



SET ONE

Time Pieces: Clocks

by Stephen Chatman

Celebrating the time that has passed over our 30 years as a chorus!

Wanting Memories

by Ysaye Barnwell

I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.
 Yes I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes

You used to rock me in the cradle of our arms, You said you'd hold me till the pains of life were gone.
 You said you'd comfort me in times like these and now I need you, and now I need you and you are gone.

I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.
 Since you've gone and left me, there's been so little beauty, But I know I saw it clearly through your eyes.

Now the world outside is such a cold and bitter place, here inside I have few things that will console,
 and when I try to hear your voice above the storms of life then I remember that I was told.

I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.
 I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.

I think on the things that made me feel so wonderful when I was young, I think on the things that made me laugh, made me dance, made me sing. I think on the things that made me grow into a being full of pride;
 think on these things, for they are truth.

I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.
 I thought that you were gone, but now I know you're with me; you are the voice that whispers all I need to hear.

I know a “please”, a “thank-you” and a smile will take me far, I know that I am you and you are me and we are one, I know that who I am is numbered in each grain of sand, I know that I’ve been blessed again and over again.

I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me to see the beauty in the world with my own eyes.
I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.

01 - Roots

Building Community and creating social change by raising our voices in song.

Paul Petrella, Founder: We certainly have had our challenges, musically. And we certainly had our challenges, organizationally. There were times I wondered if we would make it or not. But we *did*. And we had so many people, right from the beginning, who were really enthusiastic about [One Voice], and I think that really sustained the group through those challenges.

Darcy: I moved to the Twin Cities in 1988. I’d lived in rural Wisconsin, and it was a very lonely place for someone who was self-identifying as a lesbian. So I moved here looking for a community and to expand my coming out experience. When I got to the Cities, we were reading *Equal Time*, which was the [GLBT] magazine at the time. It advertised for a mixed chorus that a gentleman named Paul Petrella was trying to pull together, for both gay and lesbian voices to sing together. And that was quite exciting for me because I didn’t have a lot of knowledge about the GLBT community. Back then it wasn’t “GLBT,” we talked about “G and L.”

Dennis: In the beginning I remember feeling sort of like we [gay men] were in this alone. And then slowly over time, women and lesbians in the community started to work with us, in supporting us with services for people with AIDS. I think it was a huge breakthrough, gay men working with women.

Marnie: The very first rehearsal was amazing. It was just a room full of gay and lesbian people, and everyone was just so *pumped*.

Char: It wasn’t long before I felt like I had finally found my people, my community.

One Voice

by Ann Reed

I have one voice, one voice to be heard, and I struggle with each and every word.
One voice, found within my heart, one heart

I have one voice, to sing, argue, explain. A voice to comfort, a voice to give to pain.
I have a heart that I must answer to. It belongs to me. Oh, one voice, one heart.

Other voices, I hear them like they came from inside of me, our voices sound the same.
Speak together, one by one we are, strong together, singing from One voice, oh one heart.
One voice, Oh one heart.

When we speak our hearts one voice can be heard, with passion and fire beyond the words.
Tear down the walls that keep us apart, by finding the voice within our hearts.
By finding the voice within our hearts. Within our hearts, within our Hearts ... Ah Ah-ah

I have a heart, a heart to know the truth, and with my heart I can reach to you.
Touch one, take the risk to touch. Touch one, take the risk
With one voice, with one heart. With one voice, with one heart.

When we speak our hearts one voice can be heard, With passion and fire beyond the words.

Tear down the walls that keep us apart. By finding the voice within ...

When we speak our hearts one voice can be heard, with passion and fire beyond the words.
Tear down the walls that keep us apart by finding the voice within our hearts

When we find the voice within. When we find the voice within our hearts.

Bright Morning Stars Are Rising

by Paul Siskind

Bright morning stars are rising. Day is a-breakin' in my soul

Oh where are our dear mothers? Day is a-breakin' in my soul
Some are here together praying . Day is a-breaking' in my soul

Oh where are our dear brothers? Oh where are our dear sisters? Day is, is a-breakin' in my soul
Some have gone to heaven shouting. Day is, day is a-breakin', breakin' in my soul!

Oh where is our future? Day is a-breakin' in my soul.
We are here together singing . Day is, is a-breakin' in my soul.

02 - Closets

Benjamin: Gay people, at one time, were invisible, and were *forced* to become invisible. But now we're a part of the light. We *are* the light. That's where we are. And that's where we need to keep reminding people of *their* light and beauty, as well.

Darcy: Being in the education field, it was very frightening for me. However, in time we began walking in the Pride parade, I don't remember exactly quite when. And I always had this anxiousness about "what if somebody sees me?"

Jane: At the very first One Voice concert, there were a number of singers who were not comfortable about having their name in the program, to be out in the community. One of those singers was Mary Tinucci. But one of the cool things that happened was that several years later, Mary, who was working for the St. Paul school system, started the program Out for Equity, which is a way of supporting and working with LGBT students in the public schools. Now, twenty-five years later, One Voice has a partnership with Out for Equity, and they are a major player each spring in our program called Out in Our Schools.

Jen: In 1974, I got a duty assignment as a military training instructor for basic trainees at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. I knew, even before going down there, that it was likely that most of the women I would be assigned with, and working with, would be gay. I did not realize how pervasive the fear of this was, until I got down there. I became friends with these women, and I recognized how terrified they were. Fast forward to 2004, I'm 54 years old, and I finally realize, "Oh! *That's* what it's been all these years!" And I came out, and I joined One Voice in 2006, and I haven't looked back.

Glenda & Lauree: Certain Kinds of Love Never Die

by Gerald Gurss [spoken text]

There are certain kinds of love that never die . . . that never die.

[Lauree knew how to tease me without my being offended. And there was something about the way she would smile that, you know, I can still see very vividly. She was the first person I really, truly loved. But I grew up in the 40's – in a small, rural community. There were certainly no role models of what it means to love someone of the same sex. So, I didn't know how to understand that. My high school sweetheart, he proposed to me and I thought, at that time, that's

what a woman did – she got married. And it didn't take me long to realize that I'd made a mistake. So he and I decided to get a divorce].

During all this time Lauree and I stayed in touch. I knew that I loved her deeply. Well, I have very strong feelings for you too, but most of all I want to have children. She met a man who had asked her to marry him. And then she got pregnant, and she said ... If it's a little girl, I'm going to name her after you. Glenda – Glenda

[Well, it turned out it was a little boy] And I was relieved.

[It really would have been excruciatingly painful if she had had a little girl and had named her after me. Somewhere along the way she said...]

If I outlive my husband, and you don't have a partner, perhaps we can grow old together. And somehow that made it okay

[But then, Lauree got cancer. And she didn't live very long, And I didn't get see her again. It didn't hit me so much until I turned 60...]

And I began to really think about old age. And this was the time, that Lauree and I were gonna have.

[And it didn't happen]

There are certain kinds of love that never die, There are certain kinds of love that never die
But I don't regret at all – all the time we shared. It's where I learned that I could love,
and be loved and be loved, and be loved
That I could love, and be loved, and be loved!
I could love – and be loved!

The Turing Test

by Val Regan

One – zero one – zero one – zero zero one

Enigmatic man, formulating deconstructing,
Dangerous plans, coded signals in the air, Building the machinery,
bit by bit revealing secret messages and meanings, stolen glances do you dare

Agents of the state, prejudice and paranoia
turning into hatred of the enemy within. Chemical solution poisoning a reputation, lovers' dreams in
ruins there's a policeman at the door

And the world keeps turning on those zeroes and ones The machine still telling us who's right and
who's wrong National hero ... Zero

Final calculation to end a life of service to a cold ungrateful nation, leaving fifty thousand more
And the world keeps turning on those zeroes and ones, the machine still telling us who's right and
who's wrong. National hero ... Zero

Flight Song

by Kim Andre Arnesen

All we are we have found in song: you have drawn this song from us. Songs of lives unfolding fly
overhead, cry overhead; longing, rising from the song within.

Moving like the rise and fall of wings,
Hands that shape our calling voice
On the edge of answers you've heard our cry,

You've known our cry: Music's fierce compassion flows from you.

The night is restless with the sounds we hear
Is broken, shaken by the cries of pain:
For this is music's inner voice, saying
Yes we hear you, all you who cry aloud, and we
will fly, answering you so our lives sing, sing, sing
wild we fly, wild in spirit we will fly: Like a feather falling from the wing, fragile as a human voice
Afraid, uncertain, alive to love, we sing as love,
Afraid, uncertain, yet our flight begins,
begins as song.

03 - Taking Flight

Char: [Gay] men and women didn't connect in the 80s. You didn't feel a need to. We knew we couldn't because they seemed to be a different type of culture, and in some ways they very much were. And plus, lesbianism had its connection to feminism, and I think that some men saw that as, "Well, they are anti-man." But in a lot of ways, it was just that it was so *new* to think about bringing the communities together.

Lisette: It was an opportunity for women to really be strong, in and among themselves. So I think a lot of us got labeled as separatists, and we weren't, which is why the mixed chorus made sense.

Lisette: You know, I did want to talk about the early choreography, as well. Because I remember in one of the first concerts, [the song was] "Too Darn Hot," and I got to dance with Jiffy-Pop and an iron. [laughter] It was lovely.

Marnie, Darcy, and Char: [singing] Star maker, dream breaker.

Marnie: We are One Voice! [laughter]

Lesbian Second Date Moving Service

by David Maddux

You fell in love, the night you met. Her eyes shot sparks, you can't forget.
And though you've been in love a million times before, this time you've hit the height,
the feeling's right, and your heart says more, more, more!

Date number two: you've got it planned. Soft candlelight, you take her hand and gaze into her eyes,
those limpid pools of blue and pop the question flat that you're hoping Will make her say, "Yes, I do!"

(Refrain)

We're the company to set you free when you've found the perfect wife.
If you need us quick, we're just the trick to begin your brand new life.
You've cut through all the frills and the flap, friend! So what? It's not the first time it's happened!
Together forever you're planning to live and maybe it's hasty,
but why don't you give the Lesbian Second Date Moving Service a call?
We'll haul you, bags and all. Give the Lesbian Second Date Moving Service a call!

Though we can move, your stuff with ease, Be sure to read, the fine print please.
We don't do breakup calls or secret background checks, no wiretaps or plants,
and no we can't serve papers on your ex!

(Refrain)

We're the company to set you free when you've found the perfect wife.

If you need us quick, we're just the trick to begin your brand new life.

You've cut through all the frills and the flap, friend! So what? It's not the first time it's happened!

Together forever you're planning to live and maybe it's hasty,

but why don't you give the Lesbian Second Date Moving Service a call?

We'll haul you, bags and all. Give the Lesbian Second Date Moving Service a call!

So remember: it's never too early to pickup the phone and dial 1-800-MOVE-NOW

Give the Lesbian Second Date Moving Service a call!

04 – Creating Social Change

James: One Voice tours, in my first season we did a huge tour to Canada. A couple of buses and we drove all the way up to Winnipeg. Blew my mind. I believe we did 5 concerts that weekend. It was amazing.

Robin: We stopped at the border and I said okay, everybody, no jokes, have your paperwork ready, this is serious stuff. And the customs person gets on and she said, "Are you guys really a choir?" We said yeah and she said, "Okay, sing something for me!" So we sang something for her and she said, "Okay! Pass!" We got to Winnipeg and got ready for the concert, we had the concert and lo and behold she had shown up, 100 miles from the border.

Jane: November 2016, right after the elections, we took a tour up to Northern Minnesota, the same weekend that a blizzard hit.

Jay: We were supposed to get to Ely in 4 hours. It took us 8 hours to get to Ely. Each of the 2 tour buses got stuck 3 times. We didn't have time to change into our concert attire. So there we were onstage in our boots and our coats. The people of Ely showed up to hear us sing.

Jane: In fact, some of the people stayed overnight in Ely, like if they lived out a ways, so that they could come to our concert.

Liz: It's so important for our children to experience One Voice and to know from an early age that, as the song says, you can be anybody you want to be, you can love whomever you will. Our "Out in the Schools" program does just that, teaching kids to sing and dialogue with each other about each other. This wonderful program has impacted over 30 schools and countless children statewide.

Vicki: My dream came true when we came to St. Francis as part of our outreach tour. I received notes from kids saying that we saved their lives, and that being with One Voice, surrounded by people who accept and love each other for who they are, made them feel safe and gave them hope. For that I will always be grateful to One Voice.

Ben: We are fearless. We have gone and done things in places that other people would not have done, especially not in a queer choir. We don't shy away from social issues; in fact we embrace them. White privilege, black equality, transgender issues, the Holocaust—those are some of the things that we have touched upon and made people aware of, because these are things that are important in our lives.

This Morning's Paper

by Catherine Dalton

I opened this morning's paper. Sixty degrees and sunny.
But wait, it says a child died... three years old... shot in his own home... a stray bullet.
And the drought in Africa continues to take lives.

Everything is as it should be, everything is as it should be

If everything is as it should be, then why do I feel I'm hanging on by a thread? There is no need for self pity. How does it help to feel I've been wronged? And so I stand, on the ground, the earth that bore me, reaching my hands up to the sun.

I ask my eyes be open, to see things as they truly are
For when a heart goes on a journey, sometimes it's hard to find the way home.

Then the wild geese fly overhead, and the bubbling stream flows to the sea.
The blue sky slips through the branches of the branches of the oak.
The blue sky slips through the branches of the oak.

I lay my head against her rough skin, I lay my head against her rough skin and cry.

I opened this morning's paper. Sixty degrees and sunny.

Black Boy Born

by Steve Milloy

Black boy born, breast bone to the breeze
Black boy born, tar an' cotton beneath his feet
Black boy born, don't dare to reach to dream
Curl your spine an' turn yo' cheek – Black boy, don't ya dare to leap

Black boy born, yes, a black boy born – Black boy born on the sharp end of the knife
Black boy born, shadow to moonless night. Oh, black boy born empty hands to the dream
Got a mind an' a song to sing in a world where freedom don't really ring.

They could have held him, they tried to keep him down, they could've strung him up
Put a noose around his neck and drained his overflowing cup.

Black boy born – Black boy born wind to kick up the dust,
Black boy's fire, risin' 'gainst chains an' rust. Born to be more than just muscle an' hands
Here come Ba-yard, black boy born – he was born to fight and take a stand!

They could have held him down, they tried to keep him down, they could've strung him up
Put a noose around his neck and drained him ...
They tried to keep him ... they couldn't hold him, didn't hang him
Didn't ... drained his overflowing cup -- No!

Black boy born, fruit of the overflowin' cup – Black boy born, his soul a standin' up.

The Shape of Change

by Marisa Geisler & Kate Lynn Hibbard

Darker night draws twilight on, and both are part of the same night
And the trees that deepen the green wood, their thousand needles and leaves
A forest of particular trees, particular trees
Our twinned singular bodies rounded as moons,
lie side by side, each unique—unique—unique—unique
distinct as the cup of my own two hands.
The lines of the right telling what will be__ will be

And this is the shape of change
Not a line__ not a line but a circle, apple of light, apple of light ... of light, of light that turns through
time.
To fill us with hunger, for all we can love – for all we can love. All we can love – we can love.

Siksik Si Batu Manikkam (2010-06)

by Pontas Purba

Translation:

The more you look you can see that my face has blemishes
Beauty is worthless if you don't have a beautiful character

SET TWO

Lacrimosa

by Calixto Alvarez

Descriptive Translation:

Mournful that day that when from the ashes shall rise
Spare, O God, in mercy spare them.
Gentle Jesus, grant them eternal rest.

05 – Building Community

Darcy: The most fortunate piece for me is having met my partner Char. We met early on in choir and started dating in the second season. And we've been together ever since.

Marisa: One of the things I really love about One Voice is that we are such a mix of people. Gay people, straight people, transgender people, spouses of transgender people, kids, kids whose parents are straight, kids whose parents are gay. One Voice is really a family in the very best sense of the word.

Isabel: The biggest thing for me is that One Voice has sort of been my whole life, like One Voice is the reason I'm here, and it's how my moms got together and stuff like that.

Cheryl: One Voice Mixed Chorus has changed me because when I came into the chorus about 10 years ago, I didn't know very many LGBT people, and not only as an ally was I able to be a full member of the chorus, but I also made some of my best friends and learned really a lot about the LGBT community.

Noah: And now I'm here, I'm pansexual and it's just such an amazing experience to be able to meet other LGBTQ people who are adults, and have many different experiences and outlooks on life to give me advice as I go on my journey as someone of the LGBTQ community.

Cheryl: And I am so thrilled to have my own son in the choir with me.

Sherry: My mother passed away after a 2 1/2 year battle with cancer. And at that time I was also nine weeks pregnant with my son. And the people here completely healed my heart and my soul with their love and the music. I give so much to this group, to be so thankful that all of the people I sing with, no matter what section they're in, know my son when he runs in the door. He's another one of the One Voice kids. He's starting to understand the differences of the people that I sing with. He's like "I have one mom, but Ben has two." And it doesn't faze him, because love is love.

Little Potato

by Carol Barnett

You're my little potato. You're my little potato.
You're my little potato they dug you up.
You come from underground. The world is big, so big – it's very big
To you, it's new – it's new to you!

You're my little potato. You're my little potato.
You're my little potato they dug you up. You come from underground

Let's talk about root crops and lamb chops, and things to eat, like app-ples
'n cheese 'n 'na-nas 'n cream, jellies 'n butter.
It's late at night. I hope this little bottle helps you go to sleep.
They must a' grown you wild, you make a grown man a child

I'll go 'n play in the mud __ to be with you, my spud.
Potato, when you came out looking red as a beet, You had wrinkles on the bottom of your feet
Oh, now you are so sweet, potato – You're my sweet potato, you're my sweet potato.
Dug you up. You come from underground. You smile a smile, a little smile
The world is small, so small. It's very small.

You're my little potato. You're my little potato.
You're my little potato. Dug you up. You come from underground
You're my little potato. You're my little potato. You're my little potato.

The Seal Lullaby

by Eric Whitacre, poem by Rudyard Kipling

Oh! Hush thee, my baby, the night is behind us
And black are the waters that sparkled so green
The moon, o'er the combers, looks downward to find us
At rest in the hollows that rustle between

Where billow meets billow, there soft be thy pillow
Ah weary wee flipperling, curl at thy ease
The storm shall not wake thee, nor shark overtake thee
Asleep in the arms of the slow swinging seas!
Asleep in the arms of the slow swinging seas!

Stars

by Eriks Esenvalds

Alone, alone in the night on a dark hill, with pines around me spicy and still, and still,
And heaven, a heaven full of stars over my head. Oh misty red / myriads with beating
hearts of fire eons cannot vex or tire; the dome of heaven like a great hill
And myriads with beating hearts of fire, Heaven full of stars, heaven full of stars,
I know, I am honored to be witness of so much majesty.

Gay vs. Straight Composers

by Eric Lane Barnes

This is a theme written by Tchaikovsky he was a guy – they say was gay, Well, OK, he wasn't "Gay",
not gay per se. This was all long ago, in Moscow. He tried to hide his inside, and though he married,
still he tarried with some very merry men And then of course, he wrote this lovely theme.

Totally straight. Totally straight. Ludwig van Beethoven was totally straight.
His hair was wild. He never smiled.
And that is So – Not – Gay!

Mozart was a pretty fancy guy, wowing crowds from Salzburg to Versailles. Silk hose and velvet
dancing pants, his dainty hand enchants, those he invites to dance – and they say Oh, that Amadeus
Oh, that Amadeus – Oh, that Amadeus, Oh! But that didn't mean he was a queen, he was just the
metrosexual of his day.

John Philip Sousa: a het'rosexual male

Vagner was macho, a manly muchacho Lots of percussion, basses and brass.
Battles and clashes, Lightning flashes,
even the chicks kick serious ass.
No Richard Wagner wasn't gay – He was a lesbian!

Before Freddie Mercury, before Elton John,
Before Little Richard put eyeliner on,
The sound of America was boldly defined
By a guy with cowboys on his mind.
Yes, Aaron Copland was a fan of a healthy
romp with The Common Man. If asked, hold
your head up proudly and say, "The Sound of
America is Jewish – and gay."

Then there's Handel – George F. Handel, his hist'ry
was a myst'ry, which way did Handel sway?
There's no scandal to which Handel was suspected,
or connected, so it's difficult to say. Some have said:
Just look at this cantata, what a lotta homoerata.
And some reply: Objection we weary of all this queer theory.
Others say: we keep on forgetting the truth is so upsetting.
Some reply: You're gaily conflating, this is not worth debating.

Back and forth: Blah–Blah–Blah Ya-da Ya-da Ya-da Yah-dah
Handel said: nothing! Handel's dead!
But they'll debate forever and ever.
Het'rosexual, Homosexual, Bisexual, Asexual, Omnisexual, Antisexual –
We'll never know!

Still Standing

by George Maurer

When dysphoria rumbles too loud__ or thunder rolls too close.
When the hounds of your body aren't peaceful, know that I am a gentle voice

When bigots pick up their picket signs, and ignorance licks at our feet.
Take my hand, eyes on the horizon. There is much more to see
Know that I am a gentle voice, a gentle voice.

These bodies weren't made to be silent, this love wasn't built to hide
Pride doesn't grow in a garden, it's birthed from the storm.

It lifts itself out of the mud of shame and compromise
To say look, look at how I'm still standing
Look, look at all the love I have left to give
Look, look at how I'm still standing,
Look, look at all the love I have left to give.

6. Exploring Trans Voice

Welcome!

[*singing with audience*] Forget your perfect offering... Just ring the bells that still can ring... There is a crack in everything... That's how the light gets in... That's how the light gets in...

Kymani: My voice is important to *me*. I think voice is important because it's really a personal thing. It's how I can externalize whatever is happening inside of me to the outside world. It's simultaneously the most public and private thing about you.

Kymani: I have no idea what my life would be like if I didn't have a voice. I'm pretty convinced I might have come out of my mom's womb singing, so [*laughter*] my voice is kind of everything. I remember that, as I was growing up, that's all I did. In my mom's family, there was lots of singing, lots of singing. So I could always be found, you know, with my towel-hair and my fake microphone [*laughter*], singing whatever I had in the CD player.

It's just really inspiring for me to see trans musicians and trans folks performing and putting themselves out there in front of a large crowd. Coming together to be together. There's something about singing together that brings us together in a really unique way.

Just seeing the texture, the variety, of people and realizing that this is not something unusual. That it is part of humanity, part of who we are as people. And that's very empowering.

Kymani: It's emotional. Ten years ago, trying to have a certain kind of voice for expression was important. But that had to do with me being able to embody my authentic self. And post-transition, I don't seem to have a concept of it. My voice is mine. Hopefully sometimes it just comes off genderless.

Joselyn: But the voice is also one of the most gendered features or aspects of the human physicality. If I'm on the phone, if I'm at the drive-thru ordering a cheeseburger, as soon as I speak, and they don't have a camera, and they hear my voice coming from the car, I have been "Sir'd" and I have been misgendered.

Kymani: [*humming with piano*]

Kymani: Just the delicateness of respecting other people's experiences, there's a whole lot of overlap, which is why it's good to get noisy. [*laughter*] Yeah.

Kymani: [*singing with piano*] A love story, creation's glory... Comes the first sound, the first seed sown... It sends a message of love... [*scatting*]

Al Shlosa

by Allan Naplan / Featuring the TransVoices Chorus

Al shlosa d'varim ha-olam kayam: al ha-emet, v'al ha-din, v'al ha-shalom.

Translation: *The world is sustained by three things – by truth, by justice, and by peace.*

Courage To Be Who We Are

by Ruth Huber / Featuring the TransVoices Chorus

We are here in the memory of those who have fallen
Those who have fallen, Those who have fallen
We are here in the memory of those who have fallen
Here for the courage to be who we are, courage to be who we are.

We are standing in the memory of those who have fallen
We are singing in the memory of those who have fallen
We are singing in the memory of those who have fallen

Our Phoenix

by Mari Valverde

My dear beautiful people, each time you are broken,
I break, I break, I break a little more, then unbreak

I am piecing myself back together with the care of a potter's hands – I clay phoenix

I feel the heat of our resurrections burning, to glaze our skin into glow.
My fire and my kiln, are these words, this space, the intimate threads of our connection.
I envision us going on to eclipse. Building bigger, bigger, big-ger, more luminous. So bright!

My beautiful people, our breaking is our making
Let us dream towards what we want beyond survival,
Let us dream towards loving ourselves, over and over again.

My beautiful people, I can taste our honeyed victory
My beautiful people, our dangerous sweetness is our rebellion.

07 – Raising Our Voices in Song

Adrienna: I first joined One Voice in 2012 for the 25th anniversary concert. And in the 5 years since that's happened, we've seen same-sex marriage legalized in Minnesota, in the United States, and in countries all across the world. The amount of progress in the 5 years has been fantastic, and I'm so excited to see what the future holds.

Beth: One Voice Mixed Chorus has changed me. It's made me so much more aware of what's going on what's going on this world; it has brought me closer to understanding all diversities in this country and how we need to come together. My dad, who is 81 years old, joined us this year as a tenor, and it's been very exciting to see him with us and sharing and learning all of the stories and seeing how community like this is so important to everyone.

Will: I started out as an alto 1, and am now a baritone. A lot of people knew me as Carrie. I found myself, and my place, as Will. The friendships that I've made and the support I've gained in One Voice has really allowed me to become who I am, and have the confidence to come out, now for the 2nd time, to my family and my friends not in the chorus. I've learned who we can be who we are and not to be afraid of who we are in this group. So allowing myself to be just who I am and not have any reservation for that has really been life-changing.

Jason: This is my first season with One Voice, and I just got married a week ago, which is really exciting, and as a trans person it's been amazing to see the amount of acceptance of trans people that has been coming out recently. And it can only get with better more young people coming out and living as their true selves.

Allan: When you start singing with a lot of other people who have the same conviction that things should be better, that things should be more inclusive, then you can't help but feel that with you in the rest of your life. You've got so many people who have your back, and that gives you the strength to have the back for so many other people.

James: Thirty years ago, I was an 18-year-old man who never dreamed of being married to another man, or having a community where I could be myself, or having a child and being accepted. But today is that day.

Adrienna, James, Jason: Building community and creating social change by raising our voices in song. Happy 30th Anniversary, One Voice!

We Won't Stop Dreaming

by PinkZebra

Here we are, living in the moment. Here we are, dreaming in the open. Look around, isn't this a new day? Make a move. Doing things a new way.

'Cause this is our world. And this is our time. These are our plans, we're gonna let 'em shine. And this is our place in the human race. And we won't stop dreaming.

Look ahead, we can see forever. You and me, We're in this together. Light it up, we can be a million stars. Look at us, don't you see we've come so far, yeah we've come so far.

'Cause this is our world. And this is our time. These are our plans, we're gonna let 'em shine. And this is our place in the human race. And we won't stop dreaming.

Standing at the crossroads, feeling how the wind blows. We can soar above the clouds. Every moment is a heartbeat, every breath feeling so sweet. Who can say what happens now.

'Cause this is our world. And this is our time. These are our plans, we're gonna let 'em shine. And this is our place in the human race. And we won't stop dreaming.

This is our world, and this is our time. These are our plans, we're gonna let 'em shine. And this is our place in the human race. And we won't stop dreaming, no we won't stop dreaming.

We won't stop dreaming.

Everyone Sang

by Linda Kachelmeier

Everyone suddenly burst out singing, and I was filled with such delight.
As prisoned birds must find in freedom, winging wildly across the white orchards,
And dark green fields; On, on, and out of sight

Everyone's voice was suddenly lifted;
And beauty came like the setting sun
My heart was shaken with tears and horror
Drifted away ... O, but everyone was a bird;
And the song was wordless
The singing will never be done.