff Burhman; Justin Ritchie, soloist  
Music by Alan Shorter, lyrics by Chip Heath  
Manuscript (3:30)

**Bully to the Brink (2010)**

**Commissioned by Dreams of Hope**

Conducted by Susan Haugh  
Created by Dreams of Hope, with Vanessa German  
2010 Original manuscript (4:00)

**I Sing Out (2012)**

**Commissioned by Heartland Men’s Chorus and PerformOUT KC**

Conducted by Joseph P. Nadeau  
Music and lyrics by Mark Hayes  
Alfred Music Publishing 00-38103 (4:30)

**As If from “BraveSouls & Dreamers” (2007)**

**Commissioned by the Portland Gay Men’s Chorus and performed with Resonance Women’s Chorus of Boulder (SSAA commission) & One Voice Mixed Chorus (SATB commission)**

Conducted by Bob Mensel; AP Hopper, solo  
Music by Robert Seeley, lyrics by Robert Seeley adapted from Gandhi  
Sterling Rose Music (3:26)

Programming for Our Legacy=Our Song was created and designed by:

Bob Mensel  
Artistic Director, Portland Gay Men’s Chorus

Joe Nadeau  
Artistic Director, Heartland Men’s Chorus

Jane Ramseyer Miller  
Artistic Director, One Voice Mixed Chorus  
Artistic Director in Residence for GALA Choruses