

Alexandria Harmonizers 70th Anniversary Throwback Thursdays

No. 36 - Circle of Life 2011

In September 2012, the **Alexandria Harmonizers**, directed by **Joe Cerutti**, and **The Northern Lights**, directed by **Steve Armstrong**, enjoyed a thrilling seven-day performance tour of China.



Toronto had a separate itinerary but joined **Alexandria** in a formal concert at the Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing. Both choruses were sort of surprised by the calm response of the audience until we learned that the audience had been coached to be calm and very respectful. The audience loved our songs, especially the efforts of the North American singers to learn “Rainbow Sister” in Chinese. Every Harmonizer was “taken” by our singing experience on the Great

Wall of China. We faced the length of the wall so when our focal went up for “Summertime” or “Great Day,” we were looking up at the mountain, the wall, and its towers.

In May 2011, the Harmonizers had a wonderful opportunity to appear in a Carnegie Hall concert originally set as the first *Japan-US Chorus Festival*. After the devastating earthquake and tsunami at Sendai in March, the focus of the concert was changed and the event raised approximately \$40K for the Sendai Relief Fund. The Harmonizers performed “Great Day,” “Ob-La -Di, Ob-La-Da,” “Summertime,” “If I Loved You,” “What Do I Need With Love,” and “Stars and Stripes Forever,” and joined in the fun with **Round Midnight** singing “Shout!”. The chorus made many new friends in harmony from Japan and the U.S. on stage and at the concert social.

In September 2017, the Harmonizers appeared again in the *Japan-US Chorus Festival* at Carnegie Hall. Singers from Spain, Japan, and the U.S. joined in an *Annual Circle Wind Concert: Let’s Extend Circle of Support to the Future*. The Harmonizers sang “America,” “There Must Be A City,” “All You Need Is Love,” “Blow Gabriel Blow,” and an encore: “New York New York.” When we all sang “Keep The Whole World Singing” at the concert social, there were no dry eyes given the essence of the song with singers from around the world communicating through music.

Harmonious Tagline:

“Rainbow Sister”

Hong tsai mei mei, ung ha hi-yo	(Lovely little sister, ung ha hi-yo);
Chung d'r how nahmo, ung ha hi-yo	(You are so very pretty, ung ha hi-yo);
Ying tau shower tsway, ung ha hi-yo	(Your lips are like cherries, ung ha hi-yo);
Yee dyen dyen nahmo, ung ha hi-yo	(Your mouth so tiny, ung ha hi-yo).