

Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/

celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country

Rainbow Chorus Events (1995-)

Publishing History: Documents issued at irregular intervals by the **Rainbow Chorus** for its concerts, fundraisers, and other events.

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A1: Assistant Director 1 - Think bombastic, overbearing, like Michael Bay or James Cameron, but a real softie at heart. Imagine the character with a New York accent, but an accent is not necessary.

A2: Assistant Director 2 - Think thespian, method actor, artiste. Imagine the person wearing robes with a crisp Shakespearean accent. Again, the accent is not necessary.

D: Director - Does not speak until the end

CM 1, CM 2, CM 3 - Chorus Members introducing Down to the River

James Bond

A1: Cut! Great job guys! [Claps] All right people! Bond's a wrap! Maybe we can get some SPY GADGETS or some [rubs palms together] LIVE AMMUNITION

JAMES BOND can exit, but the BOND BOYS need to hang out in reach of A1 & A2

A2: Hold on a moment. What we've got here is a failure to communicate. That was certainly a spectacle...

A1: Yes?

A2: And it was lots of fun...

A1: [more exasperated] Yeah?

A2: But it wasn't ... IT. The ONE. The perfect song to end THE [jazz hands right] RAINBOW [jazz hands middle] CHORUS [jazz hands left] PICTURE SHOW

A1: Just one? One song to rule them all?

A2: There can be only one.

A1: [grand, to audience] But it had ACTION! It had SUSPENSE! It had BOND BABES. [personal, to A2] Didn't it fulfill your needs?

A2: [lascivious grin] They certainly did! They had me at [seductively] 'hello', gorgeous. [ogles] [snaps out of it] But our illustrious DIRECTOR [gestures to director]

D: [director stands in a determined pose with silhouette toward audience]

A2 (cont): told us lowly assistants that the song we need has to have it ALL. Where's the PASSION? The ROMANCE? The ... DRAMA?

A1: Frankly, my dear ... you're totally right.

Don't Cry For Me Argentina

Charade

What A Wonderful World

A2: [satisfied, smirking] You ain't heard nothin' yet! Do I detect a tear in your eye?

A1: [sniff] What? Uh, no. I'm, uh, lactose intolerant. [beat] Bad burrito. [belches]

A2: [grimaces, waves away stench] [to audience] See what I mean? [to A1] You of ALL people should know you have to aim right for the HEART [strikes chest] If you build it, he will come. [to director] What did you think, sir?

D: [pensive frown][beat][raises finger, opens mouth]

A1: [interrupts] I want ... I mean WE need a HAPPY ending. We can't leave people in such an [sniff] EMOTIONAL state.

A2: Surely you can't be serious?

A1: How about something with some CHARACTER? Ya know, something to raise their SPIRITS? And don't call me Shirley!

Chim Chim Cheree

Somebody To Love

A2: That one [puts on voice] coulda been a CONTENDER.

A1: [derisive 'you are lame' look directed at A1] I LIKE it. We need a SHOWSTOPPER like that. Maybe with some FIREWORKS or [beat] LASERS [maniacal grin]. I feel the need - the need for SPEED!

A2: There is no need to be quite so EXCESSIVE. Perhaps if we go for something QUIETER

A1: You mean all we need is LOVE [visual sneer] [beat] or some crap like that?

A2: [quoting] Love means never having to say you're sorry. And, that's not a half bad idea.

A1: It's not?

A2: You can never go wrong with the Beatles.

Yesterday

Unchained Melody

A1: [audibly snoring]

A2: Snap out of it!

A1: [mumbled] I see dead people [wakes up] I'm AWAKE.

A2: What is WRONG with you? That's an ICONIC movie moment, filled with AMOUR and INTENSE longing. [to Director] Tell him that not being moved by that is...inconCEivable!

D: [thinks, begins to say something, but wordlessly]

A1: [interrupts with a yawn] That's fine for the chick flick crowd, but I want a BLOCKBUSTER. I want TESTOSTERONE. WRATH of GOD and EXPLOSIONS and [makes laser gun hands] PEW! PEW! PEW!

A2: [deadpan] Fasten your seatbelts. It's going to be a bumpy night. Hm. [hand on chin, considering] maybe not WRATH of God, but you can also never go wrong with a gospel choir. And then, I think we have something else if these are not the SONGS you're looking for.

Joyful Joyful

Star Wars

Intermission

Time Warp

A2: Listen to them. Children of the night. What music they make. [can be said in Dracula accent, especially the last one]

A1: Well, hey. At least we started with ALIENS.

A2: You, my dear sir[madam], are extraordinarily HARD to please.

A1: Say what you like, but all the CLASSICS have ALIENS.

A2: A CLASSIC! What a great idea! Maybe something that was such a great song that it INSPIRED a movie. There are so MANY to choose from. Maybe "Lean on Me"

D: [thumbs down]

A1: I'm sorry, Dave. I'm afraid I can't do that.

A2: Or how about "Peggy Sue Got Married"

D: [Joan Rivers retch or Bill the Cat face]

A1: Game over, man! Game over! What about "Megashark vs. Giant Octopus"

D: [thinking it over]

A2: [blank stare] I swear. You two are just a couple of TEENAGED BOYS.

[beat]

D: [raised index finger]

[TRIANGLE HIT (percussion)]

A2: I think this is the beginning of a beautiful friendship.

Stand By Me

[Note: Rather than have the actors break character and then return to it, I suggest [up to] three chorus members deliver a dedication similar to the following. They can choose the words]

CM 1: We would like to dedicate the next song to Raymond Taavel.

CM 2: A community activist for justice and equality, Raymond was beaten to death while trying to break up a fight

CM 3: At a vigil for him in Halifax, this song was sung in his memory

Down To The River

Rainbow Connection

DIRECTOR is behind A1 and A2. A1 and A2 should be on other side of DIRECTOR, talking to one another and facing the audience more. The audience should be able to see DIRECTOR behind them.

A2: Ah! Inspirational. Heartwarming. Nostalgic and current, all at once! It even mentions RAINBOWS.

As A2 is speaking, DIRECTOR takes out a stick of gum or piece of candy. It does not have to be real. Director begins to pantomime whatever it is going down the wrong way

A2: I think it's perfect. [to A1] That'll do, pig, that'll do.

A1: I totally...uh oh.

A2: What do you mean, "uh oh"?

A1: Look! [points to DIRECTOR] He hates it! I told you it needed more EXPLOSIONS. Here's another nice mess you've gotten me into.

[DIRECTOR squirms and shifts uncomfortably]

A2: Quick! What's the total OPPOSITE of what we were just doing?

A1: BLACK and WHITE, not colour! Shaken not stirred. Standards. You know, older than STAR WARS.

DIRECTOR clears the obstruction and seems relieved.

A2: Okay, let's go OLD SCHOOL.

A1: Like what?

A2: I don't know. I'm making this up as I go.

Under My Skin

As Time Goes By

A1: Houston, we have a problem. We're getting TOO classic.

A2: I think it's important that we celebrate ALL the movies, past and present

A1: Yeah, but if the movies aren't even in COLOUR how am I going to have great EXPLOSIONS?

A2: But it's not just the SPECIAL EFFECTS that people remember. It's the ageless MUSIC, the great LOVE stories, the RELATIONSHIPS that stand the test of time and reveal essential TRUTHS.

A1: You can't handle the truth! Alls I'm sayin' is that we can have all that JUNK AND have it be in COLOUR

A2: I suppose we could try something a little more MODERN

A1: Go ahead. Make my day!

Angel

A1: [cries] That was so BEAUTIFUL and so SAAADDDDD! [blows nose]
A2: Well, songs can have many meanings. That one, for instance, meant something very LITERAL in the movie, but the song was ORIGINALLY written about
A1: [interrupts] THE PUPPIES! THE KITTIES!
A2: Look, just because it was used in a humane society commercial doesn't mean
A1: [interrupts] SAVE THE KITTIES! [bawls]
A2: [facepalm] Okay, I think we need to cue the DISNEY. We need some cute talking ANIMALS and a production number or we're going to lose our assistant director.
A1: [weakly, desperate] Tell 'em to go out there with all they got and win just one for the KITTENS.

Kiss The Girl

A2: Snakes? Why'd it have to be snakes?
A1: The SNAKES are GREAT! LOVE the SNAKES. But could they be on a PLANE or maybe battling GODZILLA [makes boxing motions] or something?
A2: You're a sad, strange little man. SOMEONE is obviously feeling better.
A1: [excited] This song has to be BIG. It has to go right to the HEART of the RAINBOW CHORUS. There should be BIG POOFY rainbows EVERYWHERE.
[progressively getting more manic] The stuff DREAMS are made of. Carpe diem! Seize the day! No wire hangers!
A2: What? [incredulous]
A1: [calmly] I'm having a moment. Go with me. [manic again] I am Batman. I am no one special. I am not afraid. I am human. I AM the business. I am naked. I am king of the world!
A2: You're crazy, that's what you are.
A1: [calmly] Well, nobody's perfect.

Bridge Over Troubled Water

I Am What I Am

A1: I have to hand it to you. Your song really brought it home [note: make sure YOUR and SONG have equal stress when spoken. Don't say "Your SONG"]
D: What did you say?
A1 and A2: [shocked, speechless reactions]
D: Spit it out, man! We don't have all day!
A2: She said that my song brought it home.
D: No. That's not what she said. She said YOUR SONG brought it home.
A2: [confused] Isn't that what I said?
D: No. It's not about I or ME or MY. This is about YOUR song. WHOEVER you are, we're looking for YOUR song.
A1 & A2: [in unison] Oh! [look at each other] That's IT!

Your Song