

the POWER of HARMONY

A film by Ginny Martin

featuring The Turtle Creek Chorale

“A’ “Only the hardest heart will be unmoved by this lovingly
crafted and deeply moving documentary.”

- Scott Cantrell, *The Dallas Morning News*,

“There is a deep spirituality to "The Power of Harmony" -- and an honesty and
frankness that is as joyful as it is painful. No person of compassion and love can escape
the profound humanity of 'The Power of Harmony.'” - Buzzflash.com

“Wow! As the mother of a gay teen and the co-president of a recently formed PFLAG
chapter in the Rochester, NY area thank you, thank you, thank you from the bottom of
my heart!!! The Power of Harmony is truly inspirational. How wonderful for my 17 year
old gay son (who participates in his high school's show choir, chorale and musicals) to
hear your stories. Words simply cannot express my gratitude.” Christina Pearson,
Webster, NY

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**"THE POWER OF HARMONY" TO AIR NATIONALLY
ON PUBLIC TELEVISION STATIONS IN JUNE**

Dallas, Texas. *The Turtle Creek Chorale* is a gay organization that refuses to live on the fringes. They have survived, indeed *thrived*, for over 25 years, right in the heart of the Bible belt: Dallas, Texas. They are first class musicians. They are irreverent, outrageous, angry, forgiving, and compassionate. They are individuals battling together in an intolerant world. Through music, they have transformed the painful experiences of death and dying from AIDS, and rejection from their own families and churches, into a powerful voice for compassion and equality.

"The Power of Harmony" is a compassionate and surprisingly wholesome documentary that profiles members of The Turtle Creek Chorale as they struggle with contemporary issues such as coming out, gay marriage, adoption, and religion. For gay or straight audiences, the film resonates with themes of family, faith, and community. The film was directed by Ginny Martin, who won an Emmy Award for *After Good-Bye: An Aids Story*.

"The Power of Harmony" will be broadcast on public television stations beginning in June 2006 in celebration of Gay Pride Month. Check local listings for details.



SYNOPSIS

The Power of Harmony, through the personal experiences of a gay men's chorus, takes an intimate look at controversial issues of the day: coming out and gay marriage, religious views on homosexuality, and gay adoption.

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The Power of Harmony captures moments of deep sorrow, and the need for human connection and community. It also reveals the joy that humor and music can bring. As the documentary unfolds:

- Tim, the artistic director and former Baptist minister of music, recounts the devastation left in the wake of his "coming out" and the spiritual fulfillment of self-acceptance.
- Mark and Richard travel to an orphanage in Guatemala to realize their dream of parenthood.
- Zan, after 23 years of separation and rejection from his family, confronts them, with surprising results.
- Anne, the beloved and feisty accompanist, faces cancer with the love and support of her brothers in the choir, who have experienced the loss of over 140 members to AIDS.
- Fred, with daily care from his devoted partner of 30 years, struggles through serious illness, and hopefully, a return to the stage.

The Turtle Creek Chorale provides a place of safety and a family of choice for those rejected by their own. Through music, they deliver a powerful message of acceptance, bridging the gay community with the rest of the world. *The Power of Harmony* is an important documentary that informs, inspires, and entertains.

the POWER of
HARMONY 

ABOUT THE TURTLE CREEK CHORALE

The Turtle Creek Chorale is a 225-voice men's chorus based in Dallas, Texas under the artistic direction of Dr. Timothy Seelig. The organization was founded in 1980 by two men who had the desire to join their voices with the voices of others to spread harmony and goodwill throughout the world. The organization has received international acclaim and has become one of the premier men's singing chorus of the world. The Chorale performs at the acclaimed Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas, Texas for its season concerts, and has toured to Carnegie Hall and Europe, among other places.

Biographies of Principle Characters

Tim Seelig, Artistic Director

The enigmatic artistic director joined the Turtle Creek Chorale in 1987, having left behind a life as the minister of music of a Baptist Church in Houston, Texas. Having lost his wife, his job, his home, and almost his children, Tim's experience embodies both the struggles that gay men endure searching for truth in their lives, and the quiet strength, hope, and dignity which with they live their lives and build bridges with others.

Zan Moore

Raised a Jehovah's Witness, Zan Moore attempts a reconciliation with the religiously fervent parents who rejected him fifteen years before.

Richard Galvan and Mark Hayward

Richard and Mark fulfill their dreams of parenthood and adopt a baby boy from Guatemala.

Fred Moore and Dan Fuller

Fred's passion for singing cannot be dismayed by the health complications which have caused the amputation of both his legs. A touching portrait of Fred and his devoted partner of 30 years, Dan Fuller.

Anne Albritton, Accompanist

Anne shares makeup, sequins, and years of friendship with "the guys" in the Turtle Creek Chorale. Their heartbreaking struggle with the AIDS crisis, that claimed 140 of their members, gives strength, support, and understanding to Anne's struggle with lung cancer.

David Mitchell, Collin Curtis, Ed Young, Darryl Clement, Doug Mitchell, Lonnie Parks, Mark Cargill, Stacey Sturdivant, and Todd Thompson recount their coming out experiences, the loss of family, wives, and friends, and the new families they have formed, and blessings they have experienced out of their lives as gay men and Chorale Members.

FILM CREDITS:

Principal Photography	Luisa Mendoza and Ginny Martin
Editor	Ginny Martin
On-Line Editor	Chuck Brown
Post Production Sound	Brad Dale
Production Graphics	Tom Pribyl
Publicity Art Direction	Kelly Cavener and Justin Parson
Original Score	James Granville Eakin III
Executive Producer	Andy Streitfeld
Associate Producer	Robin Casella
Writer, producer, director	Ginny Martin

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Ginny Martin, Director

Ginny Martin is a two-time Emmy Award-winning documentary producer/director, videographer and editor with over 20 years of experience. Her work includes many national PBS productions, such as *The U.S. – Mexican War*, a four part series, *Matisse and Picasso*, and *Travels with Bedichek*. She produced *After Good-bye: An AIDS Story*, which profiled the Turtle Creek Chorale and their journey through the stages of grief. That production received over a dozen national awards.

ABOUT THE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER:

Andy Streitfeld, Executive Producer

Known as a visionary and innovator in his profession, Andy has built a company that is a magnet for creative talent and a reliable partner for some of America's most prestigious clients. After graduating from New York University, Andy pursued his passion as a television producer and director before traveling the world creating videos for an oil contracting company. In 1982 he founded AMS, which today has more than 60 full-time



employees with studios in Dallas and Austin, Texas. Serving both the broadcast & corporate marketplace, AMS Production Group has mastered The Art of the Message in every form of media communications including video, HD, film, interactive, print, live events and entertainment.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION COMPANY:

AMS Production Group is the largest production company in the southwest US and has a 25-year history of delivering high quality content and production services to the broadcast market. From network and cable programming to popular national advertising campaigns, the award-winning AMS team has built a recognized reputation for creativity, quality and professionalism. Its most recent creative projects include *Race Car Driver*, a reality television series, *Rising From the Rails: The Story of the Pullman Porter*, a feature-length documentary, and Texas gubernatorial candidate Kinky Friedman's campaign commercials.

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