



Rainbow Women's Chorus

Sunday, July 8 • Ellie Caulkins Opera House • 12:30 pm

Ruth Huber and Betsy Wagner, Artistic Directors

Kathy Disney, Accompanist

Kim Wallace, Percussion

Born This Way: A GALA Celebration!

Omnia Sol (Let Your Heart Be Staid)

Music and lyrics by Z. Randall Stroope

Omnia sol temperat, absens in remota.

Ama me fideliter, fidem meam noto.

Translation: The sun warms everything, even when I am far away

Love me faithfully, and know that I am faithful

Heritage Music 15/2135H (4:45)

Queen of Myself

Music and lyrics by Ruth Huber

Commissioned by Linda Webster, who dedicates this song to women in mid-life, as we claim our power and true worth, to my partner Marion and my women's circles in Austin, Texas, and to Donna Hennes, who named the third age of womanhood Queen of My Self Manuscript (3:45)

Follow the Drinking Gourd

Music and lyrics from Traditional Spiritual

Arranged by Rollo A. Dilworth

The lyrics to "Follow the Drinking Gourd" are coded instructions for escape via the Underground Railroad. "When the sun comes back" was the best time to travel along the bank of the Tombigee River, looking for dead trees with special designs ("left foot, peg foot") to mark the way. The drinking gourd itself was shaped like the Big Dipper, which pointed to the North Star, the direction of the journey toward freedom.
Hal Leonard 08748736 (3:00)

Amani (A Song for Peace)

Music and lyrics by Jim Papoulis & Jacques Sebisaho

French: Chante chante forte, pour la liberte (Sing strongly for Peace)

Chante pour la paix pour tout la monde (Sing for Peace throughout the world)

Swahili: imbene wote n'sauti moja, amani (with one voice, we all sing together)

Boosey and Hawkes 48005167 (2:00)

Defying Gravity

Music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz

Arranged by Roger Emerson

Hal Leonard 08621363 (4:00)

Nigra Sum

Music by Pablo Casals, lyrics from the Song of Songs

Translation by Kenneth Sterne

Translation: I am black, but comely, daughters of Jerusalem; the King hath rejoiced in me, the King hath brought me into His very own chambers. He spake unto me; Lo, for the winter is past and gone, and the rain is over and gone, flow'rs appear on the earth, and the time of renewal is come. Alleluia.

Tetra Music TC 120 (3:45)

Born This Way

Music by Paul Blair and Fernando Garibay

Lyrics by Stefani Germanotta and Jeppe Lauridson

Arranged by Alan Billingsley

Choralography by Betsy Wagner

Alfred Music 37897 (3:30)

Rainbow Women's Chorus

14938 Camden Ave. Suite 61 • San Jose CA 95124 • www.rainbowwomen.org • 408-603-9367

Founded in 1996, Rainbow Women's Chorus was proud to co-host the 2000 GALA Festival in San Jose, California. Since then, RWC has performed in concert and in community events all over the Bay area, and in 2010 they traveled to Chicago for their first Sister Singers Festival. Now in their fifteenth year and fourth GALA appearance, they sing to enhance the esteem of all women, to celebrate diversity, to promote peace and freedom, and to touch people's hearts and lives.

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