

The Rainbow Chorus are:

Musical Director: Matthew Pollard

Accompanist: Glen Capra

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).

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, including this one.

In 2006 we gave a sell-out performance with Hazel O'Connor here in Brighton as part of the Festival and participated in Europride Sings at the Queen Elizabeth Hall. It's our 10th birthday this year and we've sung in Paris, performed during Brighton Pride and sung with Hazel again. So, why not come along and join us for the party!

Rainbow Chorus



“Freedom”
A Concert for
World AIDS Day
2007

Saturday
1st December
7:30pm

In support of:

International
HIV/AIDS
Alliance

at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Victoria Road, Brighton

World AIDS Day 2007

www.rainbowchorus.org.uk

This evening's World AIDS Day Concert Programme

Introduction Simon Hicks, Chairperson, Rainbow Chorus

I Wish I knew (How it Would Feel to be Free) By Billy Taylor and Dick Dallas
Written in 1954, this quickly became a popular anthem with the American Civil Rights Movement of the 50s and 60s.

Somewhere From West Side Story by Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim
The lyrical climax of the musical, sung to symbolise freedom from prejudice and bigotry, and hope for a more tolerant world.

Under the Ivy By Kate Bush
Sung by Tanya Izzard

I Ya Niwura
No Yana Traditional African songs
Sung by the Women's section

You'll Never Walk Alone From Carousel by Richard Rogers and Oscar Hammerstein
Written 60 years ago as a song of encouragement, it has become an inspirational anthem for sporting events and victims of adversity.
Sung by Sharon Gregory and Anna Orchard

Nobody Knows Trad. - Arrangement by Michael Tippet from "A Child of Our Time".
A traditional African American song, popular since it was sung by slaves dreaming of a time when there would be an end to slavery. Michael Tippet included it in his oratorio "A Child of Our Time" which was written about the Nazi persecution of German Jews in World War II. Gay and a pacifist, he served a prison sentence during the war for his beliefs.

Change in my Life By Bill Straus. Original arrangement by Sean Altman. This version adapted by Edana Minghella.
Soloists Michael Gough and Edana.

INTERVAL and refreshments

City of Brighton Gay Men's Chorus, Musical Director Ignacio Jarquin

An HIV Trilogy

Dancing Queen Written by Benny Andersson, Bjorn Ulvaeus and Stig Anderson.
In 1976 ships from 55 nations poured sailors into Manhattan to join the throngs for America's 200th anniversary, the greatest party ever known. Epidemiologists later noted this when discussing when and where it all began.

Tainted Love Written by Ed Cobb
In 1981, the USA Centre for Disease Control and Prevention reported a cluster of rare pneumonia cases in five homosexual men in Los Angeles. All the cases could be linked with each other by tracking down their sex life. There was evidence of a new virus killing gay men.

He Ain't Heavy He's My Brother By Bobby Scott and Bob Russell
In 1987, the Princess of Wales was one of the first high-profile celebrities to be photographed touching a person infected with HIV. She showed the world that people with AIDS deserve not isolation, but compassion and kindness. It helped change world's opinion, and gave hope to people with AIDS.

Speech by Thandi Haruperi

Thandi was born in Zimbabwe, and is a passionate and inspirational speaker. She is an exponent of self belief and actualisation, born of her own life struggles and coming to terms with an HIV positive diagnosis. Thandi is affiliated with several charities and advisory bodies, including; European Community Advisory Board (ECAB), HIV/AIDS ZIMBABWE (HAZ), Positively Women (PW), and Akina Mama wa Afrika (AMwA). We are very pleased to welcome her to our commemoration of World Aids Day.

Candle lighting Ceremony

The King of Rome Written by Dave Sudbury
Sung by Edana

Homophobia By Chumbawumba
Chumbawumba were at the forefront of the 1980s anarchist punk movement, frequently playing benefit gigs for causes such as animal rights, the anti-war movement, and community groups. Homophobia is addressed in this politically uncompromising song.

What a Wonderful World By Bob Thiele and George David Weiss. Arranged by Paul Naylor-Gray.
Intended as an antidote for the increasingly racially and politically charged climate in North America, this song has been used several times as an anti-war song and as an ironic social commentary.

The Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves

Va Pensiero From the opera Nabucco by Giuseppe Verdi
In the opera, this is sung by the exiled Hebrew slaves for their lost homeland. When it was first performed, there was no Italy; it was part of the Austrian Empire, and the government wanted to ban the opera! Va Pensiero was adopted as and remains a patriotic freedom song by many Italians.

Sopranos:

Markie barratt, Chris Gildersleeve, Jen Green, Sharon Gregory, Sharon Krummel, Caroline Schofield and Gillian Stephenson

Counter Tenor:

Michael Gough

Altos:

Cate Blanchard, Jill Cannon, Gill Davies, Tanya Izzard, Lorna Marsh, Edana, Anna Orchard and Rebecca Rudd

Tenors:

James Claridge, Adam Clarke, Rob Collins, Dave Cooper, Angela Goodall, Simon Hincks, Mike McCarthy and Stephen Watson

Basses:

Darren Clarke, Anthony Griffiths, Vijay Kothari, Phelim MacCafferty, Liam O'Shea and Matt Thompson

We would like to extend our thanks to Marco Nardi, our sign language interpreter for this evening.