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June 1995



CHARIS

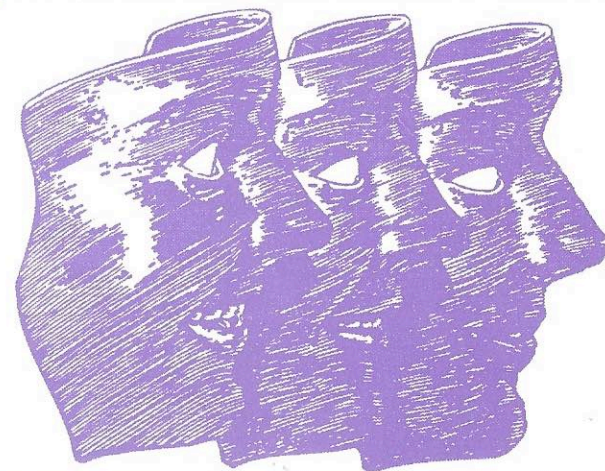
The St. Louis Women's Chorus

PRESENTS...

Random Acts Of Friendship

THE SHELDON CONCERT HALL

Friday, June 23, 1995
8:00 P.M.



CHARIS WELCOMES YOU

CHARIS

Our name comes from the Greek word meaning grace that was used to describe women's culture on the Isle of Lesbos. Charis encompasses all women's arts including music, visual art, dance, poetry, philosophy and romantic love. We sing together in the spirit of Charis, honoring women's artistic culture.

CHARIS SYMBOL

The Charis symbol is derived from an ancient symbol for women, and represents more than just the members of our chorus. In written music, when a half note or whole note falls on one of the lines of the staff, this symbol is created. So the Charis symbol not only represents the women who make up our chorus, but also our reason for coming together...our music.



OUR MISSION

We are an all-woman community chorus, striving toward musical excellence through the education and growth of our members, performing a variety of musical styles and messages, representing the diversity and talents of lesbian and non-lesbian women in the St. Louis community, enlightened by the joy of singing.

WELCOME

Be a part of Charis and help us shape our future. Even if you don't want to sing, Charis always needs volunteers to help organize and serve on committees. Practices are Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. at Centenary Methodist Church, 16th and Olive. Dues are \$15 per trimester. Scholarships are available. For more information, call 726-0250.

Charis is a member of Sister Singers and GALA Choruses.

FROM THE DIRECTORS

Welcome! Summer has (finally) arrived and our basements have had a chance to dry out. Spring rains (and plenty of them) have brought change to our surroundings as flowers and plants bloom profusely. CHARIS, too, is experiencing change. Our accompanist, Jill Copeland, moved to Boston on May 14th! Jill worked with us most of the past year, and in attitude, experience, and verve was just what the women of CHARIS needed. We will especially miss her wit and we wish her well in her new home. We are very pleased to welcome and introduce our new accompanist, Scott Schoonover. Scott is working with a number of musical and theatre groups in the area and we look forward to working with him.

We are thrilled to have Kati Guerra performing this evening. It is always wonderful to hear her beautiful work. She is joined by cellist Dianne Wachsmann.

We also welcome St. Louis percussionist Henry Claude to our concert stage. Henry is the Musical Director for the Nuclear Percussion Ensemble and a dance accompanist at Washington University. He is a substitute percussionist with the St. Louis Symphony and has toured, recorded and performed with the Symphony for fifteen years.

Emily Kimmel is back on stage with us! Emily played opposite Deborah Clayton on our *March Women in History* concert, and returns as Anne in *Random Acts of Friendship*.

In keeping with our intent to perform a wide variety of musical styles, our program tonight includes a Spanish song from the Renaissance, a swing number from the 40's and contemporary pop and classical pieces. CHARIS' own Loretta Haggard joins us on flute in *Seabird*. Composed by Jane Frasier, this intricate work is a study in emotion and movement. Basia's *The Sweetest Illusion* has been arranged and sequenced for CHARIS by Steve Milloy.

We are extremely pleased to have received a generous grant from the Regional Arts Commission (RAC) to support our concert programming! It was very fulfilling to review accomplishments and plans through the application process and then be rewarded so richly for our efforts of the past and visions for the future. Our next three concerts, including tonight's *Random Acts of Friendship* concert, our December 2nd *World Wide Winter* concert, and our March 1996 concert, will all be RAC sponsored. We thank RAC for this grant, and their belief in the mission and goals of CHARIS.

Juliet Jackson and Cindy Sohn

CHARIS PRESENTS

Random Acts of Friendship

Friday, June 23rd, 1995 - The Sheldon Concert Hall

Juliet Jackson & Cindy Sohn, Co-Directors
Mary Akers, Assistant Director
Scott Schoonover, Accompanist
Glenace Humphrey, Sign Language Artist

SOPRANO I

Cindy Fedders
*Juliet Jackson
M.S. Phillips

ALTO I

Brenda Domingue
*Loretta Haggard
Virginia Kelly
Kay Schmitt
Sharon Spurlock

SOPRANO II

Jane V. Clark
Darlene Dougherty
Colleen Gilmore
*Kim Gruner
Sandy Lane
Julie Lynch
Linda Shubow
Julie Sutfin
Lisa Trost

ALTO II

*Mary Akers
Pat Bozdech
Joan Brackman
Lor Jackson
Jane E. Levdansky
Lynn Mark
Sarah Merriman
Dina Young

* Section Leaders

SCRIPT NOTES

Tonight we introduce you to three women--Joan, Betty and Anne--who have been friends most of their lives. These three very different women have a loving, trusting, lasting and, at times, caustic friendship that has gotten them through good times and bad.

Nancy Bardgett wrote the script to accompany this concert. Her script weaves the joy and strength of friendship in and out of Charis' musical selections. *Take Back the Guns* accompanies Anne's memory about an ATM hold-up. *Miss Chatelaine* gives voice to Betty's coming out process and *Seabird* celebrates the power of change in life.

Random Acts of Friendship offers you a chance to eavesdrop upon an everyday conversation among three friends with an extraordinary message about friendship.

... Virginia Kelly

INTRODUCING

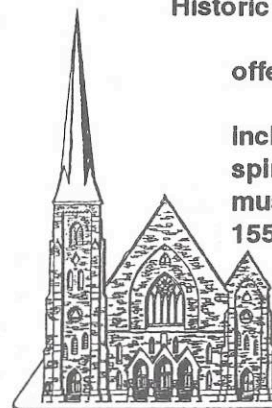
CHARIS' new accompanist Scott Schoonover

Scott M. Schoonover studied piano and organ at Illinois Wesleyan University as well as spending a year in Israel studying at Tel Aviv's Avision Conservatory. Scott recently moved to Saint Louis to accept the organist position at Union Avenue Christian Church. In addition to playing for CHARIS he is the accompanist for the Saint Louis Women's Chorale and a staff accompanist at Saint Louis University. Scott's most recent endeavor is founding a new professional level opera company called Union Avenue Opera Theatre which will present five performances of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* this August.

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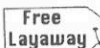
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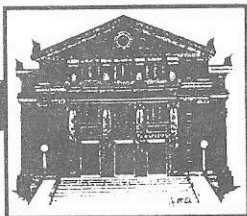
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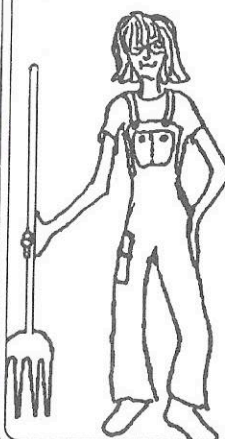
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CONCERT PROGRAM

Random Acts of Friendship

Script by Nancy Bardgett

Featuring Actresses Emily Kimmel, Jane Clark and Virginia Kelly

THE SWEETEST ILLUSION

Music Basia Trzetrzelewska & Danny White

Words Peter Ross

Arrangement & Sequencing Steve Milloy

CANDY

Mack David, Joan Whitney, & Alex Kramer

Arrangement Mark Brymer

Soloist Jane Clark

Percussion Henry Claude

CON EL VIENTO

Anonymous; Renaissance Spain

Arrangement Libana

Translation: "I fell asleep in the sand, with the breeze blowing against the shores of the sea. The waves moved with an infinite contentment, and as they rose with the wind, it seemed they wanted to reach the highest stars. As I sat contemplating the waves, I fell asleep in the sandy dunes."

MISS CHATELAINE

k.d. lang and Ben Mink

Arrangement Steve Milloy

Percussion Henry Claude

NAMASTÉ

Christine Korb

Text C.K. from Sanskrit

Percussion Henry Claude, Flo Terry

TO THOSE WHO SEE

Dede Duson

Text Gwen Frostic

I Blending

II To Those Who See

TAKE BACK THE GUNS

Therese Edell

Arrangement J. David Moore

CONCERT PROGRAM

SEABIRD

Jane Frasier

Words Susan Schneeberger

Flute Loretta Haggard

TOUCH THEM SOFTLY

John Warren Owen

WANDERLUST

Connie Kaldor

Arrangement J. David Moore

INTERMISSION

GUEST ARTIST

Kati Guerra

with cellist Dianne Wachsman

~~~~~

#### HARRIET TUBMAN

Walter Robinson

*Arrangement* John Coates, Jr.

*Percussion* Henry Claude

#### SONG OF THE PRAIRIE

*Music* Catherine Bennett

*Words* Ellen Levesque

*Soloist* Mary Akers

#### LET THE RIVER RUN

Carly Simon

*Arrangement* J. David Moore

*Percussion* Henry Claude, Flo Terry

#### JOAN OF ARC

Ruth Huber

#### I DREAM IN COLOR

April Lang and Shelly Peiken

*Arrangement* Steve Milloy

*Soloists* Kim Gruner, Mary Akers, Juliet Jackson

## GUEST ARTIST

### **Kati Guerra and accompanist Dianne Wachsman**

Since Kati Guerra moved to St. Louis in 1990, St. Louis audiences have enjoyed her appearances with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Opera Theatre of St. Louis and on the Discovery Concerts series at the Sheldon, with the Masterworks Chorale, with the Gateway Men's Chorus, as well as "From the Garden Live" at the Missouri Botanical Garden and on KFUE FM radio. Not only is she a soprano with many years of opera and chamber music credits in New York and Chicago, Kati is also a poet, singer, and songwriter. Tonight she performs some of her own Mexican-American folksongs.

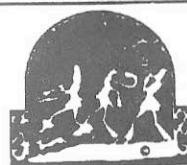
Kati will be accompanied by cellist Dianne Wachsman. Dianne is originally from Champaign-Urbana, Illinois. She is a member of the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra and has toured, recorded, and performed with the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra. Dianne is also a published composer. Her music has been performed by the National Symphony in Washington, D.C., the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, and the Rochester Philharmonic (NY), among others. Dianne attended the University of Illinois (Champaign-Urbana) and Boston University.

## ACTRESS

### **Emily Kimmel**

This is the second appearance of Emily Kimmel in a CHARIS concert. She is an up and coming actress who has amassed a significant performance record since her stage debut at age five. She also sings and dances, working with a number of regional troupes. A gifted young athlete and scholar she was ranked 7th in the nation in powertumbling and has led her Scholarbowl team to state finals.

Emily has worked with The Pyramid Players, Benton Drama, Southern Illinois Show Stoppers and other community theater groups. She has competed in several Illinois All State productions and she is going to attend Smith College this fall to study Theater and Pre-Med.



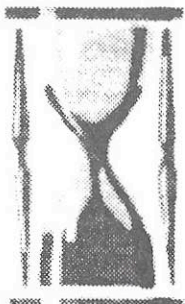
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Leo Arnold

Nancy Bardgett

The Big Girls

Nancy Bridges

Buron Buffkin

R.A. Cornell

(*in honor of Suzanne*)

Nancy Daby

Barbara Davis

Cathy Durer & Susan Watkins

Charlotte Ellis

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(*in honor of Phyllis Hall*)

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(*in honor of our Nephews*

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|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Mary Akers honors:      | Lor Jackson, my partner<br>Amelia Bentz              |
| Pat Bozdech honors:     | Dotti Ramey<br>Mary Ann Field                        |
| Joan Brackman honors:   | Amy Doll<br>Marsha Kammler<br>Gloria<br>Kathy McCann |
| Sarah Bridges honors:   | Marti Frumhoff<br>Colleen Gilmore<br>Zefire          |
| Carolyn Burke honors:   | Bryan<br>Eddie<br>Terry Burke                        |
| Jane V. Clark honors:   | Linda G. Clark<br>"A treasured daughter"             |
| Loretta Haggard honors: | Marcia & Gale Haggard<br>Lynne & Jon Rumney          |
| The Jacksons honor:     | Lor<br>Mary<br>Sharon                                |
| Lor Jackson honors:     | Edna May Bangert<br>Mary Akers, my partner           |

## TRIBUTES TO FRIENDS

|                                       |                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Joan Lafferty & Jane Levdansky honor: | Steve & Marshal<br>Mark & Mark<br>Theresa & Marg<br>All of our dear friends                  |
| Lisa Martz honors:                    | Patty & Jean<br>Donna                                                                        |
| Sarah Merriman honors:                | D.G.<br>Mom & Dad<br>Joy & Al<br>Dick & Margot<br>Brian & Sally                              |
| Harriet Rosen honors:                 | Cynthia Fels<br>Cindy Sohn<br>Juliet Jackson<br>Joleen Unnerstall<br>Edward Fels<br>(Memory) |
| Linda Shubow honors:                  | David Howard                                                                                 |
| Sharon Spurlock honors:               | Nancy Bardgett<br>Mark Keeley<br>Kim                                                         |
| Lisa Trost honors:                    | Sharon Meyers                                                                                |

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*Pat Helberger*

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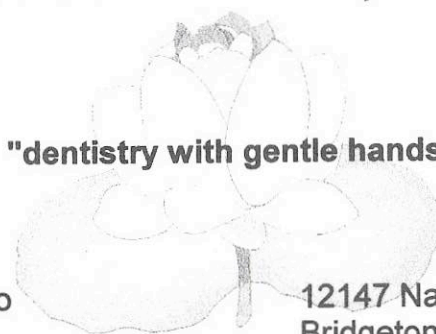
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Linda Shubow: Production  
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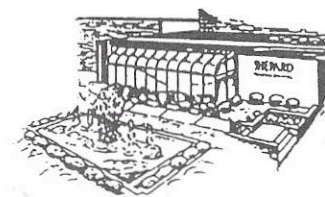
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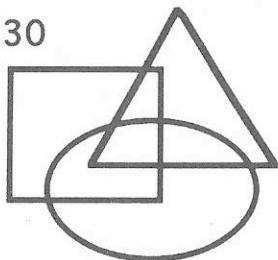
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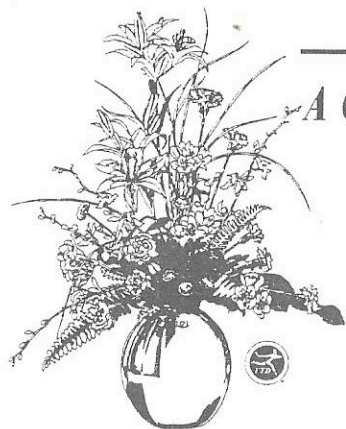
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