

Eatnemenen Veulie (Fairest Lord Jesus)

by Frode Fjellheim

Give Me a Barbershop Song

by Roy Dawson, arr. Steve Hall

A Wink and a Smile

by Marc Shaiman and Ramsey McLean, arr. Kim Brittain

Blew By You

by Roy Orbison and Joe Melson, arr. Tom Gentry

Tin Roof Blues

by Water Melrose and Mel Stitzel, arr. Don Gray

Out Behind the Barn

by Boudleaux Bryant, lyrics and arr. by Harlequin bsq

Blue Velvet

by Bernie Wayne and Lee Morris, arr. Ruby Rhea

Good Old Acappella

by Les Carter and Susan Carter, arr. David Wright

When I Lift Up My Head

by Dottie Rambo, arr. David Wright

It is Well with My Soul

by Horatio Spafford and Philip Bliss, arr. David Harrington

I'm Feeling' Fine

by Mosie Lister, arr. Joe Liles

VOCAL ASCENT

****Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind***

words by William Shakespeare, music by John Rutter

Butterfly

by Mia Makaroff

Chili Con Carne

by Anders Edenroth

City Called Heaven

African-American Surge Song, arr. Josephine Poelinitz

Soloists: Hillary Devries and Alec Beatty

Earth Song

by Frank Ticheli

****Fly***

By Sara Groves, arr. Susan La Barr

Soloists: Kim Mitchell and Allen Nixon

****The Ghost of Molly Maguire***

Irish-American Folksong, arr. Gene Glickman

Hallelujah

by Leonard Cohen, arr.

Soloists: Manuel Ortega and Katrina Harrison

***Il est bel et bon**

by François Passereau

La Lluvia (The Rain)

By Stephen Hatfield (based on an Ecuadorian panpipe melody)

O Music

Words by Kahil Gibran, Music by David Brunner

Cello soloist: Jennifer Enns

Run To You

Words, music and arrangement by *Pentatonix*

Vocal Ascent Musicians

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR: Debbie McLeod

ACCOMPANIST: Steven Webb

SOPRANOS Stephanie Craciun, Mary DeGrow, Hillary Devries, Sydney Earpwiebe, Jennifer Enns, Baden Gaeke Franz, Sara Gossen, Katrina Harrison, Sarah LaRue, Morgan Mackenzie, Marguerite Massicote, Kim Mitchell, Helen Peters, Sherry Tran, Sheryl White, Kara Young

ALTOS Breanna Barker, Susan Cowtan, Barb Enders, Maria Enright, Megan Friesen, Steph Klassen, Sara Kos-Whicher, Vera Kostyshyn, Emily Nicholson, Marys Niesink, Tasha Prychitko, Amanda Shave, Nicole Sterne, Alina Wilson, Ashleigh Uhrich, Jessica Wilson, Ally Young

TENORS Alec Beatty, Richard Bevan, Jon Cowtan, Russ Greene, Rob McMahon, Allen Nixon, Andre Smith, Brendan Stothers,

BASSES Andrew Enns, Andy Malyk, Aaron McLeod, Manuel Ortega, Jonas Page, Henry Peters, Harrison Schwartz, James Turowski

Special thanks are extended to:

The Parish of St. Peter's Anglican Church, for hosting this concert

The Parish of St. Andrew's Anglican Church, for providing our rehearsal space

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vocalascent@gmail.com

Please silence all electronic devices prior to the concert. Thank you.

In the fall of 1998, the members of Harlequin bsq (*Herold, Larry, Paul and Rob*) decided to form a quartet dedicated to good quality singing and entertainment. They also chose to compete in Barbershop Harmony Society competitions. The quartet has followed through on this commitment. The "four amigos" have dedicated Tuesday evenings to practice and coaching sessions ever since the quartet was formed. By Christmas of 1998, Harlequin was performing regularly. The quartet achieved its first goal in 1999; winning the Red Carpet Division Novice Quartet award in St. Cloud, Minnesota. The foursome attended Harmony College in St. Joseph, Missouri that same summer. To be competitive at the district level the quartet has continued to invest in coaching for the purpose of improving the quality of the sound it produces. The quartet attended Harmony College again in 2004, but this time, the trip to St. Joe was combined with an invitation to Galesburg, Illinois where Harlequin was one of the quartets asked to open the final show of that legendary quartet, *The Gashouse Gang*.

After more than a decade filled with hundreds of performances, quartet memories are too numerous to count. The list of performances includes everything from delivering singing valentines to birthdays, anniversaries, weddings as well as funerals; and to shows in seniors' residences and fundraising for disaster relief. The quartet has appeared three different times on the concert stage with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. It has been the headline performer on shows in Brandon, Portage la Prairie, Dauphin and Strathclair in Manitoba as well as Fort Frances and Kenora in Ontario; Lancaster, North Dakota and Winona, Minnesota.

Harlequin has enjoyed strong support from the Winnipeg Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society and has appeared on every annual show put on by the Winnipeg Golden Chordsmen since the quartet was formed. Harlequin has been selected as the chapter Quartet of the Year, every year since it was first eligible in 1999. The quartet has appeared numerous times on local television and radio stations to promote chapter events.

In 2004, Harlequin released a CD with music for the Christmas holiday. This followed several years where its very busy Christmas performance schedule included serenades provided to the patrons of Shelmerdine's greenhouse on the festive season's weekends. After so much practice with the Christmas repertoire, it seemed only natural to record it. Nolan Balzer at DaCapo Studios worked his magic to make the recordings come together and he continues to work with the quartet as it continues to record more material for future CD releases. The quartet repertoire includes traditional barbershop, Christmas music, doo-wop, modern and gospel. In fact the repertoire is so huge the quartet is able to individualize performance programs to suit the needs of particular venues and patrons.

The success of Harlequin bsq in large measure is due to the bond of friendship and mutual respect that has developed over the years between the four men as well as the steadfast commitment to continued improvement in singing and performance technique. Harlequin's love of sharing music is what truly motivates the group. Herold, Larry, Paul and Rob hope that their dedication to sharing quality entertainment and music with all of their audiences will, in some small way, make the world a happier place for those they have the pleasure to

entertain.

A good performance cannot be achieved on technical perfection alone. A good group requires a chemistry that can only be achieved when there is a bond between each of the members. Off the stage, they are friends who partake in the joys and sorrows of each other's lives. On the stage, they combine their voices to create beautiful music and stirring melodies. These are the people behind the voices of Harlequin ...

Herold Driedger (Bass)

Herold provides Harlequin with its rich, bass layer of sound. He is a retired teacher and former politician...but most importantly a cancer survivor. He likes to take long walks (*before breakfast in winter and on the golf course in summer*). His life experience and people skills are currently put to use as a member of the Canadian Cancer Action Network in the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer to advance the interests and concerns of cancer patients and their caregivers. Herold says that singing keeps him grounded and singing in harmony keeps him balanced.

Larry Hunter (Lead/Baritone)

Larry originally sang baritone with Harlequin and is currently the lead singer (*and the storyteller*) in its

contest and new song repertoire. He was born and raised in Winnipeg and started singing in a barbershop quartet in high school. Originally trained as a research biologist, Larry is now self-employed and kept very busy as a renovation contractor and President of Hunter Homes Ltd. When not working or singing, Larry spends time with his wife, Heather, operating a Bed & Breakfast out of their country manor.

Paul Bullock (Baritone/Lead)

Paul originally sang lead with Harlequin and now sings baritone in the new quartet repertoire. By day, he is a Professor in the Department of Soil Science at the University of Manitoba, where he has been teaching and doing research in the area of agrometeorology since 2000. He is originally a farm boy from Saskatchewan and grew up in a household where he played guitar and sang at weddings and family functions with his brother and three sisters. He sang for several years with the Kirkfield Park United Church choir in Winnipeg, prior to joining the Winnipeg Golden Chordsmen chorus and being converted to barbershop music ever after.

Rob Smith (Tenor)

Rob, being the tenor, willingly endures the ribbing about why he sings so high. He was a social worker for the Province of Manitoba for 35 years in several northern and rural communities. At a young age he was introduced to choral and harmony singing by his mother and has sung in several church and sacred choirs including a trip to several European countries in 1995. In 1982 he was introduced to Barbershop music while living in Ashern. When he moved to Winnipeg in 1988 he joined the Golden Chordsmen Chorus and has sung in several quartets. Since retirement, he is known as "**Marg's Honey**" as he helps his wife Marg care for their 500 beehives. *(He claims it's the honey that makes his voice so sweet!)*

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