ANNA
crusifeministchoir

Family Reunion
Dec 11, 2021 7:30 pm
Message from the Artistic Director

Why sing now?

On September 13th, with masks on and safety protocols in place, 40 members of ANNA Crusis gathered for the first time in our rehearsal space to do something we haven’t been able to do since the pandemic began: sing together. The room was filled with delight, excitement, satisfaction and for some, trepidation. It was a coming together of full hearts, unrestrained voices, and joyous spirit.

After a year and a half online, which included remote rehearsals (every Monday night!) and online streamed concerts, this marked the first time that ANNA has been together as a community in person since our last concert, Keep Hope Alive, with the Sister Cities Girl Choir in December of 2019. June of 2020 would have been our 45th-anniversary concert. Hear Us Roar was devastatingly canceled. And while a date has not yet been set, it is with hopeful spirits that we can plan a re-do of that show, a “45 plus 1” anniversary concert in June of 2022, with the date and venue to be announced soon...(continued)
It was a time to look inward and take stock of our values and our identity. We committed ourselves to exploring and understanding our identity as a women's choir and what that meant to us in this time of gender expansion. We came to a shared understanding that we are rooted in intersectional feminist values and because of that, we now foster a community of women, transgender, and non-binary singers. To express our commitment to our new identity we made the big decision to change our name from ‘women’s choir’ to ‘feminist choir.’ It was a move that we didn’t take lightly. It pushed our boundaries. Made us dig deep. Acknowledge the strength and courage of those who came before us and we hope it will make us a stronger, belonging community.

This has been a tender period of time, one that is proving to be exhilarating as well as trying, demanding a renewed sense of passion and commitment to our values and mission. It is an affirmation of the enduring power of song and singing together. And we can’t wait to share it all with you once again.

Thank you for coming and for viewing!

Yours truly,

Miriam
Singers on High

Soprano 1

Maria Bottiglieri (on leave)
Juliette Dade (section leader)
Ann Deinhardt
Brenda Egolf-Fox
Lauren Gilmore (on leave)
Emily Joy Goldberg (on leave)
Sue Hoffman (section leader)
Judith Palmer
Jackie Phillips
Laura Sanderson (on leave)

Soprano 2

Jacquie Baker
Liz Bynum
Shelley Collier (section leader)
Leigh Dale (on leave)
Sarah Crofts (section leader)
Sarah Darrow
Linda Donnelly
Susan Gueye
Mindy Gumminger
Emily Haney-Caron
Suzanne Harris (on leave)
Jennifer Hutchison (on leave)
Paola Kuri
Jen Meagher (on leave)
Estela Noguera-Ortega
Sarah Robins
Julie Sheetz
Heidi Syropoulos

Click to learn about
ANNA Singer Auditions
January 8 and 9, 2022
Singers down low

Alto 1

Sandy Berger
Bárbara Bitarello
Leona Busulas (section leader)
Sue Levi Elwell
Michelle Enos
Gertz
Alison Gibbons
Marla Gold (on leave)
Lilah Gosman (on leave)
Cynthia Hopkins (on leave)
Marlis Kraft (on leave)
Christiana Kugel (on leave)
Emma Maier
Alexa Malishchak (on leave)
Joules Malsbury
Amy Moskovitz (on leave)
Joy Payton
Rebecca Prosser
Kim Singleton
Barbara Stuehling (on leave)
Mindy Taylor (on leave)
Taylor Thornton
Jen Wade (on leave)
Lindsay Wega (on leave)
Camille Williams

Alto 2

Ellie Alpern (section leader)
Bex Bagnato (on leave)
Darcel Caldwell
Mariana Echardt (on leave)
Betty Ann Fellner (on leave)
Erin Fitzgerald (on leave)
Ahavia Glaser (on leave)
Troi Graves
Lauren Gutstein (section leader)
Cass Hansbury
Amy Krauss
Cathy Nelson (section leader)
Myra Nelson
Sam Parsons (on leave)
Phyllis Rosenberg (on leave)
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ANNA Crusis Feminist Choir.

Your tax deductible donation
means the world to us!

ANNA Crusis Feminist Choir
is a 501(3)(C) non-profit corporation.
Program

Resilience
by Abbie Betinis

Stronger
by Ruth Huber, piano: Steve Milloy
soloist: Alison Gibbons

Love is Love is Love is Love (sing-along)
by Abbie Betinis,
soloist: Paola Kuri

Hope
by Ysaye Barnwell,
soloist: Jackie Phillips

Grace
words: Julie Flanders, music: Emil Adler, vocal arr. Keiji Ishiguri
soloists: Liz Bynum, Cathy Nelson

Lead With Love (sing-along)
by Melanie DeMore

One Voice
by Ruth Moody, arr. Marceline Moody
Walk With Me (sing-along)
by Maggie Wheeler

Bring Me Little Water, Silvy
by Huddie Ledbetter, arr. Moira Smiley, percussion: Evie Ladin

What's In a Name
Folk song. Additional lyrics and arrangement by Judith Palmer
soloists: Ellie Alpern, Gertz, Cathy Nelson, Judith Palmer

Never One Thing
by May Erlewine, arr. Corrie Brown,
soloist: Jacquie Baker

Bread and Roses
music: Mimi Fariña, words: Jame Oppenheim,
arr. J. David Moore

I Am Willing (sing-along)
Holly Near, arr. Steve Milloy
soloists: Troi Graves, Juliette Dade, Lauren Gutstein

We Walk In Love (sing-along)
music: Deanna Witkowski, words: Deanna Witkowski &
Lemuel Colon

Choir
by Pat Humphries, arr. Steve Milloy
Jan Jeffries - Percussion and Drum Kit
A longtime resident of Honolulu, Hawaii, Jan hails from Philadelphia and began her career in dancing and drumming at the prestigious Sydney School of Dance. She has performed, taught, and composed throughout the world with people of all ages and special needs. An award-winning percussionist she has led drumming in many concerts, marches, and events. Whether it's keeping the rhythm with her feet or "skin on skins," Jeffries says the word is "Don't Break the Rhythm!"

Jeff Nations - Piano
A graduate of the North Carolina School of the Arts, Jeff is a classical artist accomplished in a variety of musical genres including popular idioms, musical theater, and gospel. Throughout his career, he has endeavored to break through barriers that have often stood between the classical musician and the public. He has accompanied the Philadelphia Gospel Seminars Choir and the Villanova Gospel Choir. He has performed in the US and abroad, has served as a US Artistic Ambassador performing throughout the Middle East and Bangladesh. He is the recipient of the Irwin Freundlich Award in Piano, and a grant recipient from the PA Council on the Arts with dancer/choreographer Michelle Jones-Wurtz, for their collaboration on his original piece for piano solo, "dance-Toccata".
Burton E. Smith - Bass
Burton Smith has been playing bass guitar since the mid-seventies. He has toured the US with local Philly bands and has played with Southern rock bands while living in North Carolina. He once did a 3-month long gig in Las Vegas with a pair of twins from South America.

Esther Dietrich - ASL Interpreter
Esther is a Certified American Sign Language Interpreter. She has a passion for interpreting music and is excited to use her talent to make our performance accessible.

SPECIAL THANKS
Lutheran Church of the Holy Communion
Joe Buches and The Philadelphia Gay Men's Chorus for the use of the stage set
Tech Support - Matt Bertucci and Synergetic
These donors sustained us during the past 2 years. We are so grateful!

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Rooted in intersectional feminist values, ANNA Crusis Feminist Choir fosters a community of women, transgender, and non-binary singers who strive for musical excellence, celebrate diversity, and support audiences, neighbors, and one another in their struggles for justice and equity.
Lyrics

Resilience
Resilience we are strong
Shoulder to shoulder keep moving on
Resilience make a new plan
Stand up again and say yes we can

Oh – oh we are strong, hold on
I wanna make it and I know we will
Because it’s hard to keep goin’ but it’s worse to stand still

Stronger
We’re in uncharted waters, won’dring what the future holds,
Will this world ever be the same?
They say we’re all in this together, but some are all alone
And the news gets more alarming every day.
And the lights are going out for the elders and the poor
Though our heroes risk their lives to heal and save
One thing is for certain: we need some changes made.
One thing is for certain: we’ll need some changes made.

When we come out of this
Stronger, wiser, bolder, kinder
Standing together our voices raised
Yes, we’ll come out of this
Stronger, wiser, bolder, kinder
One thing is for certain, there’ll be some changes made
So we're cleaning out our closets, calling family and friends
From the shelter of our gardens and our homes
And the skies are growing clearer as traffic leaves the roads
And the wildlife venture out to say hello
But we're list'ning to the voices of the hungry and the cold
And the thousands overworked and underpaid
One thing is for certain, we need some changes made
One thing is for certain, we need some changes made

-chorus-

**Love is Love is Love is Love (sing-along)**

Love, love, love, all we need is love, love, love.
Love is love is love is love

**Hope**

If we want hope to survive in this world today,
Then everyday we've got to pray on, pray on.
If we want hope to survive in this world today,
Then everyday we've got to pray on, pray on. (2x)
If we want hope to survive in this world today,
Then everyday we've got to walk on, walk on.

If we want peace in the world, we've got to work on, work on, work on.
If we want peace in the world, we've got to work on, work on, work on.

... move on
... march on
... teach on
... sing on
Grace
Now in this moment, it's time to start over,
Open your heart you know there's nothing to forgive.

Lead With Love *(sing-along)*
You gotta put one foot in front of the other and lead with love,
Put one foot in front of the other and lead with love! (2x)

Don’t give up hope, (don’t give up hope),
You’re not alone (you’re not alone),
Don’t you give up (don’t you give up),
Keep movin’ on (keep movin’ on),

You gotta put one foot in front of the other and lead with love,
Put one foot in front of the other and lead with love! (2x)

Lift up your eyes (lift up your eyes),
Don’t you despair (don’t you despair),
Look up ahead (look up ahead),
The path is there (the path is there).

You gotta put one foot in front of the other and lead with love,
Put one foot in front of the other and lead with love! (2x)

I know you’re scared (I know that you’re scared),
And I’m scared too (and I’m scared too),
But here I am (but here I am, yes),
Right next to you (right next to you!)

You gotta put one foot in front of the other and lead with love,
Put one foot in front of the other and lead with love! (2x)
**One Voice**

This is the sound of one voice
One spirit, one voice
The sound of one who makes a choice
This is the sound of one voice

This is the sound of voices two
The sound of me singing with you
Helping each other to make it through
This is the sound of voices two

This is the sound of voices three
Singing together in harmony
Surrendering to the mystery
This is the sound of voices three

This is the sound of all of us
Singing with love and the will to trust
Leave the rest behind it will turn to dust
This is the sound of all of us

This is the sound of one voice
One people, one voice
A song for every one of us
This is the sound of one voice
**Walk With Me (sing-along)**

I walk in the spirit, I walk in the light, I walk through the darkest hours of night.
And I call on my ancestors to my left and my right
To walk with me, to walk with me.

I walk in the spirit, I walk in the light
. . . I walk in the service of doing what's right
. . . I walk with the knowledge that we'll be alright
. . . I walk with my neighbors to fight the good fight
. . . I walk for the water, the water is life
. . . I walk with the promise of healing in sight
. . . I walk for the children and their right to survive
. . . I walk through the darkest hours of night

And I call on my ancestors to my left and my right
To walk with me, to walk with me (3x).

**Bring Me Little Water Silvy**

Bring me little water, Silvy. Bring me little water now.
Bring me little water, Silvy, ev'ry little once in a while

Bring it in a bucket, Silvy. Bring it in a bucket now
Bring it in a bucket, Silvy, ev'ry little once in a while

Silvy come a runnin' bucket in her hand
I will bring a little water fast as I can.

Bring me little water, Silvy. Bring me little water now.
Bring me little water, Silvy, ev'ry little once in a while

Can't you see me comin', can't you see me now.
I will bring a little water ev'ry little once in a while.
Message from Judith

Our own, Judith Palmer arranged the next selection - "What's in a Name?".

We are so lucky that Judith has been contributing to ANNA's musical repertoire for many years. This is what she has to say about the song.

"This children's folk song of unknown origin sent me poking around the internet where I learned so much about it, but not where it came from. Such is the nature of folk music. I found a final verse of this song which was unknown to me when I learned it as a child. It portrays the main character Hagalina, whose unsettling appearance is a repeated focus, as heroic, steadfast, resilient, and indestructible. The verse goes, "A two-ton truck hit Ha-ga-li-na, the poor driver had to buy a new machine-na. Hagalina remains standing, strong, unscathed, undefeated. Here's my take-away. In these times of heightened awareness and sensitivity to our use of language (and in the event that anyone should find offense in this children's song), that final verse serves up some redemption. I'm happy to have discovered such wisdom and balance in this children's song. Of course, we don't sing that verse in our rendition! Nevertheless, Hagalina triumphs in other ways. You'll see."
What’s in a Name

I smile when I recall a friend from long ago.
She was new in school that fall.
We teased her so: We had a ball.
She showed little strain; she never complained.
In truth she was quite strange, especially odd was her name (a very funny name)
Hagalina Magalina Hootensteiner Waltensteiner Hogan Logan Pogan was her name.

She had two teeth in her mouth; one pointed north and the other pointed south.
She had two eyes in her head; one was always smiling and the other full of dread.
Hagalina Magalina Hootensteiner Waltensteiner Hogan Logan Pogan was her name.

She has two hairs in her head; one she called Ethel and the other was Fred.
Now she wasn't too ugly and she wasn't too plain, and her mother loved her just the same.
Hagalina Magalina Hootensteiner Waltensteiner Hogan Logan Pogan was her name (how bout that name).

One day I was sent to stand in the hall, my infraction I don’t recall.
The new girl was soon by my side, a twinkle in her eye. We had a ball.
She had so many games, we laughed until we cried. She took away my shame.
And became my good friend that day (in spite of her name).
Hagalina Magalina Hootensteiner Waltensteiner Hogan Logan Pogan was her name.
She had a nose on her face; it wasn’t too pretty and it took a lot of space.
She had two feet size ten ‘n a-half; one took a shower and the other took a bath.
The way we teased her, we’re to blame. We were being foolish, didn’t mean to cause her pain.
The cover doesn’t tell what you find inside the book, so never choose your friends because of name or how they look.
Yeah, Hagalina Magalina Hootensteiner Waltensteiner Hogan Logan Pogan was her name.
That name! What’s in a, what’s in a name? That was her name. That was her name.

**Never One Thing**
I’m the underbelly, I am the claw, never one thing, no, not one thing at all.
I’m a street fighter, I’m a prayer for peace, I’m a holy roller, I’m a honeybee.

I am the truth, I am the lie, I am the ground, I am the sky.
I am the silence, I am the call, never one thing, no, not one thing at all.

I am hope, I am defeat, I am broken, I am complete.
I am the grace, I am the fall, never one thing, no, not one thing all.

I am the begger, I am the queen, I am the end, I am the means.
I am the hammer, I am the wall, never one thing, no, not one thing all.

I am the victor, I am the loss, I am a profit, I am a cost.
I am the salve, I am the sting, never, no, never, no, never one thing.
I am a mother, I am the child, I am the meek, I am the wild. I am the witch, I am a saint, I am alive, never one thing.

I am the lion, I am the swan, I am the bull, I am the fawn. I am a woman, I am the ring, I am my own, never one thing.

**Bread and Roses**

As we go marching, marching, in the beauty of the day, A million darkened kitchens, a thousand mill lofts gray, Are touched with all the radiance that a sudden sun discloses, For the people hear us singing: Bread and Roses, Bread and Roses!

As we go marching, marching, unnumbered women dead, Go crying through our singing their ancient cry for bread. Small art and love and beauty their drudging spirits knew, Yes, it is bread we fight for, but we fight for roses too.

As we go marching, marching, we battle too for men, For men shall ne'er be free 'til our slavery's at an end. Our lives shall not be sweated from birth until life closes. Hearts starve as well as bodies, Bread and Roses, Bread and Roses!

As we go marching, marching, we bring the greater day. The rising of the women means the rising of us all. No more the drudge and idler, ten that toil where one reposes, But a sharing of life's glories, Bread and Roses, Bread and Roses!
I Am Willing (sing-along)
I am open and I am willing
for to be hopeless would seem so strange
It dishonors those who go before us
So lift me up to the light of change

There is hurting in my family, there is sorrow in my town.
There is panic in the nation, there is wailing the whole world round.

May the children see more clearly, may the elders be more wise.
May the winds of change caress us, even though it burns our eyes.

Give me a mighty oak to hold my confusion, give me a desert to hold my fears.
Give me a sunset to hold my wonder, give me an ocean to hold my tears.

We Walk In Love (sing-along)
We walk in love united in purpose, we join our hands and lift up one voice.
We speak the truth with strength and compassion, responding with hope, with courage, and joy.

We cry for peace and rights for all people, we welcome friends from far and near.
We fight for those whose voices are silenced, resisting each one until all are free.

We dream a world of justice and kindness, we build a bridge creating new paths.
We march with joy as all walk together, embracing each one, we boldly stand.
Choir

Has anybody seen the choir?
I want to preach to the converted
I want to see them rising up
Don’t wanna see one gaze averted
Don’t wanna have to prove a point
Just wanna know they’re on my side
Just wanna smile and inspire
Has anybody seen the choir?
Has anybody seen the church?
Maybe that’s where I can find them
Standing tall against the fray
Strength and unity behind them
Have they gathered at the river?
Are they washed upon the shore?
Have they set the world on fire?
Has anybody seen the choir?

-chorus-
Are they teaching in the schools?
Are they drinking in the bars?
Are they making all the rules?
Are they fighting in the wars?
All I wanna do is get a glimpse of who they are
Has anybody ever seen the choir?
Though we may never reach consensus
Hope is still within our reach
We can learn to move together
Put some motion in our speech
We are a mighty congregation
With strength beyond our means
We have the passion and desire
Has anybody seen the choir?

-chorus-
Thank you!

Stay tuned for the date and location of our June Concert 45 + 1 Anniversary Make Good Treble!