

The Rainbow Chorus are:

Musical Director: Matthew Pollard
Accompanist: Glen Capra
Guest percussionist: Adam Bushell

Matthew's works have been performed throughout the country by leading musicians, including the Paragon Saxophone Quartet, London Gay Symphony Orchestra, Lontano (conducted by Odaline de la Martinez), Adam Bushell / Tom Norrell Percussion Duet, and alto Heather Cairncross. His first opera, The Diary, was performed at the Joogleberry Playhouse in 2002; a revised version is scheduled for performance in 2007, as well as a new brass band work for the RNCM Brass Band and a choral work for the Esterhazy Chamber Choir.

As well as conducting the Rainbow Chorus, Matthew is also Musical Director of the Hangleton Brass Band, conductor of the Tacet contemporary music ensemble, and Vocal Coach of SingLiveUK (East Sussex).

Sopranos: Markie Barratt, Jen Green, Sharon Gregory, Sharon Krummel and Gillian Stephenson

Counter Tenor: Michael Gough

Altos: Jill Cannon, Tanya Izzard, Lorna Marsh, Edana, Anna Orchard and Becca Rudd

Tenors: Adam Clarke, Rob Collins, David Cooper, Angela Goodall, Simon Hincks, Sé Lynch and Stephen Watson

Basses: Ewan Cushman, Anthony Griffiths, Vijay Kothari, Phelim Mac Cafferty, Liam O'Shea and Craig Thomas

The Rainbow Chorus is Brighton & Hove's only LGBT choir and aims to offer an enjoyable, supportive and affirming environment for its members to sing together, so developing their community spirit and awareness and to enable individuals to develop their talents, skills and confidence. Through public performance, we aim to enhance the profile of LGBT people, particularly in Brighton and Hove, and to contribute to the quality and range of community events. As part of our commitment to the local community, we aim to make donations to other organisations from the proceeds of our concerts.

In 2006 we gave a sell-out performance with Hazel O'Connor here in Brighton as part of the Festival and joined in Paris Pride 2007, performing in the beautiful Jardin de Luxembourg as guests of Podium Paris. Tonight's concert continues our 10th Anniversary celebration and there's more to come, so please stay with us for the party!

Rainbow Chorus

Songs from West Side Story

A Concert for
Brighton Pride 2007
as part of our
10th Anniversary Year

Thursday
2nd August
7:30pm



at The Sallis Benney Theatre, University of Brighton, Grand Parade, Brighton

Brighton Pride 2007

www.rainbowchorus.org.uk

The first half of tonight's performance consists of some of our most enjoyed songs over the years plus a few new ones.

The second half celebrates the 'Musicals' theme of Brighton Pride this year and West Side Story is one of the best, so we hope you will enjoy hearing it as much as we've enjoyed singing it.

This evening's Pride Concert Programme

Welcome

Steal Away

(Traditional arr. John A. Stott)

Will You?

(Hazel O'Connor arr. Matthew Pollard)

People - Solo by Sharon Gregory

(Streisand)

Perhaps, perhaps, perhaps

(Osvaldo Farres arr. Matthew Pollard)

My Funny Valentine

(Rogers and Hart arr. Craig Thomas)

On the Street Where You Live - Solo by Phelim MacCafferty

(Loewe and Lerner)

Adagio from Concierto de Aranjuez - Solo by Sé Lynch

(Joaquín Rodrigo)

In This Heart

(Sinéad O'Connor arr. George Overmeire)

Let the River Run

(Carly Simon arr. Jay Althouse)

INTERVAL and refreshments

Songs from West Side Story

Tonight

Something's Coming / Tonight

Maria

America

I Feel Pretty

One Hand, One Heart

Cool (Duet with Sé & Phelim)

Somewhere

West Side Story is a musical written by Arthur Laurents (book), Leonard Bernstein (music), and Stephen Sondheim (lyrics). The story is based loosely on Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, which was, in turn, based on a narrative poem by Arthur Brooke entitled The Tragical History of Romeus and Juliet (1562).

Set in Manhattan's Upper West Side, the musical explores the rivalry between two teenage gangs of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds. The young protagonist, Anton ("Tony"), who belongs to the white gang, falls in love with Maria, the sister of the leader of the rival Puerto Rican gang. The dark theme, sophisticated music, extended dance scenes and focus on social problems marked a turning point in American musical theatre.

The original 1957 Broadway production, directed and choreographed by Jerome Robbins and produced by Robert E. Griffith and Harold Prince, marked Stephen Sondheim's Broadway debut. It ran for 732 performances before going on tour. The show has enjoyed an even longer-running London production, a number of revivals and international success, and spawned an innovative, award-winning 1961 musical film of the same name.