

Gerber/Hart Library and Archives

6500 N Clark St, Chicago, IL 60626

info@gerberhart.org

(773) 381-8030

Artemis Singers Collection, 1980 – 1987

Accession Number: 1994-2

Fonds/Provenance: Susan Schleef

Series Number: -

Title: **Artemis Singers Collection**

Date Range: 1980 – 1987

Extent: 1.5 linear feet (2 boxes)

Location: D1D (Row D, Bay 1, Shelf D)

Collection History:

Artemis Singers is a lesbian feminist chorus committed to singing music written and/or arranged by women, thereby hoping to give recognition to the many women composers forgotten by history and to contemporary songwriters who are often thought of only as singers. The chorus was founded in June 1980 and soon became affiliated with Toddlin' Town Performing Arts, the Chicago LGBT performing arts umbrella group that also included Windy City Gay Chorus (WCGC) and Chicago Gay Pride Band (CGPB). Artemis Singers have performed regularly around Chicago and the country. They have participated in Sister Singers Network, a national feminist chorus, singers and musicians cooperative.

Custodial History:

The collection was donated by Susan Schleef on March 12, 1994. It was accessioned on September 5, 1996 by Diane Asseln. The collection was then described as being in good condition.

Scope and Content:

The collection contains meeting minutes, financial records, audio recordings, concert preparation papers, news clippings, puzzles, and posters of Artemis Singers and Toddlin' Town Performing Arts.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged by organization, document type, or subject matter and then further divided chronologically when necessary.

Series:

1 Concert and Rehearsal Fliers and Programs, 1980 – 1987

2 Artemis Singers – History, Structure, Goals, and Miscellaneous Documents, 1982 – 1983

- 3 Artemis Singers Handbook, 1984 – 1985
- 4 Committee Meeting Minutes and Documents, 1981 – 1986
- 5 Workshops and Retreats, 1983 – 1986
- 6 Membership Evaluation Survey, 1984
- 7 Membership Evaluation and Miscellaneous Surveys, 1983 – 1985
- 8 Correspondence, 1981 – 1986
- 9 Financial Documents and Budgets, 1982 – 1986
- 10 Fundraising and Benefit Fliers and Planning, 1983
- 11 Weekly Announcements, 1981 – 1986
- 12 Rehearsals and Concert Planning – Calendars, Notes, Song Lists, and Miscellaneous, 1981 – 1986
- 13 Sister Singers Network – Correspondence and Network Directory, 1980 – 1985
- 14 Annual National Women’s Choral Festival – Fliers, Brochures, Correspondence, 1985 – 1986
- 15 “Come Out and Sing Together!” National Gay Choral Festival – Fliers, Brochures, Correspondence, Evaluations, and Miscellaneous, 1983
- 16 Toddlin’ Town Performing Arts, 1980 – 1986
- 17 Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA) – Correspondence, Press Releases, Festival Testimonials, Etc., 1982 – 1987
- 18 Chicago Gay/Lesbian Community Band – Fliers, Correspondence, Newsletter, and Miscellaneous, 1981 – 1983
- 19 News Clippings, 1981 – 1985
- 20 Artemis Singers 2 1/4” Diameter Pin-Back Button
- 21 Other Choruses Performances and Miscellaneous, Audio Cassette Tapes, 1972 – 1985

Container List:

0. Finding Aid

1. Concert and Rehearsal Fliers and Programs, 1980 – 1987

1. General, 1980 – 1984
2. General, 1985 – 1987
3. Holiday, 1980 – 1985

2. Artemis Singers – History, Structure, Goals, and Miscellaneous Documents, 1982 – 1983

3. Artemis Singers Handbook, 1984 – 1985

4. Committee Meeting Minutes and Documents, 1981 – 1986

1. Business Meeting, 1981 – 1986
 1. 1981 – 1983
 2. 1984 – 1985
 3. 1986
2. Task Force Committee and Process and Structure Committee (PASC), 1982 – 1985
3. Music Selection and Performance Committee, 1982 – 1986
4. Miscellaneous, 1982 – 1986

5. Workshops and Retreats, 1983 – 1986

6. Membership Evaluation Survey, 1984

7. Membership Evaluation and Miscellaneous Surveys, 1983 – 1985

8. Correspondence, 1981 – 1986

1. Internal Correspondence and Notes, 1981 – 1986
2. Correspondence on Repertoire and Music Selection, 1981 – 1986
3. General External Correspondence, 1981 – 1986

- 9. Financial Documents and Budgets, 1982 – 1986**
- 10. Fundraising and Benefit Fliers and Planning, 1983**
- 11. Weekly Announcements, 1981 – 1986**
 1. 1981 – 1982
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- 12. Rehearsals and Concert Planning – Calendars, Notes, Song Lists, and Miscellaneous, 1981 – 1986**
 1. 1981 – 1982
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- 13. Sister Singers Network – Correspondence and Network Directory, 1980 – 1985**
- 14. Annual National Women’s Choral Festival – Fliers, Brochures, Correspondence, 1985 – 1986**
- 15. “Come Out and Sing Together!” National Gay Choral Festival – Fliers, Brochures, Correspondence, Evaluations, and Miscellaneous, 1983**
- 16. Toddlin’ Town Performing Arts, 1980 – 1986**
 1. Statement of Policy, By-Laws, and Miscellaneous, 1980 – 1986
 2. Budgets and Financial Documents, 1981 – 1984
 3. Correspondence, 1980 – 1983
 4. Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
 1. 1980 – 1981
 2. January – June 1982
 3. July – December 1982
 4. 1983 – 1984
- 17. Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA) – Correspondence, Press Releases, Festival Testimonials, Etc., 1982 – 1987**
- 18. Chicago Gay/Lesbian Community Band – Fliers, Correspondence, Newsletter, and Miscellaneous, 1981 – 1983**
- 19. News Clippings, 1981 – 1985**

BOX 2

- 20. Artemis Singers 2 1/4” Diameter Pin-Back Button**
- 21. Other Choruses Performances and Miscellaneous, Audio Cassette Tapes, 1972 – 1985**
 1. *Gertrude Stein Reads from Her Works*, 1972
 2. Chicago Gay Men’s Chorus, “Gonna Find Out Who’s Naughty and Nice”, December 18, 1984
 3. Windy City Gay Chorus and Twin Cities Men’s Chorus, “Together Again—For the First Time”, April 29, 1984
 4. Twin Cities Men’s Chorus, “Summer Pops – Give My Regards”, July 30 – 31, 1983
 5. Twin Cities Men’s Chorus, Holiday Concert, November 27, 1983
 6. Twin Cities Men’s Chorus, Holiday Concert, December 8, 1984
 7. The Montrose Symphonic Band, Christmas Concert, December 11, 1981

8. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus, Debut, May 13, 1983 and Christmas Concerts, 1983 and 1984
9. Washington Gay Men's Chorus, "Making Spirits Bright", December 14 – 15, 1984
10. New York City Gay Men's Chorus & Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C., June 23, 1984, 2 copies
11. "A Gay Musical Celebration at Grace Cathedral", San Francisco, CA, June 27, 1980, 2 copies
12. Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C., "Men Singing Together", April 1983
13. The Denver Women's Chorus, "Bach, Brahms, Broadway... And a Little Jazz", April 26, 1986
14. Kansas City Women's Chorus, "Live at Lincoln", November 1981
15. Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles, "In Concert", April 20, 1985
16. Turtle Creek Chorale, Spring Concert, March 17, 1981
17. Vancouver Men's Chorus, "A Christmas Garland", December 6 – 7, 1985
18. New York City Gay Men's Chorus, "Live at the Great Hall!", 1981
19. New York City Gay Men's Chorus, "This Time Broadway", 1981
20. New York City Gay Men's Chorus, "A Testament of Freedom", 1981
21. San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, Chamber Singers, Men About Town, and Lollipop Guard, "Ain't It a Grand and Glorious Noise!", November 2, 1980

Separations:

The Band Booster, Newsletter of the Chicago Gay/Lesbian Community Band
 Volume 1, Number 3, July 1982
 Volume 1, Number 4, August 1982
 Volume 1, Number 5, September 1982

Performance Posters for Other Choruses, 1985 – 1986

"We're Singing Your Song", Windy City Gay Chorus, March 22, 1986
 "Don We Now VII", Windy City Gay Chorus, December 7, 1985
 "Puttin' On the Ritz", Denver Gay Men's Chorus, July 13, 1986
 "The Inaugural Concert of Gay Games II Cultural Week", The Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco and the Society of Gay & Lesbian Composers, August 1 and August 5, 1986
 The San Francisco and Portland Gay Men's Choruses, July 1, 1986

"Gay Pride!" Jigsaw Puzzle in Original Sealed Box

In 2000, the following 22 vinyl 33 rpm records were separated out and added to Special Collections:

[Recorded in German], *Die Bonner Blaustrumpft singen Protest-und Spottlieder*
 [Recorded in German], *Hexensabat*
 [Recorded in German], *Schneewittchen*
 [Recorded in German], *Flying Lesbian*
 [No Artist Listed], *Nights of Love in Lesbos: A Frankly Intimate Description of a Sensuous Young Girl's Lesbian Desires*
 Ginni Clemens, *I'm Lookin' For Some Long-Time Friends*, 2 copies

Carole Etzler, *Womanriver Flowing On*
Barbara Dane, *I Hate the Capitalist System*
Sue Fink, *Big Promise*
Kathy Fire, *Songs of Fire, Songs of a Lesbian Anarchist*
Kay Gardner, *Emerging*
Kay Gardner, *Mooncircles*
Isis, *Ain't No Backin' Up Now*
Karen T. Kane & Jeff Bradley, *Walls to Roses, Songs of Changing Men*
Anita Kerr, Rod McKuen, & The Sebastian Strings, *For Lovers*
Kristin Lems, *Oh Mama!*, Autographed by Artist
Jean Ritchie, *British Traditional Ballads in the Southern Mountains*
Sally Rogers, *The Unclaimed Pint*
Willie Tyson, *Debutante*
Various Artists, *Gay and Straight Together, Volume 1*
Jane Voss, *An Album of Songs*

Restrictions:

Materials may be published for donation.

Related Fonds/Series:

Chicago Gay Men's Chorus

Subject Headings:

Gay choirs

Gay community

Women's choirs

Preferred Citation:

[Identification of Item], Artemis Singers Collection, Gerber/Hart Library and Archives, Chicago, Illinois

Language:

English

Repository:

Gerber/Hart Library and Archives

Processed by:

Amanda Kesek, Volunteer, 09/14/2019