



presents:

12th Anniversary Benefit Concert

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

Friday and Saturday
June 4th and 5th, 1999

8:00 PM

Diana Wortham Theater at Pack Place in Asheville

Suggested Donation: \$10.00

Proceeds benefit **HELPMATE, Inc.** and
Womansong's **NEW START FUND**

Deborah Nordeen, Director

WOMANSONG...

We welcome you to our celebration of 12 years as an open community chorus for women. Neither auditions nor reading music is required to be a member – just *love music and sing in tune!* We celebrate the unity, diversity and empowerment of women through musical expression, while serving the community and promoting social change. Our music spans an endless array of themes including our spirituality, womanhood, Mother Earth, healing, humor, cultural diversity and the joy of singing. Many of our songs are original pieces composed by members of Womansong (indicated by ♩).

For further information please feel free to call us at 828-274-8873.

OUR DIRECTOR...

Deborah Nordeen received her Music Education degree from Northern Illinois University. During her career she has directed and performed in professional musical theater and has long been a voice and piano teacher, currently teaching at U.N.C.A. and A.C.T. She began as Director of Womansong in 1994. Deborah wishes to thank all the singers and players for their wholehearted commitment to the Song.

HELPMATE, INC....

In the U.S., a woman is beaten every 12 seconds. Battering is the number one cause of injury to women – more than auto accidents, muggings and rapes combined. Helpmate is the only agency in Asheville and Buncombe County that specifically addresses the issues of domestic violence by offering the following services: emergency shelter, 24-hour crisis line, counseling, support groups, referrals, court advocacy, children's programs, abuser education programs, community education and transitional housing.

NEW START FUND...

This fund was started by Womansong founder, Linda Metzner, in 1987 to provide one-time financial assistance for women who are in transition and making a new beginning. Womansong members want to encourage women in our community to make positive changes in their lives – such as leaving an abusive relationship, becoming drug-free, starting a new business, or going back to school. A referral from a social service agency is all that is needed.

OUR PROGRAM

ACT I "My life flows on in endless song..."

"Sing Your Song"

Written and performed by Glenis Redmond

"Make Me Your Song" ©

Words and music: Trish Alexander

Let love do its work on us, in us, and through us, until we become the song.

"We're All Connected"

Words: Catherine Haas Riley

Soloists: Jayne Caldwell, Catherine Haas Riley, Ann Centers, Connie Ruble

The theme "we are all One" is amusingly conveyed in this piece.

"Sister Song"

Words: Andrew Campbell Music: Michael Eagan Created by: Lisa Sturz

Soloists: Sarah Tambor, Marie McCann, Jean Cassidy

Puppeteers: Lisa Sturz, Va Boyle, Suzanne Tannehill

This song, based on Celtic mythology, depicts the cycle of life in music accompanied by a visual rendering in puppetry.

"Soon I Will Be Done"

Words and music: Traditional
Conductor: Sue Roberts Ford

Arrangement: Ysaye Barnwell
Soloist: Deborah Nordeen

Sometimes the only solace is to mentally turn away from the weary world and face "home".

"Romanian Lullaby" (Joc de Leagana)

Traditional Balkan Folk Song

The time of birth was tinged with sadness with the awareness that the baby might not survive, but even a short life full of love was better than living to old age without love.

♀♫ **"Song to My Daughters"**

Words and music: Cheryl Orengo
Arrangement: Deborah Nordeen
Soloist: Cheryl Orengo

This mother sings of the strong bond of love for her children and the painful process of letting go. Dedicated to Nicole and Lauren.

♀♫ **"Anthem I Am"**

Words and music: Sue Roberts Ford
Conductor: Jayne Caldwell

Written especially for the young woman who is emerging from a tender seedling state to her full potential, flowering and strong.

♀♫ **"Your Faith Will Not Be Broken" ©**

Words: Zerka Moreno Music: Catherine Haas Riley
Conductor: Catherine Haas Riley
Readers: Susie St. Clair and Kathlyn Stein

Your faith will surely be enhanced by the poignant personal stories of Womansong members which accompany this song.

"How Can I Keep From Singing?"

Traditional melody Words: Ann Warner and Doris Plenn
Arrangement: Deborah Nordeen Soloist: Catherine Haas Riley

Our theme song expresses the triumph of the soul over worldly ills:

***"My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation,
I hear the real though far off hymn, that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing,
It sounds an echo in my soul, how can I keep from singing?"***

"B. L. Woman"

Words and music: Marla Beth Elliott Arrangement: Pamela Gerke
Soloist: Carole Miller
Dancers: Lisa Sturz, Kathlyn Stein, and Holly Simms (choreographer)

Women of all sizes and shapes will get a kick out of this tribute to a healthy body image, and loving ourselves just the way we are.

Intermission

ACT II "It sounds an echo in my soul..."

♫ "A Retrospective For This Last Century"

Poem written by: Jean Cassidy
Reader: Idelle Davids

"Kyrie Eleison"

Words and music: Abbess Hildegard Von Bingen Director: Ann-Adele Lloyd
Ensemble: Ann-Adele Lloyd, Winnie Barrett, Gail Cable, Lindy Oberlin, Mary Brown-Kinlen, Erin Purvis and Marge Rankin

Hildegard was a 12th century visionary mystic with no musical training, but whose music came to her through divine inspiration, rendering it unlike any other plainchant of her time.

"A Chantar M'er" (I Must Sing of That Which I'd Rather Not)

Words and music: La Comtesse de Die Soloist: Ann Adele Lloyd

A Noblewoman of Provence, La Comtesse was known to be a troubaritz of the late 12th century.

"African Medley"

Director: Sue Roberts Ford

Somagwaza: traditional South African song of initiation.

Babethandeza: traditional Zulu, meaning, "Women of old used to pray... things are as they are because of prayer".

Frekoba Dance: West Africa, featuring dancers Debra Roberts (choreographer), Lauren Ford, Glenis Redmond and Katie Birchenough.

We celebrate the rhythm and spirit of Africa!

♫ "In My Dreams"

Words: Mendy Knott Music: Deborah Nordeen

Dedicated to parents and teachers who, by living example, teach the children of the Earth that the path to freedom can only be found through our acceptance of all people in all walks of life.

"The Arrow and the Song" ©

Words: H.W. Longfellow

Music: Denise D'Angelo Jones (sister of Ms. Nordeen)

Song becomes immortal when its love-arrow reaches the target: the human heart.

"Blue Moon"

Words and music: Rogers & Hart
Featuring: Jayne Caldwell

Womansong adds a new dimension to this sweet old standard.

♫ "I Am Walking Among You" ©

Words: Michael Mathias Music: Catherine Haas Riley
Reader: Marijo Simpson

This song is dedicated to all seekers listening to the voice of the Divine Essence, which is within us all.

* * * * *

♫ = Composed by a Womansong member

WOMANSONG SINGERS:

Sopranos:

Winnie Barrett
Darlene Berndt
Anne Centers
Chiwa

Sue Roberts Ford
Nancy Kuykendall
Ann-Adele Lloyd
Marie McCann

Anna Morrison
Cheryl Orenge
Abigail Whitworth

Second Sopranos:

Jayne Caldwell
Jean Cassidy
Barbara Demeter
Cathy Fuller Hinson
Denice Kopf

Lynn Posze
Marge Rankin
Catherine Haas Riley
Renate Ridders
Holly Simms

Marijo Simpson
Susie St. Clair
Lisa Sturz
Sarah Tambor
Debbie Thelen

Altos:

Carol Smith Ali
Mary Brown-Kinlen
Va Boyle
Barbera Bushing
Idelle Davids

Clara Goude-lock
Cathy Hubbell
Carole Miller
Karen Pieper
Connie Ruble

Rita Speltz
Kathlyn Stein
Suzanne Tannehill
Elizabeth Ann Wyndelts
Susan Holman

PERFORMERS:

Assistant Director: Sue Roberts Ford

Instrumentalists:

Piano: Sue R. Ford, Va Boyle, Cathy H. Riley, Deborah Nordeen

Percussion Ensemble: Sue Roberts Ford (Director), Jayne Caldwell, Anne Centers, Carole Miller, Connie Ruble, Marijo Simpson, Susie St. Clair, Suzanne Tannehill

Percussion: Sue Roberts Ford, Denice Kopf

Recorders: Jayne Caldwell, Cathy Hubbell, Cathy Riley

Mandolin: Elizabeth Ann Wyndelts

Guitar: Barbera Bushing

Harp: Ann-Adele Lloyd

Clarinet: Cathy Hubbell

Harmonium: Denice Kopf

Violin: Karen Pieper

Ocarina: Suzanne Tannehill

Rattle: Marijo Simpson

String Bass: Jayne Caldwell

Cello: Sue Ford

Psaltry: Deborah Nordeen

Romanian Dancers: Ann-Adele Lloyd (choreographer), Anne Centers, Marge Rankin, Susie St. Clair, Carol Smith-Ali, Suzanne Tannehill, Mary Schachtschneider and Kathlyn Stein

PRODUCTION:

Artistic Director: Deborah Nordeen

Concert Chairwoman: Marijo Simpson

Publicity and Marketing: Winnie Barrett, Darlene Berndt, Idelle Davids, Connie Ruble

Technical Advisor: Lisa Sturz

Animation Graphics Artists: Lisa Sturz, Denice Kopf, Cathy Hubbell, Kathlyn Stein, Deborah Scott, Holly Simms

Animation Operators: Bob Bell, Barbara Bell, Jutta Tauber

Stage Manager: Marston Blow

House Manager: Mary Schachtschneider

Road Crew: Cathy Hubbell

Lighting and Sound: Diana Wortham Staff

Concert Committee: Marijo Simpson, Deborah Nordeen, Sue Roberts Ford, Jayne Caldwell, Jean Cassidy, Suzanne Tannehill, Connie Ruble, Kathlyn Stein

Womansong Logo: Chiwa

Womansong Wise Woman Council Coordinator: Lynn Posze

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SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Mr. Peter Boggs at American Speedy Printing (phone 828-252-3082)
for the printing of our beautiful programs.
Trish Alexander, Denise D'Angelo and Michael Eagan for permission to
perform their original songs.
Ysaye Barnwell for musical resources.
U.N.C.A. for rehearsal space.
Joe Roberts for rhythm assistance and use of drums.
All our volunteers.