



演出的話

今天是一個特別的日子，因為奧斯汀龍吟合唱團在今天將以「華音拾穗」為題，展開慶祝十週年的演唱會。

雖然龍吟遠溯於一九九一年奧斯汀中文學校的時代，其間中斷時，由女子昔緣合唱團繼續。自一九九八年由現任指揮謝全華女士接手以來，龍吟合唱團回復混聲四部並漸漸步入軌道，進入了嶄新的十年。這期間，鬆散的組織有了執行幹部的服務，團員人數漸增，感情逐步加溫，練唱氣氛溫馨融洽。當然，合唱的水準亦穩健提昇，樂曲的選擇也由簡易進入了深奧的合唱曲。除了日益盛大的年度公演外，亦曾數次與其他合唱團聯合演出，並受邀到外縣市演唱，更少不了參與當地社區的慈善義演。種種的歷練，使得今日的龍吟，已然是一個具有職業水準的業餘合唱團。

十週年是值得慶祝及留下回憶的里程碑，回首過去一步一腳印所走過的路：

- 練唱地點 - 從在指揮家裡練唱到租借場地練習；
- 合唱樂譜 - 從零散的樂譜到整批的樂曲；
- 練唱錄音 - 從一捲一捲的練唱錄音帶到可上網擷錄的練習音樂檔；
- 練唱時間 - 從兩星期一次的練唱到每週上課；從每週上課到演出前的分組加練；
- 四部和音 - 從當年稍嫌零落的四部到目前整體化一的四部和聲；
- 登台表演 - 從在當地自行舉辦音樂會到至外地表演，及舉辦聯合演唱會；
- 節目冊 - 從只有一頁節目內容的節目單，轉變成一本設計精美的節目冊；
- 表演服裝 - 從異中求同的服裝到三套不同設計的全團團服；
- 演出 CD - 從陽春版的演出 CD 到可媲美市售 CD 的彩色包裝版；
- 龍吟網站 - 從不知如何銷售自己到擁有龍吟網站 www.austinchinesechoir.org

種種痕跡與成果，必當要感謝龍吟歷年團長及幹部義工們的付出，以及曾是團員們的參與，因為他們，龍吟得以延續至今，有著驕傲的今日，以及值得憧憬的未來。感謝指揮謝全華女士為這場音樂會付出的心血，感謝團員們努力的練唱及百分百的配合。感謝數年來各界持續的贊助，使龍吟有更大的發展空間。最後，衷心感謝諸位貴賓、親友、及音樂愛好者的大駕光臨，您的支持永遠是我們的後盾，激勵我們更加精進，攀向音樂的更高峰。

今天的音樂會有許多動聽的合唱曲，讓我們共同浸淫在優美的音樂中，為「華音拾穗」劃下完美的句點。

About the Performance

Today is a really special day, because Austin Chinese Choir is holding the 10th Anniversary Concert, titled “Choral Harvest of the Decade”. Though the choir was first formed back in 1991 at Austin Chinese School, it was inactive for a while, during that time a smaller female group, Xi-Yuan Choir, continued to practice. In 1998 when current conductor Mrs. Chun-Hwa Chen began to take charge, Austin Chinese Choir had a fresh start, and has grown step by significant step ever since.

During the past ten years, our choir went from loosely organized to having several people serve on staff. Our members grew in numbers and in relationship. There is warm affinity and shared laughter during choir practices. Of course the quality of our chorus has also progressed steadily. We went from singing simple songs to more difficult ones. The programs of our annual recitals are getting richer every year. In addition, we’ve had several joint concerts with other choirs. We have also been invited to perform out of town, and have participated in many charity events. All the drills and experiences have made Austin Chinese Choir an amateur group with professional qualities. 10th Anniversary is a milestone worthy of celebration, and it’s time for memory making. Looking back on the footprints we left behind, I will sum them up like this:

- Practice Location – from conductor’s own home to leased classrooms.
- Music – from random music sheets to complete volumes of choral songs.
- Practice Recording – from individual cassette tapes to downloadable online music files.
- Practice Time – from bi-weekly to weekly, then to extra group practices before performances.
- Voice Parts – from four slightly uneven parts to unified multi-part harmony.
- Performances – from our own local recitals to out-of-town performances and joint concerts.
- Recital Programs – from single page to beautifully designed program books.
- Costumes – from trying to match individual outfits to three different sets of choir uniforms.
- CDs – from simple performance CDs to commercial grade ones with colored packaging.
- Website – from not knowing how to broadcast ourselves to owning the website, www.austinchinesechoir.org.

All of the above accomplishments are results from efforts made by every choir president and volunteer staff, and from participation by both former and present choir members. Because of them, Austin Chinese Choir is here a decade later, with pride for today and hope for the future. Special thanks to conductor Chun-Hwa for pouring all of herself into this concert, to choir members for their hard work and 100% cooperation. And we appreciate our sponsors from various segments of society through the years, giving us opportunities to thrive. Finally, we want to give heartfelt thanks to everyone here tonight – to our guests, to our family and friends, and to all music lovers. Your support has always been the foundation for us to build on, encouraging us to move on to the next musical summit.

There are many wonderful choral songs at this concert. May everyone enjoy the beautiful music tonight, and may it be a perfect ending to “Choral Harvest of the Decade”.

演出紀事 *Performance History*

- 07/12/2008 Giving Lights to Rebuild Hope---China 5.12 Earthquake Charity Performance
- 06/15/2008 Co-hosting a June concert with Austin Chanson Choir for Crystal Concert Choir from Cupertino, CA.
- 06/01/2008 Love from Austin---Benefit Event for China Earthquake Relief Charity Performance
- 02/23/2008 Houston Voice of Harmony Concert
- 02/16/2008 Chinese New Year Celebration in San Antonio
- 10/21/2007 Harvest Art Festival 2007 hosted by Multicultural Artists Partnership
- 05/12/2007 Singing in Harmony Concert by Austin Chinese Choir Featuring Dallas Choral Society
- 04/28/2007 Spring Concert with Dallas Choral Society in Dallas
- 03/05/2007 Texas Special Olympics' China Night
- 03/02/2007 McNeil High School Culture Club Event
- 02/18/2007 Austin Fo Guang Shan Hsiang Yun Temple Celebrating Chinese New Year
- 05/13/2006 Austin Chinese Choir 2006 Concert, guest performer: Chinese American Musicians' Association of Houston
- 01/29/2006 Austin Fo Guang Shan Hsiang Yun Temple Celebrating Chinese New Year
- 05/20/2005 Austin Chinese Choir 2005 Concert
- 04/30/2005 Guest Performed in the 45th Concert of Chinese American Musicians' Association of Houston
- 05/04/2004 Austin Chinese Choir 2004 Concert
- 09/27/2003 Chinese Society of Austin Mid-Autumn Festival
- 06/06/2003 Austin Chinese Choir Family Concert
- 11/23/2002 Austin Chinese Choir 2002 Concert
- 10/20/2001 Guest Performed in Love of China Dance Recital
- 12/08/2000 Austin Chinese Choir 2000 Concert
- 05/14/1999 Austin Chinese Choir 1999 Concert