2022-2023
VOICES OF NOTE presents

ATLANTA GAY MENS CHORUS

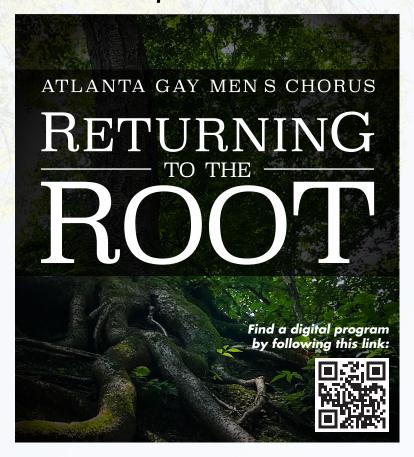
# RETURNING TO THE TO THE TO THE

ATLANTA GAY MEN'S CHORUS

JUNE 9 @ 7:30pm Atlanta City Hall

JUNE 10 @ 7:30PM Conant Performing Arts Center Oglethorpe University 2022-2023

# VOICES OF NOTE presents



Donald Milton III Artistic Director

David Artadi Beno Assistant Conductor David Aurilio
Interim Executive Director

Johnathan Crutchfield Accompanist

#### SPONSORED BY:



















# Program

#### ACT 1

Kua Rongo Ngapo Wehi, arr. Mark David Buckles (TTBB Premiere) Lucas Artadi-Beno, Daniel O'Rourke, soloists
Lucas Artadi-Beno, Daniel O'Rourke, soloists  I Ain't Afraid
Jacob Brinson, Jay Wynn, soloists  The Golden Rule
Returning to the Root
Adinu
Not Ready to Make Nice
La Vie Boheme from Rent
Finale B from Rent
ACT 2
Seasons of Love from Rent
Let the River Run
be with me
Alex Allabach, Gabriel Bishop, Christopher Ladouceur, Jim Macknik, Joseph Quintana, Jacob Brinson, soloists
Spaséniye Sodélal
<b>The Greatest Gift</b> Sufjan Stevens Gabriel Bishop, Nicholas Johnson, Eric Mask
The Rainbow Collection
Panache and Various Voices Tour Group Nicholas Johnson, Tony Glass, Gabriel Bishop, Christopher Repotski, Matt Daigle, Eric Mask, Jay Wynn, soloists
Scare Away the Dark Passenger David Artadi-Beno, conductor
Raise You Up/Just Be from Kinky BootsCyndi Lauper, arr. Stephen Oremus Kyle Hildebrand, Christopher Repotski, Tony Glass, soloists

For a digital program scan the QR code:



#### **Selected Texts and Translations:**

#### Kua Rongo

Ngapo Wehi arr. Mark David Buckles

I have heard the voice of welcome greeting me, Welcoming me as part of the wider world! Rise up! Welcome! Welcome!

#### The Golden Rule

Wayland Rogers

#### Christianity

Do unto others as you would have them do to you.

Jesus of Nazareth, New Testament

#### Islam

Wish for your brother what you wish for yourself

The Prophet Muhammad, Hadith

#### **Judaism**

Love your neighbor as yourself.

Leviticus 19:18, Torah

#### Sikhism

Be a stranger to no one and be a friend to all. Guru Granth Sahib, p. 1299

#### **Buddhism**

Just as I am so are they, just as they are so am I. The Buddha, Udana-Varga

#### Confucianism

Do not to others what you do not want done to you.

Confucius, Analects

#### Jainism

Treat all creatures as you would treat yourself.
Sutrakritanga 1.11.33

#### **Taoism**

See our neighbor's gain and loss as your own Lao Tzu, T'ai Shang Kan Ying P'ien

#### Returning to the Root

Joshua Rist

Seek to attain a perfect emptiness, Remain patient and sincere, Every living thing rising as one, Through this we observe the returning to the root.

#### Adinu

Shireen Abu-Khader and Andre De Quadros

I follow the religion of love wherever love is found For love is my religion and my faith

#### be with me

Joshua Bornfield text by Rabbi Shmuel Hanagid

I
i'd sell my soul for that fawn
of a boy night walker
to sound of the 'ud & flute playing
who saw the glass in my hand said
"drink the wine from between my lips"
& the moon was a yod drawn on
the cover of dawn—in gold ink

take the blood of the grape from
her red jeweled glass like fire
in middle of hail
this lady with lips of scarlet
thread roof of her mouth
like good wine
mouth like her body well performed:
from blood of corpses the tips
of her fingers are red thus
half of her hand is like ruby
half quartz

that's it-I love that fawn plucking roses from your gardenyou can put the blame on me but if you once looked at my lover with your eyes your lovers would be hunting you & you'd be gone that boy who told me: pass some honey from your hive I answered: give me some back on your tongue & he got angry, yelled: shall we two sin against the living God? I answered: let your sin, sweet master, be with me

#### Spaséniye Sodéla

Pavel Chesnokov

Salvation is created in the midst of the earth. Alleluia ATLANTA GAY MENS CHORUS

# RETURNING TO THE ROTHE

## From the Conductor

Welcome to Returning to the Root!

I was sitting in a cafe in Jerusalem talking to a vocalist who told me about this poetry he had just found. It was written by a Rabbi in the 11th century and it was homoerotic and quite steamy. This got me thinking about love songs connected to religion and that the basis of all of the world's religions weren't about a deity, but about how we treat each other. The golden rule is universal, not just in religious communities, but in all communities. I yearn for a time when all people return to the root of all communal interaction; just be good to each other.

I also know that for centuries people have used religion as a force for division and supremacy. Purposefully mistranslated texts have been thrown at countless people and very specifically at the LGBTQ+community and have caused significant harm to millions. This concert addresses that as well. Holly Near's brilliant folk song, "I Ain't Afraid" puts it bluntly: I'm not afraid of your deity, "I'm afraid of what you do in the name of your god." We're also doing a powerful song by The Chicks for all of those who were mistreated by their home religion and are "Not Ready to Make Nice."

In the end, it all comes back to love, acceptance and community. We are stronger when we accept each other for exactly who we are, respect each other's choices, and celebrate our differences. "Never let them tell you who you oughta be." We're glad you've come here tonight so we can "Raise You Up!"

- Donald Milton III

# ATLANTA GAY MEN'S CHORUS

**Members** 

#### Tenor I

Charles Davis III
Tony Glass
Tomas Helgason
Dick Johnson
Nicholas Johnson # ^
Christopher Ladouceur
Victor Lin
Jim Macknik
Sean McClenney #
Daniel Moore #
Hunter Reedy
Doug Rosauer
Nick Ruhe

#### Tenor II

Andrew Berardi +
Dywahn Bethea
Gabriel Bishop #
Zach Burgess
Harry Chiu
Caleb Evans
Matt Flocco
Miguel Angel Hoppe
Brandan Howell
Phil Julien
Vito Leanza
Eric Mask #
Ben McNair
Mykal O'Neal Slack
Bill Paden

Joseph Quintana Christopher Repotski # Scott Tanzer Asher Thompson Jay Wynn # ^

#### Baritone

Alex Allabach Lucas Artadi-Beno # David Artadi-Beno # ^ Jaliyl Collins Matthew Daigle # Adam Dalton Binh Dam Woody Eadie + Matt Harrington # + Kyle Hildebrand Chandler Horning Gellin Hughes + Mike Jacobs Joey Jaworski + \* **Eugene Jennings** Mark Keeler Christopher Merkle Mauricio Naranjo-Diaz Sion New III Thomas Nguyen Greg Savitt Dwayne Wakefield Jeffery Zwartjes

#### Bass

Don Becker Steve Benfield Jacob Brinson Felix Castro Jeff Cone Devin Coutreyer lames Davis # Thomas Flake Jarrett Heatherly Neil Hediger # Maurice Johnson Nicholas Kennell-Mazenko Nathaniel Lewis # Don Mead Paul Newman Daniel O'Rourke Dan Seymour # Philip Shannin Hugh Simons John Stegall + Brian Taylor ^ David Welniak

- ^ Section Leader
- \* VON Board Member
- # Panache
- + Chorus Leadership



## **Voices of Note Staff**



**Donald Milton III** (He/Him/His) joined the Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus in January 2018, bringing an impressive background in conducting, music education and music administration. He came to Atlanta in 2008 to become the director of music for the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta, the largest UU congregation in the Southeast. At UUCA Mr. Milton runs one of the most eclectic and excellent music programs in the city. Active in the Atlanta music scene, he has served as the executive director of the Atlanta Master Chorale, artistic director of the DeKalb Choral Guild, founder and artistic director

of Lux Atlanta, and founder of Sky Punch, a company that produces sing-alongs, concerts and other interactive community music events.

Mr. Milton is an active choral clinician, guest conductor, lecturer, and performer. He has presented his lecture "The Second Voice Change: The Aging Voice" in a dozen states and three countries. Inspired by many trans people in the Atlanta community, Mr. Milton has been focusing on working with trans voices, helping people express themselves fully as they truly are.

Mr. Milton studied at the University of Michigan School of Music, with concentrations in education, conducting and vocal pedagogy.



David Aurilio, Interim Executive Director, (He/Him/His)
David Aurilio has over 35 years of extensive experience in the
Entertainment, Marketing/Branding and Non-Profit sectors. Career
highlights include creating, executive producing and casting live shows
for Universal Studios theme parks in Florida, California, and Japan
to producing Film/TV projects and Live Events for ABC-Disney, NBC,
Warner Brothers, New Line Cinema, 20th Century Fox and the Dolby
Theatre in Hollywood. Since moving to Atlanta in 2011 and has
produced the GLAAD 10th Anniversary event honoring Don Lemon,

volunteers as an adjudicator for ArtsBridge and served as the Executive Director for the Spiritual Living Center of Atlanta. A graduate of Kent State University in Ohio, David has a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Journalism and Public Relations.



**David G. Artadi-Beno**, Assistant Conductor, (He/Him/His) has proudly sung with the AGMC and Panache since 1996. He holds a B.A. in linguistics and studied music and piano performance at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he sang and accompanied for the Men's Glee Club and Madrigals. After earning a Master of Public Affairs degree at Princeton University, David pursued a career as an analyst with the U.S. Government Accountability Office and now serves as the agency's Atlanta Field Office Manager. David also sings with OurSong Atlanta, speaks several languages, and is

married to fellow baritone Dr. Lucas Artadi-Beno, with whom he enjoys traveling around the world and raising their rescue "fur babies."

Additional Voices of Note Staff Melissa Arasi, AWC Artistic

Director

Dan Dunlop, Chair
Marc Tammes, Treasurer
Nathaniel O'LearyHodges, Secretary
Sharla Borghorst
Gail Crowder

Joey Jaworski,
AGMC President
Elizabeth Scott
Chantae Pittman,
AWC President
Dr. Jesse Peel,
Board Member
Emeritus

Voices of Note Board of Directors

#### Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus Leadership

2022/2023 Season

Donald Milton III, Artistic Director
Joey Jaworski, Chorus President
David Artadi-Beno, Assistant Conductor
Andrew Berardi, President-Elect
John Stegall, Financial Officer
Woody Eadie, Secretary
Matt Harrington, Librarian
Gellin Hughes, Co-Marketing Officer
Aaron DeSilva, Co-Marketing Officer

#### **Band**

Piano – Jonathan Crutchfield Guitar – Joshua Bornfield Percussion – Adam Dalton Percussion – Mykal Slack Percussion – Matt Daigle

## The Crecendo Chorus

# Celebrating our Dynamic Community of Investors

#### VISIONARY

David and Lucas Artadi-Beno Nathaniel O'Leary Hodges Daniel Dunlop

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CHAMPION

Gil Moor

Tony Conway/A Legendary Event

Dr. Jesse Peel

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Donald Milton III

Dick Johnson

Jennifer Sutton

Lorri Palko

Paul Newman

Joey Jaworski and Erik Howell

Bromley Dyson Jr

Melissa Arasi

John Steaall

David Aurilio

Dr. I. D. Davis

Gail Crowder

Ken Skalitzky

Madeline Kahn

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Angela Stallings

Bob Williamson

Connie Wernersbach

David Sawyer

Dr Maureen Dinges

**Eric Tammes** 

Gary Sanginario

John Brooks

Jon Seymour

Julian Williams

Nicholas Roth

Penny Goshert

Scott Sox

Tim Lawson

Wanda Brown

Charles Davis

Chris Pickle

Dr. David Olt

David Saitta

Deseriee McCauley

## The Crecendo Chorus

Celebrating our Dynamic Community of Investors

#### LEGACY SOCIETY

The following members are recognized for their generosity in helping ensure the future for Voices of Note by including us in their estate planning:

Lee Alexander Hamel\*
Loyd Clifton Lietch\*
Dennis R. Nance\*
Tom Sands
Greg Savitt
Elizabeth Scott
John Stegall







# Ann Pinyan Memorial Music Commission Fund

As many of you know, Ann was a board chair for the Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus and the Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus and was instrumental in the creation of the Atlanta Women's Chorus. As an active singing member of the AWC, Ann was membership president twice. As an honoring of her immense service to our Voices of Note family, we have started the Music Commission Fund in her name. These funds are being used to support the commissioning of new works for chorus of all voicings (SSAA, TTBB primarily, but also SATB). Ann's commitment to our organization and her love of music makes this dedication especially meaningful for all who knew and loved her.



We hope you will support the Ann Pinyan Memorial Music Commission Fund!

Donate today by clicking the link below:

awchorus.org/ann







#### Vacation Cabin in Fannin County – Blue Ridge area

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- Sleeps 8
- 3 Bedrooms with King beds and HD TV, and sleeper sofa
- 3 full baths
- Mountain Views

Mention this ad at booking and 10% of nightly rental will be donated to the AGMC.







# Your audience is right here

#### Hit your target audience with Voices of Note!

The Atlanta Women's Chorus and The Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus offer ad placement in our print and digital programs for every concert. We'll sing your praises every time an audience member opens our program and sees your sponsorship!

#### Full Page Ad:

\$300 for one or \$550 for both choruses 5.25" wide, 8.25" tall\*

#### Half Page Ad:

\$150 for one or \$250 for both choruses 5.25" wide, 4.065" tall\*

#### **Quarter Page Ad:**

\$75 for one or \$100 for both choruses 2.565" wide, 4.065" tall\*

Contact us today and plan your ad campaign with Voices of Note. voicesofnote.org \[ \begin{align\*} 470.960.9359 \]



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# REPRESENTING ALL OF US!

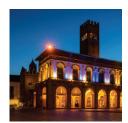
Various Voices is the most important LGBTQ+ choir festival in Europe. The 2023 festival is organized by the social promotion association Aulos, in collaboration with Komos APS and on behalf of Legato Choirs (European Association of LGBTQ+ choirs). It is a non-competitive event that takes place every four years in a European city, chosen by the choirs who take part in Legato Choirs and/or GALA Choruses. This year, the City of Atlanta will be represented by 30 members of the Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus in Bologna, Italy!

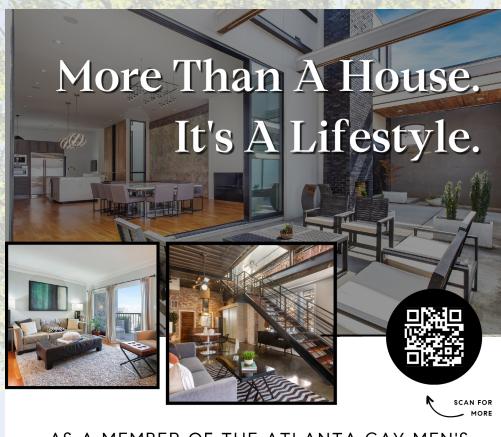
The goal of the festival is spreading – through music – messages, demands, needs and questions of the LGBTQ+ community, in order to promote a welcoming and inclusive world.

Through their 35-year history, Various Voices has spread the message of inclusion all over Europe. Voices of Note proudly salutes our members who will raise their voices for this wonderful event. Your accomplishment celebrates your own talents, every member of the Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus and the Atlanta Women's Chorus, and each one of us in the metropolitan Atlanta area. Sing Proud!









AS A MEMBER OF THE ATLANTA GAY MEN'S CHORUS, I PROUDLY SUPPORT THE ARTS IN OUR COMMUNITY. WHEN YOU BUY OR SELL WITH ME, I DONATE A PORTION OF MY COMMISSION TO VOICES OF NOTE

LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO FIND YOUR NEXT HOME!

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# **JOIN THE CHORUS!**





AUDITIONS WILL BE AUGUST 31ST. SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SIGN UP.

