

The Sister Cities Concert

Featuring:

from Japan, The Setagaya Citizens Chorus



from Winnipeg:

**The University of Manitoba
Bison Men's Chorus**

**with guest soloist:
Aran Matsuda**



Friday, May 9, 2008 - 7:30 p.m
Knox United Church - 400 Edmonton St.

Tickets only \$10, available at:

MJC Cultural Centre, 180 McPhillips Street, or email: mjccc@mts.net

Any Member of the Bison Men's Chorus

McNally Robinson Booksellers, Grant Park Shopping Mall & Polo Park

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**Manitoba Japanese
Canadian Cultural Centre**



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Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba

**MESSAGE FROM
THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF MANITOBA**

As the Queen's representative in Manitoba, I am both proud and pleased to welcome the Setagaya Citizens Chorus to our province and to Winnipeg, Setagaya's sister city.

This concert is especially exciting as it celebrates the 20th anniversary of the choir and the 80th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Japan and Canada. The relationship between Winnipeg and Setagaya began in 1960, through the children's art exchange program, and was strengthened when the two cities established a Sister Cities relationship in 1970. The choir's four-day visit and tonight's concert make our bond even stronger.

The University of Manitoba Bison Men's Chorus is honoured to be joining the Setagaya Citizens Chorus for this performance and the combination of eastern and western musical sensibilities promises a magical evening of song. Music is a universal language that opens the minds and hearts of every culture, building bridges of respect and appreciation. Tonight's concert is a rich example of these qualities.

I applaud the Manitoba Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre and the Bison Men's Chorus for their commitment and hard work in hosting the Setagaya Citizens Chorus and for producing this special concert. I know it will be an unforgettable evening.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Harvard'.

The Honourable John Harvard, P.C., O.M.
Lieutenant-Governor



PREMIER OF MANITOBA

Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3G 0V8

A MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

As Premier of Manitoba, it is my great pleasure to share in the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Setagaya Citizens' Chorus.

I am proud of our relationship with Setagaya City, Winnipeg's sister city since 1970. A joint performance with the Manitoba Bison Men's Choir is a perfect analogy to our friendly bond with Setagaya City. This friendship makes this concert a fitting way to celebrate the 80th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Japan and Canada. It is also a great way to mark Canada's growing relationship with Japan and our shared desire for peace and prosperity.

On behalf of the government of the Province of Manitoba, I wish you all the best with tonight's concert!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gary Doer".

Gary Doer



Message from Mayor Sam Katz

On behalf of the City of Winnipeg, it is my pleasure to extend greetings to all those attending the special performance of the Setagaya Citizen's Chorus who will be joined by the University of Manitoba Bison Men's Chorus, being held in our City of Opportunity.

It is my understanding this concert will commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Setagaya Citizens Chorus. This concert has also been designated by the Japanese Embassy and the Japanese Consulate in Calgary as one of the events taking place in Canada this year to celebrate the 80th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Japan and Canada.

It is an honour to welcome the Setagaya Citizen's Chorus to Winnipeg. It is my hope that our visitors will experience the warm hospitality that our City offers and take the time to explore some of our City's many attractions. Winnipeg is a vibrant young City that offers a variety of restaurants and shopping destinations, fabulous entertainment, and a host of cultural and sporting activities that I am sure you will enjoy. We truly have something for everyone.

Once again, on behalf of my esteemed colleagues on City Council, I would like to extend best wishes for a successful and rewarding event.

Yours sincerely,

Sam Katz
Mayor of Winnipeg

City of Opportunity • Ville d'avenir

Rei Hotoda – Master of Ceremonies

Rei Hotoda is the Assistant Conductor of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. She has conducted a myriad of series of performances of the Orchestra in and outside of Winnipeg. Winner of the 2006 Taki Concordia Conducting Fellowship, Ms Hotoda has conducted several orchestras in Europe and North America.

Rei is a conductor and pianist specializing in Asian and contemporary symphonic, chamber and multimedia repertoire. She has premiered works by notable composers including Yuji Takahashi, Toshio Hosokawa and Kotoka Suzuki. She holds a Doctorate in Piano Performance from the University of Southern California and has undertaken graduate work in orchestral conducting at the Peabody Institute.

Setagaya Citizens Chorus

The Setagaya Citizens Chorus celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. The chorus was established to meet the needs and interests expressed by many of the citizens in the Setagaya Ward. Currently, the chorus is comprised of approximately 150 citizens of Setagaya. Over the years, the quality of the teaching staff available in Setagaya and the weekly training have enabled this chorus to master and maintain a high standard of performance.

Besides presenting its own regular program of concerts, the chorus also performs for the ward's New Year Concert as well as for other facilities and events in the region. The chorus' repertoire includes a vast range of music from classical pieces such as Verdi's Requiem to traditional Japanese folk songs.

To celebrate its 10th anniversary, the chorus performed in a concert in Vienna, a sister city of Setagaya. The 15th anniversary was celebrated with an exchange concert tour in Australia, and this year, the 20th anniversary is being celebrated with a joint concert with the University of Manitoba Bison Men's Chorus in Winnipeg, Manitoba, another sister city of Setagaya.

Akihiro Kanagawa – Musical Director/Conductor

Akihiro Kanagawa graduated from the Tokyo University of Fine Arts. In 1977, he studied conducting in Los Angeles on a scholarship, and in October of the same year, made his debut in San Francisco. After returning to Japan, he became a leader in the Choral Society of Japan. He has been the arranger and conductor in charge of the Yokohama Festival for sixteen years. Besides lecturing, Mr. Kanagawa often travels to various areas of Japan to judge competitions. Currently, he is the vice-chairman of the Tokyo branch of the Japan Choral Federation Council, vice-chairman of the Tokyo Metropolitan Choral federation, instructor at a Women's University College as well as an instructor at the Sakamoto music school. He also serves as an orchestra conductor besides working with several choirs.

Yumi Nakamura – Accompanist

Yumi Nakamura graduated from the Toho Gakuen School of Music. On a scholarship, she completed the artist certificate program of Southern Methodist University in the United States. While in school, she gave many solo recitals and played in many chamber music concerts.

Yumi has performed in the Netherlands Jam Session, the summer music festival in Chigiana, Italy, and the summer music festival in Segovia, Spain. Currently, she is involved with chamber music, and is active as a soloist and accompanist throughout Japan. She recently started her married life.

Program

Ms. Rei Hotoda – Master of Ceremonies

Joint Chorus

National anthem of Canada – O Canada

National anthem of Japan – Kimi ga Yo

Setagaya Citizens Chorus

Mizu no Inochi (Life of Water)

Kikuo Takano/Saburoh Takata

1. The Rain
2. The Puddle
3. The River
4. The Sea
5. Oh! the Sea

Bison Men's Chorus

Harvest Due - Words and Music by Roger Cornish and Bruce Trinkley
Soloist – Victor Boudreau

Goin' Home – Words by William Arms Fisher
Music from the Largo of the New World Symphony
by Anton Dvorak
Arranged by Diane Loomer
Soloist – Jim House

Away From the Roll of the Sea – Words and Music by
Allister MacGillivray
Arranged by Diane Loomer

Frobisher Bay – Words and Music by James Gordon
Arranged by Diane Loomer
Soloist – Tim Sale

Georgia On My Mind – Words by Stuart Gorrell
Music by Hoagy Carmichael
Arranged by Kirby Shaw
Soloist – Paul Hope
Trumpet - Murray Wichert

Setagaya Citizens Chorus

Japanese Spring Songs – Arranged by Takatomi Nobunaga

1. Sakura (Cherry Blossoms) – Japanese Old Song
2. Hana (Cherry Blossoms on the Sumida) – Hagoromo
Takeshima/ Rentaroh Taki

Medley of Favorite Songs

1. Hakone Hachiri (The Hakone Pass) – Makoto Torii/Rentaroh
Taki

2. From Four Seasons in Japan – Arranged by Shun-ichiroh Genda
 - * Furusato (My Home Country) – Tatsuyuki Takano/Tei-ichi Okano
 - * Haru no Ogawa (Stream in Spring) - Tatsuyuki Takano/
Tei-ichi Okano
 - * Oboro Zukiyo – (A Night with a Hazy Moon) - Tatsuyuki Takano/
Tei-ichi Okano
 - * Koi Nobori (Carp-shaped Streamer) – School Song enacted by the
Ministry
 - * Cha Tsumi (Green Tea Leaf Picking) - School Song enacted by the
Ministry

Aran Matsuda

Ol' Man River – Music by Jerome Kern

Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II

Kojo no Tsuki (The Moon Over the Ruined Castle) – Rentaro Taki
Arranged by Kocak Yamada

Bison Men's Chorus

Gonna Sing! – Traditional song – Arranged by Kirby Shaw

Soloists – Rob Einarson and Harvey Peltz

Sixteen Tons – Words and Music by Merle Travis

Arranged by Kirby Shaw

Hard Times Come Again No More – Words and Music by Stephen Foster
Arranged by Donald Moore

Bass guitar - Alex Campbell

Soon Ah Will Be Done – Composed by William L. Dawson

I Am a Man of Constant Sorrow – Words and Music by Carter Stanley

Arranged by Kirby Shaw

Soloists – John Long and Ken Cairnie

Bass guitar - Alex Campbell

Joint Chorus

Ave Verum Corps – Words and Music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

**Reception - Following the concert, please join the choirs for light refreshments in the church basement.*

Bison Men's Chorus

The Bison Men's Chorus was established by Dr. Larry Patterson, Professor of Music Education in the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba in September 1984. It is a community-based chorus of approximately 50 persons. The membership is made up of students, faculty, staff and alumni of the University and men from Winnipeg and the surrounding area. The Chorus is recognized as a Program of the Faculty of Music, thus enabling students singing in the Chorus to obtain a course credit towards their degree. Its repertoire consists of traditional male chorus selections, spirituals, jazz arrangements, folk and art songs, sacred music, and commissioned works. It has produced three tapes and three CDs.

Each year the Chorus performs four to five regular concerts and sings at several community events. It has performed at national and international events in Western Canada and the Midwestern United States of America. It is planning an International Male Choir Symposium as part of its 25th Anniversary to be held in May 2010.

Steve Denby – Conductor

Steve Denby joined the Chorus as its Associate Conductor in January 1999 and became its Conductor in July of that same year. He is a graduate of the University of Manitoba, holding Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Education degrees. He is an alumnus of the University Singers.

Since graduating in 1989, Steve has been teaching music in the public school system in Winnipeg. He started at Ecole River Heights School where he taught Choir, Band and Guitar to middle year students for 12 years. He then moved to J.H. Bruns Collegiate where he not only continues to teach in the same areas but also teaches Jazz Band, Vocal Jazz, Jazz Guitar, Chamber Choir and Technical Music Production.

In addition to being the conductor of the Bison Men's Chorus, Steve has served as director for the Dutch Canadian Choir and has co-directed the Central Manitoba Youth Choir. He has served as a clinician for both the Vocal Jazz and Choral events at ChoralFest.

Cary Denby – Accompanist

Cary Denby joined the Chorus as its accompanist in September 1997. She graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1990 with a Bachelor of Music degree. Since then she has made a living as a freelance piano and organ accompanist for numerous choirs, soloists and other ensembles.

Currently Cary is involved with the Manitoba Opera Association, the Gilbert and Sullivan Association and the Royal Winnipeg Ballet. At the Faculty of Music, University of Manitoba, in addition to accompanying the Bison Men's Chorus, she is involved with the Vocal Master Classes and the Cantata Singers. She lives in Winnipeg with her husband and two children.

Aran Matsuda – Guest Soloist

Aran Matsuda is enrolled in the Bachelor of Music (Performance) program offered by the Faculty of Music at the University of Manitoba. In 2003, he came from Yokohama, Japan, to Gretna, Manitoba where he enrolled in the Mennonite Collegiate Institute. Here he was able to further his musical career as a bass through performances in the musical "Les Miserables", the Chamber Choir and Resonate. In addition he participated in the Red River Festival and sang in various churches in Southern Manitoba.

After graduating from MCI in 2007, he was admitted to the Faculty of Music where he has concentrated on further developing his performance capabilities. He is a member of the University Singers, has performed with Canzona, has participated in performances of the Opera Workshop and is member of the Vocal Master Class. He also is a soloist in a church choir in Winnipeg. He is the winner of the Tudor Bowl in this year's Winnipeg Music Festival. Each summer at the end of classes he returns to Yokohama to spend time with his parents.

SETAGAYA CITIZENS CHORUS

Musical Director/

Conductor: Akihiro Kanagawa

Accompanist: Yumi Nakamura

Sopranos:	Masae Awata	Mikiko Hattori	Machiko Hirata
	Yoshiko Ikawa	Ikuko Kimura	Mariko Kohata
	Hideko Matsunaga	Kazuko Oguchi	Akiko Ohkubo
	Yoshiko Ohwaki	Masako Ozawa	Minako Shibata
	Yuhko Shimizu	Etsuko Suzuki	Miiko Suzuki
	Sumiko Tsubono	Emi Yabana	Tamami Yokosuka

Altos:	Yoshiko Andoh	Mizue Fuse	Michiko Hasegawa
	Harue Higuchi	Reiko Ishibashi	Kazuko Ishikawa
	Masako Jimbo	Tomoko Matsumura	Hisako Mori
	Kazuko Nomura	Reiko Ochiai	Michiko Sukiya
	Kazue Suzuki	Sachiko Suzuki	Fumiko Takao
	Sumie Tominaga	Michiko Tsurumi	

Tenors:	Toshichika Fujiwara	Yoshikatsu Ikuta	Nobuo Ishikawa
	Yasuyuki Simowada	Fujio Tanaka	

Basses:	Yoshimasa Hatano	Minoru Masuda	Kazuo Shibata
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BISON MEN'S CHORUS

Conductor: Steve Denby

Accompanist: Cary Denby

First Tenors: Pat Mathews Derek McLean Tim Sale
John Tanner

Second Tenors: Alex Campbell Bill Diehl-Jones Jim House
Ian Hughes Ian Livingston John Long
Garry Martin Harvey Peltz Peter Spencer
Mark Torchia

Baritones: Victor Boudreau Dave Burton Keith Christie
Rob Einarson Lane Graham Bill Guenter
Garry Hammerback Tom Jones Bill Kawka
Garry Krushel Wes Pastuzenko Bill Smith
Bob Stewart Joe Stephanson Stirling Walkes
David Yaeger

Basses: Ken Cairnie Alvin Croll Brian Doob
Fred Frost Paul Hope Bob Kellow
Grant Klassen John Madden Jack McDowell
John Mundie Steve Stothers Malcolm Tinsley
Murray Wichert Jack Zonneveld Herman Yaeger

The Manitoba Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre

The Manitoba Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre was established in 1987. The Centre is dedicated to the promotion and preservation of Japanese and Japanese Canadian culture, heritage and history through a variety of activities, programs and services. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in or an affinity for Japan and things Japanese. The MJCCC operates with a volunteer board and hundreds of volunteers who are dedicated to maintaining and developing its many programs and events.

Some of the most popular programs offered at the Centre are: Japanese language classes for both adults and children, the Japan Public Schools Program, and various cultural programs such as calligraphy, flower arranging, children's judo classes, Japanese cooking, and Japanese dance for both children and adults.

The MJCCC also offers many popular and special culinary and cultural events, both traditional and modern. Some of these include the Cuisine Dinners, Donburi Lunches, Udon Lunches, and traditional events to help everyone learn about Japanese customs such as those centered on New Year, or Children's Day.

The Cultural Centre is also home base for the Manitoba Kendo Club, Winnipeg Budokai Shotokan Karate Club, the Manitoba Karaoke Club, and Hinode Taiko, one of North America's most recognized and pre-eminent taiko ensembles.