

Let Music Bond The World Let Music Comfort our souls

--- Manhattan Symphonie Celebrates its 10th Anniversary with Japan Choral Harmony “TOMO” on Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

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Like Fallen Cherry Blossoms, Japan Choral Harmony “TOMO” touches the world with its Majestic Beauty.

Ordinary people with extraordinary voices

In times of tragedy, the last thing we all need is separation. Instead, we need to join hands and rise as one. In 2011 Sendai, Japan fell prey to a massive earthquake with a Tsunami to follow. A group of Japanese- Americans had considered canceling their performance, but instead, decided to go on stage and sing. Despite having lost family and friends, they came out to support the rest of Sendai and show strength in a time of sorrow. This group of ordinary people with extraordinary voices created the Sendai Relief fund to help the victims who had suffered extreme loss. With their passionate, musical hearts and talented voices they sang to create a light within the ashes left behind. That is the true spirit and aspiration of Japan Choral Harmony "TOMO", they are a group of 40 passionate music lovers waiting to sing for the world. They have performed at Carnegie Hall, The New York Society For Ethical Culture and many other places. They are also a worldwide group that has traveled to both Spain and Japan, and is now going to Italy to carry their musical spirit and strength to others.

Circle Wind Concert Series

Mike Shirota, Founder and Conductor of TOMO, has produced Japan-US chorus Festival at Carnegie Hall twice and created the Circle Wind Concert series. This September, the series has reached its 8th year of success. The latest concert gave tribute to Taylor Anderson, an American victim of the Great East Japan Earthquake/Tsunami on March 11, 2011. In 2008, Taylor Anderson moved to Ishinomaki, where she taught English to children at the preliminary, elementary and junior high school level. She hoped to help build a bridge between Japan and the U.S. Taylor was washed away by the tsunami on the way back home after helping her children evacuate to safety. At the concert “Never Give Up Taylor’s Choir”, a group from Ishinomaki /Higashi-Matsushima performed their original musical “100 Ways of Saying Thank You”. They aimed to show appreciation to America for their support after the earthquake. Since then the Circle Wind Series has been stronger than ever, reaching people around the world.

Fallen but not forgotten

Japan Choral Harmony “TOMO” has spent many years in collaboration with Manhattan Symphonie. Together, they have worked to bond many different cultures and communities through music. The annual 9\11 Circle Wind Memorial Concert continues to be one of their most famous events. Every year the choir and orchestra join forces to commemorate all victims and survivors with a concert. Through music they ease the tensions of tragedy and allow us to remember our fallen who have not been forgotten. Pearl Harbor was another tragic day that haunts the hearts of many people today. So Manhattan Symphonie and Japan Choral Harmony have organized a concert for Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. Mike Shirota says “This is very significant as it is held on Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. It is the most uncomfortable day for the Japanese people living in the USA, as well as the Americans residing in Japan. August 6th (Hiroshima) and 9th (Nagasaki) are difficult days for us, but we understand and have accepted what happened 70-75 years ago between us, without distorting the history and criticizing each other. Now we are in a mature relationship with a strong alliance in every respect that the

rest of the world can be proud of ". If Peace after a disaster such as this one was made before, it can surely be done again in the years to come. For now Japan Choral Harmony and Manhattan Symphonie aim to celebrate this peace in a time of new disasters.

Keep calm and eat mushrooms

Mike Shirota immigrated to the U.S 40 years ago and is the owner of Mushroom Wisdom Inc. This company uses mushrooms as a holistic treatment for many ailments and sells products throughout the country. Shirota runs his company here and spends the rest of his time giving life to Japan Choral Harmony. Shirota composes some of his own pieces, while also playing some of Gregory Singer's original works. Their music incorporates a plethora of different genres and remains both relatable and captivating. Their pieces are done in both English and Japanese. Now Shirota sings towards his dream of spreading the joy of music with his chorus as they aim towards a symbiotic, harmony of peace between nations.

TOMO:

Website: jch-tomo.org

Facebook: [facebook.com/Japan Choral Harmony \(JCH\)](https://facebook.com/Japan%20Choral%20Harmony%20(JCH))

9.11 Circle Wind Memorial Concert Corp.:

<http://kazenowa911.blog.fc2.com>

Concert Supporter: Mushroom Wisdom, Inc.

www.mushroomwisdom.com

Toll Free: 1-800-747-7418

1 Madison Street, Building F6, East Rutherford, NJ 07073

Memorial Processional
Requiem for Innocent Victims of Japan 3.11 Tsunami

風よ 吹き荒れろ	O let the wind blow harder
あの叫び散らせ	and take their screams away
風よ 吹き荒れろ	O let the wind blow stronger
あの呻き散らせ	and take their groans away
幼き子の悔しさを	And the sorrows of those little innocent souls
この海原に沈めよ	let them slowly subside beneath the sea
雨よ 降りしきれ	O let the rain keep falling
あの嘆き流せ	and wash your grieves away
雨よ 降りしきれ	O let the rain keep roaring
あの涙流せ	and shed your tears away
残りし我が哀しみを	And the sorrows of mine that were left behind
この波間に沈めよ	let them slowly descend beneath the waves
雪よ 降り積もれ	O let the snow keep falling
この父の肩に	onto this father's shoulders
雪よ 降り積もれ	O let the snow keep swirling
この母の顔に	against this mother's face
果てしのない怒りを	Set us free from this pain, ever-lasting bane
永遠(とわ)に凍らせよ	keep it frozen in the deep sea forever

By Mike Shirota

(English translation by Takako Miyazaki / Emi Shinozaki)

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Manhattan Symphonie - 10 Years of Traveling in a Music Wonderland, But Not Just a Fairy Tale

Music presents peace in a time of chaos

Music is one of the core elements of American culture. With so many worldwide tragedies, there is no better time to advocate peace through music. Manhattan Symphonie is determined to explore and show all of the beauty left in this world. Their 10th anniversary is on a very special day, Pearl Harbor day. On December 7th, they intend to celebrate the reconciliation and peace between countries with a concert. The national anthems of both Japan and America will be played at the beginning of the concert. This is the perfect time for people of all communities to support one another and celebrate one of the greatest elements of culture.

Celebrate Manhattan Symphonie's 10th year anniversary

The Reconciliation concert on December 7th with consists of original pieces. Parisian Nights, Central Park Waltz and Lion's song are just three of the original pieces the orchestra has planned for the night. Gregory Singer and the Manhattan Symphonie hope to show everyone the beauty of this country and a shard of piece in a time of tragedy. The concert will take place at the New York Society for Ethical Culture. There will be a select number of music with Japan Choral Harmony TOMO including Vivaldi's "Gloria", Sibelius' "Finlandia" and Fukuyama's "Kusunoki", a song for Nagasaki.

An orchestra that cares

Manhattan Symphonie is much more than an orchestra; they are a group of musicians dedicated to supporting those in need. They have done memorial concerts for tragedies and numerous fundraising and outreach concerts to bring the community together. One of their most popular concerts is the 9/11-memorial concert, done to remember the fallen and strive for a peaceful future. Their debut at Carnegie Hall in 2005 was only the first of many. Some of their previous events have taken place at Alice Tully hall and David Geffen hall at Lincoln Center. One of their unique events are their Children's concerts, which are intended to inspire the youth. Soon, they will also begin their 5th performance tour through China on December 19th. In 2009, they were first invited to celebrate 30 years of peace between the U.S and China. Since then, many have filled up a concert hall to watch them perform through China. Gregory Singer has also conducted performances in both Italy and Russia.

From Juilliard to Carnegie Hall

Gregory Singer, the founder and music director of Manhattan Symphonie wants to embody and export the best of America. Manhattan Symphonie is composed of many different racial groups, ages and religions. America is really just one compilation of different cultures blended into one sole entity. Manhattan Symphonie embodies that and intends to express that through music. They play mostly original music, composed by Gregory Singer. Most of his pieces are melody based. They mirror Gregory Singer's eclectic musical background. He began as a student of Juilliard and continued on to dabble in many different musical genres. He has worked as a studio musician for movie soundtracks, performed in multiple chamber music concerts at the Barge concert series and previously conducted the New Jersey Philharmonic Orchestra. As a musician, his goal is to make classical music relatable and exciting. He is just as concerned about entertaining his audience as he is about producing beautiful music. He is known for being an interactive musician, who brings life and joy to every crowd. As he works his way through each crowd, capturing the eyes of many, he also shows off his father's coat tails. Gregory Singer's father, Jacques Singer was also a renowned conductor. To pay tribute to his father he wears his coat tails, every time he performs for a large audience.

Gregory Singer knows good violins

Aside from Manhattan Symphonie, Gregory Singer is also an expert Violin collector and dealer. His vast collection of rare 18th century violins is exquisite and meticulously selected. A few violins in their collection are the 18th century Stradivarius, the 18th century Vuillaume, the Guarnerius and a Maggini with double purfling. As a professional violinist and a well-experienced conductor, Gregory Singer puts everything into collecting these rare violins and ensuring the highest quality of product. The violin shop also does repairs and sell accessories. The shop has been open for 15 years and thoroughly maintains each instrument.

--- Work by Daily Media Studio, Written by Phoebe J Mikneah, Editor Felicia Guo. Info@DailyMediaStudio.com.

Manhattan Symphonie Website: Manhattansymphonie.com

Facebook: Manhattan Symphonie Orchestra

manhattansymphonie@gmail.com

Gregory Singer Fine Violins

246 West 80th Street, 4FL

New York, NY 10024

Singerviolins.com

GregorySingerArt.com

info@singerviolins.com

Telephone: 212-724-4476

Manhattan Symphonie 10th Anniversary Gala

Conductor: Gregory Singer

Chorus: Japan Choral Harmony

Time/Date: December 7th 2015, 7:00 pm

Venue: New York Society for Ethical Culture Concert Hall

2 West 64th street New york, NY 10023

Online Ticket: <http://jch-tomo.org>

Co-sponsored by 9.11 Circle Wind Memorial Concert Corp.

Supporter: Mushroom Wisdom, Inc.