

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & THANKS TO:

Wesley United Church and its Staff, Wesley Community Church, Gerald LaRonde, Jim Mayhew, My Fair Lady, Village Pharmacy, McCann's Books, Kevin's Flowers (Petawawa), Conway's Pharmacy (Eganville), choir members' families who helped as ticket sellers and ushers at performances, CHRO, CHVR, The Daily News, Pembroke Observer, Petawawa Post, and all others who contributed in any way to the success of these concerts.

KEVIN NIEMAN, A.Mus. (Perf.) - Choral Director:

Kevin is in his 12th year as the Choir's Choral Director. He is an associate of the Western Conservatory of Music, University of Western Ontario. His musical studies have included voice (solo performance), piano, organ, oboe and cello. Kevin has been choir director and choir director/organist for Christ Lutheran Church, Petawawa over the past 22 years, as well as musical director, (just recently - Hello, Dolly!) performer and conductor for the Pembroke Musical Society.

ROSEMARIE GILBERT - Rehearsal and Concert Accompanist:

Rosemarie came to Canada from England with her family in 1972. She studied piano in England and later with Horst Thuemen in Pembroke. Dr. Gilbert was involved with community choirs in Alberta, and in Pembroke has been our much-valued rehearsal and concert pianist and harpsichordist for 10 years. How would we ever have mastered those odd Handelian and Broadway rhythms without Rosemarie's good musical sense, patience and good humour? The Choir's best and fondest wishes go with Rosemarie and Jim in their new life.

THE PEMBROKE COMMUNITY CHOIR, now in its 39th year, rehearses every Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. in the Wesley Community Church, 210 Renfrew St., Pembroke. New members are most welcome. They take part in the Kiwanis Music Festival. The Choir is a member of the Valley Arts Council and The Ontario Choral Federation.

THE PEMBROKE COMMUNITY CHOIR

SOPRANOS: Meghan Beck, Pat Charette, Allison Corrigan, Shirley Detlefsen, Anne Dickson, Lynne Dunn, Emily Gibson, Mary Frances Harrington, Marjorie Healey, Eileen Hildebrandt, Mary Hill (Publicity), Cheryl Jackson, Bettyanne Jurmalietis, Joyce Kaiser, Maureen Kearns, Paulette Laferrière, Lise LaFrance, Anne Livesey Fong, Eleanore Rose Marion, Carrie Mohns, Joyce Moore, Mary Morgenstern, Heather Murray, Patricia Orman, Janet Pearson, Joyce Robinson, Heather Rudzinski, Laurette Spencer, Michelle Spurgeon, Sister St. Agatha, Judy Valliant-Bucholtz (VAC Representative), Inge Vibe, Theresa Veaudry, Hazel Ward, Denise Zohr.

ALTOS: Helen Bayne, Jocelyn Beck, Janet Brennan (Treasurer), Mary Brown, Marion Burton, Wendy Donohue, Lynne Epps, Sandra Fleming, Margery Gibson, Ruth Grant (Past-President), Maureen Havey, Shirley Jones, Debbie Lamb, Julie Lantos, Elizabeth LaRoque, Adrienne Madill (Music/Librarian), Reta McBean, Pam McNeil, Jane Mottershead, Pauline Neilson, Renee Nofall, Charlotte Norcop (Music Assistant), Jennifer Powell, Yvonne Powell, Christa Reitlingshoefer, Janet Schultze-Jones, Margit Templeton, Margaret Thuemen, Sylvia Vandersluis, Evelyn VanStarkenburg (Secretary), Barbara Vaudry (acting Treasurer), Diane Wolfgram.

TENORS: Maurice Armstrong (Vice-President), Bill Collins, Peter Cowan, Deane Detlefsen, Mark Ferrer, Mac Fraser, Lee Gallagher, Shelley Hempstead, Bentley Horne (Ways & Means), Diane McCanna, Gail Myer, Betty Rowe, Bob Spadoni, Vidya Vijay (Social), Joe Wilson.

BASSES: Gordon Brandstadt (Concert Chairperson), Bob Carmichael, Arthur Coles, Charles Drew, Jim Gilbert, Don Healey, John Macgillivray, Timothy Nelligan, Robert Orman (President), John Penner, Stanley Vandervelde, Harry Willoughby.

LIFE MEMBERS: Henry Akre, Ruth Grant (Past-President), Joyce Moore, Bob Price.



THE PEMBROKE COMMUNITY
CHOIR SINGS ...

BROADWAY MELODIES

&
Opera Choruses

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 1997

WESLEY UNITED CHURCH

(Pembroke St. East at William St.)

Kevin Nieman - Director

Rosemarie Gilbert

Accompanist



BROADWAY MELODIES

& Opera Choruses

1. **LOHENGRIN** - Bridal Chorus / Richard Wagner
Franz Liszt directed the first performance at the Court Theatre, Weimar, August 28, 1850.

2. **NABUCCO** - Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves / Giuseppe Verdi

After their defeat by Nebuchadnezzar [Italian diminutive: Nabucco] and his army, many Israelites were taken back to Babylon as slaves. During their work on the banks of the Euphrates, the slaves sing this chorus "Va pensiero" (Dearest homeland, my thoughts fly to thee, ... great Jehovah, Hear the voice of thy people at last). In 1842, when Nabucco was first performed at La Scala, Austrian armies occupied much of Italy and this chorus became a national song among the Italian people. When La Scala reopened after World War II, Nabucco was its first production.

2. **ALCINA** - Chorus of enchanted islanders / George Frideric Handel

Opened April 16, 1735 in London's Covent Garden. Alcina (a beautiful sorceress in love with the Knight, Ruggiero) is gradually deprived of her powers by Ruggiero and his wife Bradamante.

3. **LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR** - Chorus of Wedding Guests / Gaetano Donizetti

First performed in Naples, Sept. 26, 1835, this opera is based on Sir Walter Scott's novel Bride of Lammermoor.

4. **MADAMA BUTTERFLY** - The Humming Chorus / Giacomo Puccini

Opened Feb. 17, 1904 in La Scala, Milan.

5. **CARMEN** - Habanera & March of the Toreadors / Georges Bizet

Soprano Soloist: Patricia Charette

Bizet's masterpiece and last work - he died June 3, 1875, 3 months to the day after it was first performed at the Opéra-Comique in Paris. Its passionate force shocked French audiences (most press notices were hostile, some critics labeled it immoral - French society in 1875 was very Victorian, in reaction to the moral laxity of the Second Empire). "Carmen is a liar and a thief, unscrupulous but fearless, independent and fascinating not simply by her physical charms but by the honesty and violence of her feelings." It's music startled French audiences in places - in rehearsal the orchestra had declared many passages unplayable, and the women of the chorus at first refused to learn the chorus of the cigarette girls and some other numbers. The initial run closed after 45 performances. The 36-year-old composer died on the night of the 31st of these. In October 1875 it opened in Vienna and in June 1878 in London. These foreign performances were the beginning of Carmen's great popularity, especially London where "Habanera" was already very popular and "The March of the Toreadors" soon rose to the top of the charts.

6. **PORGY AND BESS** - Medley / music by George Gershwin, lyrics by DuBose Heyward and Ira Gershwin. Soloists: Mary Hill and Peter Cowan.

It is "summertime" in a poor, black section of Charleston, SC. Bess, the abandoned girl of the brutish Crown, who has killed a man and run away ("My Man's Gone Now"), takes refuge with the crippled beggar Porgy ("I Got Plenty o' Nuttin' "). She grows to love the kindly man. At an all-day picnic, the wily dope peddler Sportin' Life, pokes fun at the God-fearing people ("It Ain't Necessarily So"). After she is enticed to run to New York with Sportin' Life, Porgy sets out in his goat cart to search for her ("I'm on My Way"). Porgy and Bess opened in New York, Oct. 10, 1935, closing after 124 performances, but over the years has become a favourite all over the world.

INTERMISSION

7. **SOUND OF MUSIC** - Medley

Music by Richard Rodgers, lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II
Rodgers & Hammerstein's last collaboration opened on Broadway, Nov. 16, 1959. Critics weren't enthusiastic, but the public made it a smash hit and it stayed for 1442 performances.

8. **MAN OF LA MANCHA** - Medley / Music by Mitch Leigh, lyrics by Joe Darion

After opening on Broadway, Nov. 22, 1965, it continued for 2328 performances.

9. **BRIGADOON** - Medley

Music by Frederick Loewe, lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner

When it opened on Broadway, March 13, 1947, Brigadoon joined Oklahoma!, Carousel, Annie Get Your Gun, Call Me Mister, Finian's Rainbow, Street Scene, Beggar's Holiday, and revivals of Victor Herbert's Sweethearts and Oscar Straus' The Chocolate Soldier - a normal season on booming post-war Broadway. It opened in London, April 14, 1949.

10. **GODSPELL** - Medley / Words and music by Stephen Schwartz

Soloist: Mary Hill

Opened May 17, 1971 on Broadway and Nov. 17, 1971 in London.

11. **JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR** - Medley

Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, lyrics by Tim Rice

An overblown production opened on Broadway Oct. 20, 1971 and ran for 711 performances. A simpler version lasted 3,358 performances in London, opening there Aug. 9, 1972.

12. **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST** - Medley

Music by Alan Menken, lyrics by Howard Ashman

Soloists: Joyce Moore and Peter Cowan

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A Special Thank you to Cassidy's Transfer for giving us "drive", actually, moving our risers for us, and to Mary Hill of Johnston & Mackie Insurance for a very safe and secure "riser" storage location. Thank you again.