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Acclaimed Chorus Brings Music Message of Diversity, Challenge and Joy To Macon

Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus Spring Concert Expands to State Tour With Special Performance In Macon

February 5, 2010 — Broadway to jazz, powerful spirituals to beautiful classical favorites... **The Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus** and Macy's presents "**The Road Leads Back: Georgia on Our Minds.**" Coming to Theatre Macon for one special performance on **Friday, March 19**, at 8:00 p.m., the showcase of diverse and entertaining musical styles is being presented as a statewide tour of over 100-voices of the highly acclaimed chorus.

"Macon is a perfect example of one of the prime reasons I accepted the job with the Atlanta chorus," said Kevin Robison, now in his third year as the chorus' full-time artistic director. "It has deep and vibrant roots in the heritage of music in this country. Home to such notables as Lena Horne, Otis Redding, Little Richard, Randy Crawford, violinist Robert McDuffie and more, it's no wonder that Macon became the home of the Georgia Music Hall of Fame. And to perform in the intimate and historical old Ritz Theatre in downtown Macon will truly be a delight."

"Our mission is to entertain, educate, and connect audiences and members through music that is distinguished for its creativity, diversity and artistic excellence, said Executive Director, Keith Fenton. "We have a responsibility to bring our positive message of diversity and inclusiveness not just to the people within the metro area, but to those from smaller communities who may be searching for affirmation. Not every area can sustain a large, professional community group such as the 100-member AGMC, and we're proud to 'take our show on the road' to Macon this spring."

"It's a very exciting time in the life of the Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus," Fenton added. "While the economy has certainly affected many nonprofit arts organizations, thanks to our season subscribers, generous donors and our impeccable singing membership- we are vibrant, alive and moving forward in the pursuit of our mission. I am so proud to be working with these exceptional men, and can't wait to take this moving and entertaining production on the road in March."

While the music is diverse, there's a common theme running through the concert, noted Robison. "Everyone is on an incredible and intriguing journey through life. Some of that journey of discovery is joyous, some of it spiritual, and some carries great sorrow," the artistic director noted. "But through the beauty of music, we can acknowledge and celebrate the knowledge we gain about ourselves – and each other – through that journey."

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The first part of the concert program, “Journeys,” includes highlights from the chorus’ first two seasons under Robison’s direction. Wagner’s “Pilgrims Chorus,” and selections from “Sinfonia Sacra” by Daniel Pinkham are rounded out with classics like “He Ain’t Heavy, He’s My Brother,” Billy Strayhorn’s “Take the A-Train,” and the timeless “Georgia On My Mind.”

Part two of the concert will feature highlights from the AGMC’s critically acclaimed original production of “**Shaken, Not Heard**” from last season. “The interest generated by this unique and powerful work far exceeded our expectations,” Robison admitted. Since it’s about each person’s personal journey, a shortened version of this work fits perfectly within the theme of our concert.”



ABOUT THE ATLANTA GAY MEN’S CHORUS

One of the world’s longest-running all-male choruses, the Atlanta Gay Men’s Chorus has a well-earned reputation for musical leadership and excellence. Since its founding in 1981, the Atlanta Gay Men’s Chorus has been a voice for diversity and inclusiveness, presenting high-quality musical entertainment evidenced by the presentation of empowering performances throughout the Southeast.

The Chorus has frequently appeared at premier performing arts venues such as the Fox Theatre, Atlanta Symphony Hall, the Cathedral of St. Philip, the Robert Ferst Center for the Performing Arts, the Atlanta Civic Center, Emory University, Agnes Scott College, the Alliance Theatre and the world-class Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre.

The Atlanta Gay Men’s Chorus is supported in part by the Georgia Council for the Arts (GCA) through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly. GCA also receives support from its partner agency, the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional corporate sponsors include Dan Lax Media, Metrotainment Cafes, IKEA, Integral HR, PricewaterhouseCoopers.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Date: Friday, March 19 @ 8:00 PM

Venue: Theatre Macon

Ticket Price: \$20

TO PURCHASE TICKETS CALL (478) 746-9485 OR VISIT WWW.THEATREMACON.COM

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