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JOHN ROBERT ZEIGLER  
1952 - 1986



May we thank those  
who continue on with his spirit.

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The contributions listed above were received after September 1, 1985. Efforts to keep this list current are ongoing. Any omissions are regretted.

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# RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS

The River City Mixed Chorus, founded by a handful of people in July of 1984, is a volunteer community chorus. That original group of singers called themselves the Mid-City Chorus and gave several mini-performances between July and December. By Christmas of 1984, the group numbered nine singers and had changed its name to River City Mixed Chorus. Following that first Christmas concert, the organization entered a period of rapid growth in membership and musical accomplishment when John Zeigler, a local professional musician assumed the position of Music Director.

Since that modest musical debut in 1984, the River City Mixed Chorus has presented five subsequent concerts and has provided numerous mini-performances for a variety of functions in Omaha. The Chorus filed Articles of Incorporation in May of 1985 and received its non-profit, tax-exempt status in February of 1986. The Chorus is a member of GALA Choruses, an information clearinghouse for choruses across North America.

The Chorus, in addition to having the primary purpose of providing an opportunity for a high-level musical experience for members through rehearsals and public performances, is also interested in expanding the options of meaningful, artistic and social activities for people in the regional Gay community. That purpose served as the impetus for this Arts Festival. The Chorus plans to make this Arts Festival an annual event.

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## GALA CHORUSES

The River City Mixed Chorus of Omaha is a member of the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA Choruses), an information clearinghouse for 41 choruses across the United States and Canada. GALA Choruses provides a directory of choruses; plans annual conferences for directors and managers; provides assistance in the sharing of music holdings among the groups; addresses problems of mutual concern; and is committed to producing a national gay and lesbian choral festival tri-annually, the next festival to be held in Minneapolis in July 1986.

GALA Choruses includes men's, women's, and mixed choruses whose goals include performing in a variety of settings and stimulating pride within their communities:

Albuquerque	Houston	Phoenix
Atlanta	Las Vegas	Portland
Baltimore	Long Beach (2)	Richmond
Berkeley	Los Angeles (2)	Rochester
Boston	Madison	San Francisco (4)
Buffalo	Minneapolis/St. Paul	San Diego
Champaign-Urbana	New Orleans	San Jose
Chicago (3)	New York (2)	Seattle
Denver (2)	Omaha	Vancouver
Detroit (2)	Philadelphia (2)	Washington, D.C.

Information about GALA Choruses may be obtained by writing to any member chorus or to the GALA Choruses office, 23 West 85th Street - 2B, New York, NY 10024. GALA Choruses is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation.

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# RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS

presents

## ***STRAIGHT TO THE POINT***

a two-act comedy/drama

by

Carlos Redman

University Theater  
University of Nebraska-Omaha

Saturday  
June 14, 1986  
8:00 P.M.

---

### Cast

*in order of appearance*

Danny  
Marty  
Bryan  
Mother  
Marianne  
Philip  
Four Dancers

Vince Percy  
Rick Brayshaw  
Bob Musgrave  
Linda Wierzbicki  
Jane Kellor  
Bruce Watt



### PRODUCTION PERSONNEL

Director  
Assistant Director  
Choreographer  
Stage Manager

Gary Eilts  
Ralph Potter  
Rick Brayshaw  
Ralph Potter

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Carole Fichtleman  
Douglas L. Paterson

Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church  
Pier 1 Imports



**CARLOS REDMAN**  
Playwright

Born in 1960 near Washington, D.C., Carlos Redman spent the first sixteen years of his life moving all over the world. Since arriving in Los Angeles four years ago, he has lived in the same apartment, planning never to move again! With all his experience moving, however, he says he can pack and be on the road in 25-minutes flat.

An aspiring actor, singer, and model, Redman's career is taking an unusual turn. With this production of *Straight to the Point*, he has four plays either in production or under consideration at various theaters across the country. His plays, which deal primarily with Gay themes, have elicited a favorable response from producers and audiences alike, much to his surprise. He says he had never really considered writing for the theater until he wrote his first one-act play, *Testimonial*, as an angry

response to an evening of very bad Gay theater. Since then, he has continued to write.

Redman believes that his plays fill a vacuum. His aim, he says, is to show that Lesbians and Gay Men are normal, well-adjusted, "neat" people, too. "I always have been," he says as he sits quietly in a leather recliner sucking his thumb. "Like everything in my life, I have to practice if I ever want to be perfect."

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**GARY EILTS**  
Director

Although he is relatively new at directing, Gary Eilts has a wealth of acting experience. During the time he lived in Omaha he appeared on the stage of every community theater and dinner theater in the area. Since moving to Los Angeles three years ago, he has appeared in several audience-participation murder



mysteries in such interesting locales as aboard the *Queen Mary* in Long Beach, aboard a DC-10 flying at 40,000 feet above the Pacific, and in a deserted warehouse in downtown Los Angeles.

Having recently signed with a talent agent in Los Angeles, Eilts has, in the past six weeks, filmed small roles in three forthcoming movies, taped two movies for cable television, done three "voice-over" spots, and has just signed a contract to do a series of regional commercials for Pacific Southwest Airlines.

During the past three years Eilts has directed four benefit perfor-

mances for various Gay organizations on the west coast; two Gay Celebrity Fashion Shows; two different evenings of one-act plays at the *Victory Theater* in Hollywood, as well as productions of *Dream Man*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *Shadow Box* in Santa Monica, and *Stage Struck* in Hollywood.

As a friend of John Zeigler, Gary Eilts is pleased to participate in this Midwest Gay Arts Festival by directing *Straight to the Point*. Eilts believes in the positive Gay images reflected in Carlos Redman's script and in the importance of such a work in furthering the growth of Gay theater in general.

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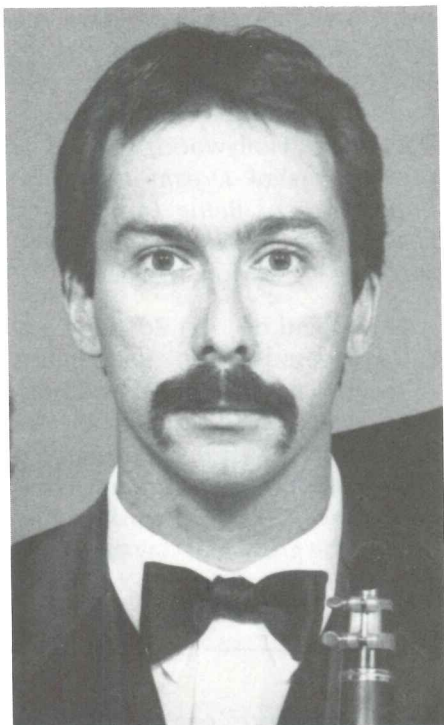
### DIRECTOR'S NOTES

*Straight to the Point* is a comedy/drama in two acts. The play opens with the rehearsal of a Gay variety show, a benefit for the local Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center.

The star of the variety show is "Glenda," the city's most famous "Fairy Godmother." But things don't seem to be going very well. "Glenda's" dance partner fails to show up for the rehearsal, and her best friend, "Marty," a professional dancer, refuses to help out by replacing her missing partner. "Bryan," "Marty's" lover, suddenly has to deal with an unexpected visit by his "born-again" mother and his homophobic brother. But, the show must go on. And it does. With some unexpected twists!

The importance of this particular production is twofold. First, it is the

"world premiere" of a new play by a remarkable young writer, Carlos Redman. This Omaha production will, henceforth, be listed as the "Original Cast" as *Straight to the Point* heads for the off-Broadway theater stage. Second, it is extremely important during this period of history that Lesbians and Gays be presented in a positive light. This is a time when compassion, humanity, understanding and love must be reflected about homosexuals as much as it is about society in general. We are human, too. We have feelings, ideals, ambitions, and fears. We hurt. And we laugh. But most of all, we love. With just as much purity, intensity and confusion as everything else. *Straight to the Point* speaks about these things on many levels. Enjoy Mr. Redman's play. And enjoy yourselves. Life with dignity is a Human Right, not a sexual one.



**JOHN ROBERT ZEIGLER**

1952 - 1986

Music Director

River City Mixed Chorus

January 1985 - April 1986

The members of the River City Mixed Chorus were deeply saddened on May 26th by the death of John Zeigler. John was one of the founding members of the Chorus and had served as its second Music Director.

A professional musician, John had been the Principal Clarinetist of the Omaha Symphony, the Omaha Symphony Chamber Orchestra and the Midlands Woodwind Quintet since 1976. He was key in the development of successful and well-known educational programs of the Symphony, taught music privately, and served on the music faculties of

the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the College of Saint Mary.

Born in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1953, John was a graduate of the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, where he received a Bachelor of Education degree with High Distinction; a Master of Music degree in Performance and Literature; and the Performer's Certificate in Clarinet. While at Eastman he was Principal Clarinet of the Eastman Wind Ensemble, the Eastman Philharmonia, and counter-tenor soloist with the Eastman Chorale.

During his professional career, John served as Principal Clarinet with the Greece and Cheektowaga Community Orchestras, the Orchard Park Symphony, the Corning Philharmonic, the Rochester Philharmonic, the Nebraska Sinfonia and the Omaha Symphony. During the 1982-83 season, he served as Principal and Assistant Principal Clarinet with the Joffrey Ballet orchestra and the San Francisco Pops Orchestra, and as Second Clarinet with the San Francisco Symphony. At the same time he served on the music faculty of Stanford University.

As a soloist, John performed with the Rochester Philharmonic, the Great River Symphony, the Omaha Symphony and the Nebraska Sinfonia. As a recitalist he performed in Pennsylvania, New York, Washington, D.C. and Omaha. He was a member of the Pi Kappa Lambda, an honorary music fraternity.

John assumed the duties of Music Director of the River City Mixed Chorus in January 1985. Under his

leadership the Chorus grew from nine to thirty-five members. John's impeccable musicianship, his enthusiasm for the potential he saw in the Chorus, and his personal friendships throughout the community were key elements in attracting new members. In his desire to build the Chorus into a successful performing ensemble, John was unstinting in

giving his time, energy and money. He wrote a number of arrangements for the Chorus, created a small ensemble from within the Chorus, and arranged for the musical assistance of other professional musicians for performances. This Midwest Gay Arts Festival is the result of John's vision for the Chorus and Gay artists and audiences here in the Midwest.

### **JOHN ZEIGLER MEMORIALS**

Two memorial funds, one for a music scholarship and the other for AIDS research, have been established in John Zeigler's name. For information on making a tax-deductible contribution call:

- **"John Zeigler Memorial Clarinet Scholarship Fund"**  
Chairman, UNO Music Department  
554-2251
- **"John Zeigler Memorial AIDS Research Fund"**  
Friends and Colleagues in the Omaha Symphony  
341-0964

**For information about support groups for  
persons with AIDS, their loved ones and friends,  
and persons with HTLV-III antibody positivity, call**

**Nebraska AIDS Project.**

**342-4233 in Omaha**

**-or-**

**1-800-782-AIDS statewide**

# RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS

presents

## A SUMMER CONCERT

Recital Hall

Strauss Performing Arts Center  
University of Nebraska-Omaha

Sunday

June 15, 1986

3:00 P.M.

Dale McDole, Music Director  
Victory Sedlacek, Accompanist

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### Program

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| It's A Grand Night For Singing<br>from <i>State Fair</i>   | Rodgers & Hammerstein<br>Walter Ehret, Arranger |
| Prisoners' Chorus<br>from <i>Fidelio</i>   | Ludwig van Beethoven                            |
| Walt Disney on Reels — An Original Medley<br>Heigh-Ho<br>Once Upon A Dream<br>A Dream Is A Wish You Heart Makes<br>Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo<br>Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious<br>Zip-a-dee-doo-dah<br>When You Wish Upon A Star | *John Zeigler,<br>Arranger                      |
| Piece for Piano  | John Coe<br>John Coe, Piano                     |
| Gay Is The Gypsy's Life  | German Folk Song<br>Track & Arwood, Arranger    |
| Old Man Noah   | Marshall Bartholomew                            |

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15-Minute Intermission

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Brothers, Sing On!

Edvard Grieg  
Howard McKinney, Arranger

Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor  
God Bless America

Irving Berlin  
Roy Ringwald, Arranger

You'll Never Walk Alone  
from *Carousel*

Rodgers & Hammerstein

Peggy Ryan, Alto

Come Again, Sweet Love

John Dowland

O Danny Boy

Traditional Irish Folk Song  
John Zeigler, Arranger

Rhythmic Dialogue

Roberta Siebert

Roberta Siebert, Organ

Selections form *South Pacific*  
Bali Ha'i  
A Wonderful Guy  
Younger Than Springtime  
Some Enchanted Evening

Rodgers & Hammerstein  
Clay Warnick, Arranger

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Carole Fichtelman  
Roger E. Foltz  
Randy George  
Michael McCabe  
Carol Schmidt

Friends of the River City Mixed Chorus  
The Metropolitan Club  
Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church  
Metropolitan Community Church  
Saint Barnabas Church

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\*With permission from Bourne Company, Walt Disney Music Company, Larry Morey & Frank Churchill, Sammy Fain & Jack Lawrence, Mack David, Al Hoffman, & Jerry Livingston, Richard M. & Robert B. Sherman, Ray Gilbert & Allie Wrubel, and Ned Washington & Leigh Harline.

### **DALE McDOLE**

Interim Music Director

Dale McDole has served as Accompanist and Assistant Music Director of the River City Mixed Chorus since January 1985. He holds both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Music, has studied piano with Edith Oppens at the Aspen Music Festival, and privately with Herbert Schmidt in Lincoln. He has accompanied The Century Singers, is a former public school music teacher and has been Assistant Choirmaster at Saint Barnabas Church. He has worked with the Joslyn Chamber Music Series, Performing Artists/Omaha, and is currently associated with the Omaha Symphony.

### **VICTORY SEDLACEK**

Accompanist

A native of Omaha, Ms. Sedlacek is a graduate of South High School and the University of Nebraska-Omaha where she received a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance. Her teachers have included Alice Davis Berryman, Clarke Mullen and Jackson Berkey. Currently she is Dance Accompanist for the Creighton Company of Dancers at Creighton University, a freelance accompanist in the city of Omaha and serves as substitute keyboard musician at the First Unitarian Church.

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—Dr. Jonas Salk  
Esquire, January 1986

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# RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS

**Director** Dale McDole  
**Accompanist** Victory Sedlacek

### **Soprano**

Peggy Borchardt  
Toni Pastory  
Peggy Ryan

### **Alto**

Gary Emenitove  
Mike Keeney  
Marilyn Major  
Jay Rich  
Roberta Siebert

### **Tenor**

Keith Fox  
Patrick Goodin  
Garry Griffith  
Raymond Hoffman  
Jonathan Miller  
David Schuler  
Clark Thompson  
Bill Wilwerding

### **Bass**

Don Carlson  
John Coe  
Chuck Collins  
John Fogarty  
Dana Johnson  
Jim Poppert  
Don Zwink

# RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS

**PRESIDENT** David Schuler  
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Ticket sales never cover all the costs of presenting a concert. To fund its activities and assure its continuing operation, the River City Mixed Chorus must rely on the generosity of its friends and patrons. Your contribution to the Chorus, a non-profit corporation, is tax-deductible and welcome in any amount or in any of the following categories:

Patron	\$10 - \$49
Sponsor	\$50 - \$99
Benefactor	\$100 - \$249
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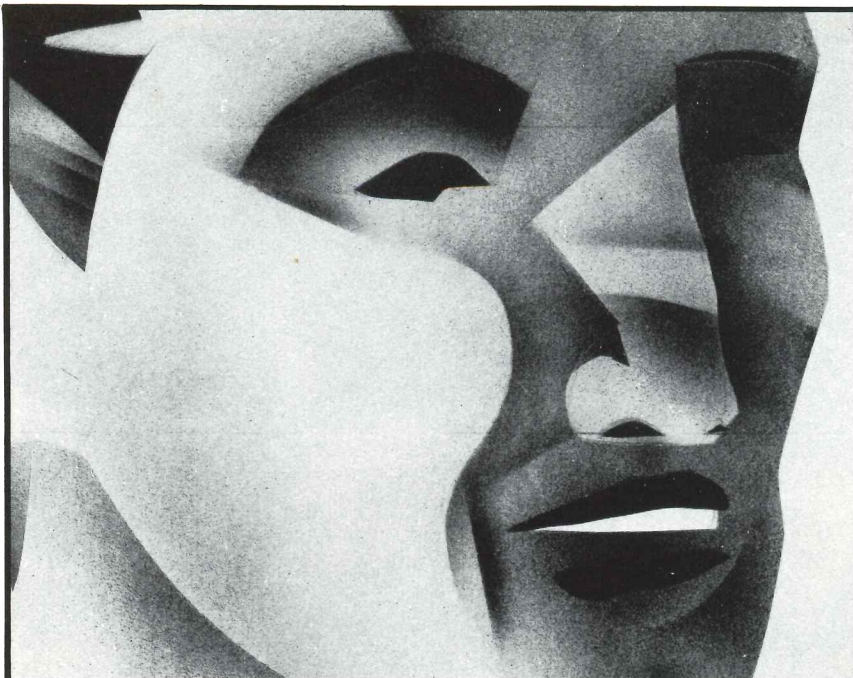
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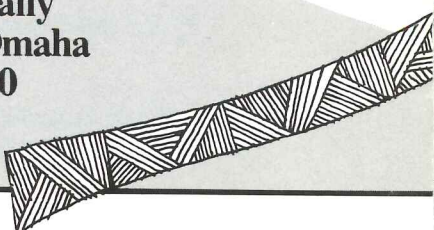
*This is my commandment, that you love one another."*  
— John 15:12

Rev. Jan D. Kross, Pastor/ 420 So. 24th — P.O. Box 3173  
Omaha, NE 68103/ Ph. (402) 345-2563

# THE MAX

The background of the page is a light grey color. Overlaid on this is a complex, abstract white line art design. The lines are thick and fluid, creating a sense of movement and depth. Some lines form loops and curves, while others are straight and intersecting. The overall effect is reminiscent of a stylized, high-contrast image of a landscape or perhaps a network of paths.

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A decorative graphic element in the bottom right corner. It consists of a series of parallel, slightly curved lines that form a textured, geometric pattern. The lines are black and white, creating a striped effect. The pattern is contained within a rectangular frame that is slightly tilted.