# San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus



## Wednesday, July 11 • Boettcher Concert Hall • 5:30 pm

Lynden Bair, Associate Accompanist Carl Pantle, Prinicpal Accompanist; Music Director, Vocal Minority Paul Saccone, Music Director, The Lollipop Guild Dr Timothy Seelig, Artistic Director & Conductor

## **Enchantingly Wicked**

#### Godspell Medley from "Godspell"

Featuring: Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord, All For the Best and We Beseech Thee Music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz Arranged by Mac Huff Manuscript (6:00)

#### Testimony

Music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz Based on text from the "It Gets Better" project Manuscript (7:45)

Our spring concerts featured the works of Stephen Schwartz and a special performance by this legendary composer. As we began programming this concert from his vast body of work that spans four decades, Stephen expressed a desire to compose a new piece specifically for the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. He had been deeply moved by the work of the "It Gets Better Project" and felt it was the perfect starting point and asked if we could put him in touch with Dan Savage, founder of the Project. Stephen and Dan connected and the vaults of the "It Gets Better Project" were opened. The texts Stephen chose from these powerful writings are poignant and incredibly hopeful. Set to the haunting sounds and beautiful melodies of music that only Schwartz can pen, the result is Testimony – a gift not only to our community, but to all who struggle, endure, survive and finally rejoice in renewed hope.

### Beautiful City from "Godspell"

Music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz Arranged by Stephen Schwartz Hal Leonard 08621859 (2:45)

#### **Defying Gravity** from "Wicked" Music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz

Arranged by Mac Huff Manuscript (3:30)



UNDERWRITER

#### San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus

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In the fall of 1978, a group of gay men gathered to sing. A month later, the group was thrust into the limelight at the Candlelight vigil for assassinated Harvey Milk. Three years later, the Chorus embarked on its national tour, encouraging LGBT people everywhere to "Come out and Sing!"

Today's repertoire is from a concert featuring Broadway composer Stephen Schwartz this past March. Tomorrow, the Chorus travels to Laramie, Wyoming for a concert benefiting the Matthew Shepard Foundation. In that spirit, the Chorus has spent the last 34 years reminding all that "Everyone deserves the chance to fly!"

