

*"My country 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee we sing."*

—MARIAN ANDERSON'S *AMERICA*, APRIL 9, 1939



*Marian Anderson
Tribute Concert*

APRIL 12, 2009
THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Abraham Lincoln
200

TWO HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR

200 Abraham Lincoln

Marian Anderson's lone voice raised in song at the Lincoln Memorial put her in the vanguard of the modern civil rights movement and cemented forever in people's minds the Lincoln Memorial as a shrine not only to Lincoln but also to the principles of freedom and equality of opportunity. Since that day, Americans have drawn strength for their civic, political, and cultural agendas simply by staging them at the feet of the 16th president enshrined in this Memorial. As Miss Anderson later recalled: "All I knew then as I stepped forward was the overwhelming impact of the vast multitude. There seemed to be people as far as the eye could see.... I had a feeling that a great wave of good will poured out from these people, almost engulfing me."

Denied permission to sing at DAR Constitution Hall and at Washington, D.C.'s Central High School, Marian Anderson instead sang before an integrated crowd of 75,000 at the Lincoln Memorial – and millions listened on the radio. It became one of the early, defining moments in the history of protest against racial inequality in America.

African-American educator and civil rights leader Mary McLeod Bethune recalled: “It cannot be described in words. There is no way. History may and will record it, but it will never be able to tell what happened in the hearts of the thousands who stood and listened yesterday afternoon... The reverence and concentration of the throngs...told a story of hope for tomorrow-a story of triumph- a story of pulling together- a story of splendor and real democracy.”

Many organizations and individuals played key roles in making the 1939 Lincoln Memorial concert possible, most notably Howard University, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and its president Walter White, the Marian Anderson Citizens Committee and its chairman Charles Houston, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes, and Miss Anderson’s agent Sol Hurok.

Described as “having a voice heard once in a hundred years,” Marian Anderson was born in Philadelphia in 1897. At age six, she took the first step to becoming a “national treasure” by joining the Union Baptist Church choir. Nicknamed the “Baby Contralto,” she soon began singing in other area churches. Mentored by Roland Hayes, the greatest black tenor of his day, and music teacher Giuseppe Bohgetti, she studied voice, music and foreign languages. In 1925, Anderson got her big break, winning the opportunity to sing in concert with the New York Philharmonic. She made a number of concert appearances in the United States, including at Carnegie Hall in 1928. Racial prejudice, however, prevented her career from gaining momentum in the United States. She toured Europe in the early 1930s, where audiences, conductors, and critics received her enthusiastically. She returned in 1935 to tour widely in the United States, but continued to encounter prejudice, despite her international stature.

Throughout her career, Marian Anderson broke barriers for black artists in the United States, becoming the first black person to perform at New York’s Metropolitan Opera in 1955. Anderson later became an important symbol of grace during the civil rights movement in the 1960s, notably singing at the 1963 March on Washington.

The recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the NAACP Spingarn Award, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Kennedy Center Honors, the National Medal of the Arts and a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, Marian Anderson personified grace and dignity. At the time of her death in 1993 at age 96, the great opera singer Jessye Norman wrote: “She wore the glorious crown of her voice with the grace of an empress and changed the lives of many through the subtle force of her spirit and demeanor. If the planet Earth could sing, I think it would sound something like Marian Anderson.”

A Celebration of Freedom

HONORING MARIAN ANDERSON

Prelude

“THE PRESIDENT’S OWN”

U. S. Marine Band

Colonel Michael J. Colburn, Director

Ralph Vaughan Williams “FLOURISH FOR WIND BAND”

Frank Ticheli “AMAZING GRACE”

Arranged by
MSgt Stephen Bulla* *AMERICAN SPIRITUALS*

Samuel Augustus Ward “AMERICA, THE BEAUTIFUL”

Welcome

Mr. Harold Holzer

Co-Chairman, Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

Remarks

Mr. Hilary O. Shelton

Vice President for Advocacy/Director of the NAACP’s Washington Bureau

Mr. Hilary O. Shelton

Director, NAACP Washington Bureau

Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address

General Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret.)

**Member U.S. Marine Band*

- Bernice Johnson Reagon "I REMEMBER, I BELIEVE"
Sweet Honey in the Rock
- "CIVIL RIGHTS MEDLEY"
Sweet Honey in the Rock
- Ysaye M. Barnwell "WOULD YOU HARBOR ME"
Sweet Honey in the Rock
Chicago Children's Choir
- Bernice Johnson Reagon "ELLA'S SONG"
Sweet Honey in the Rock
Chicago Children's Choir
- Traditional Spiritual "MY SOUL'S BEEN ANCHORED
Arranged by Moses Hogan IN THE LORD"
Chicago Children's Choir
- Rollo Dilworth FREEDOM TRAIN
Chicago Children's Choir
- Mitchell Owens ONE VOICE
Choir alum, Class of 2009 Chicago Children's Choir
- Randol Alan Bass "A NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM"
U. S. Marine Band
John Toczek, narrator
Chicago Children's Choir
- Samuel Francis Smith "AMERICA"
Denyce Graves
Warren Jones, piano
- Gaetano Donizetti "O, MIO FERNANDO"
Denyce Graves
Warren Jones, piano
- Franz Schubert "AVE MARIA"
Denyce Graves
Warren Jones, piano
- Gene Scheer "AMERICAN ANTHEM"
Denyce Graves
U. S. Marine Band
- Aaron Copland "SIMPLE GIFTS" FROM OLD
*Transcribed by Thomas Knox** AMERICAN SONGS, SET NO. 1
Denyce Graves
U. S. Marine Band
- Harry Dixon Loes "THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE"
Denyce Graves
Sweet Honey in the Rock
Chicago Children's Choir

**Member U.S. Marine Band*

Welcoming New Americans

Presentation of Colors

Armed Forces Color Guard

The National Anthem

John Stafford Smith
Words by Francis Scott Key

“THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER”
U. S. Marine Band

Retirement of Colors

Armed Forces Color Guard

Remarks

General Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret.)

Call of Countries and Presentation of Candidates

Sarah Taylor, District Director, Washington, D.C.,
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Administration of the Oath of Allegiance

Michael Aytes, Acting Deputy Director
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Gabor Boritt
Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

Congratulatory Remarks

Jane Holl Lute, Deputy Secretary
Department of Homeland Security

Closing Remarks

Mr. Harold Holzer
Co-Chairman, Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

Postlude

John Philip Sousa*

MARCH, “THE STARS AND
STRIPES FOREVER”

**Member U.S. Marine Band*

Performers and Special Guests

GABOR BORITT Boritt is a leading authority on Abraham Lincoln and the Battle of Gettysburg, and holds the Fluhrer Professorship of Civil War Studies at Gettysburg College. Boritt joined the Hungarian Revolution in 1956, and later fled his native country for America. He credits Lincoln's writings with teaching him English. His latest book is *The Gettysburg Gospel: The Lincoln Speech That Nobody Knows*. In 2008 Boritt was awarded the National Humanities Medal. *Budapest to Gettysburg*, the documentary by his son, Jake Boritt, tells his life story, and became a PBS finalist out of 800 applicants.

CHICAGO CHILDREN'S CHOIR Founded in 1956 during the Civil Rights Movement, Chicago Children's Choir is a multiracial, multicultural choral music education organization, shaping the future by making a difference in the lives of children and youth through musical excellence. The Choir currently serves 2,800 children, ages 8–18 through choirs in 45 schools, after-school programs in 8 Chicago neighborhoods and the internationally acclaimed Concert Choir. The Concert Choir has undertaken national and international tours, performed for such dignitaries as Bill and Hillary Clinton, Nelson Mandela and the Dalai Lama, and received an Emmy Award for the documentary *Songs on the Road to Freedom*.

Michael Angone

Phillip Armstrong

Victoria Bain

Samantha Bakall

Rachel Baker

Marianne Bellorin

Waters Cahill

Elise Croteau-Chonka

Emma Daniels

Leo Daube

Austin Echols

Addie Epstein

Timothy Fett

Adriana Flocco

Neil Geistlinger

Elizabeth Guynn

Julia Henderson

Terry Henderson

Mary Jones

Caroline Kagan

Joseph Kern

Ellen Kleber

Loren Kole

Brandon Lampkin

Aimee Lucido

Cathy Ludwig

Rebecca Marks

Ashley Marsh

Ahriel Mullings

Lola Ogunnaike

Samantha Peltz

David Perez

Stephanie Pietryla

Conley Pollard

Sydney Price

Daniella Pruitt

Page Redding

Corean Reynolds

Stephanie Ricoy

Lakeyah Scales

Isaac Sherman

Michael St. Peter

Raven Taylor

John Toczek

Taylor Varndell

Ashley Wagner

James Wenzel

Jonathan Wenzel

Romel Williams

Kyra Woods

Artistic Staff

Josephine Lee,
Artistic Director

Judy Hanson,
*Assoc. Director/
Choreographer*

John Goodwin,
Principal Accompanist

DENYCE GRAVES is a mezzo-soprano who continues to gather unparalleled acclaim for performances on four continents and is recognized worldwide as one of today's most exciting vocal stars. She has become particularly well-known to operatic audiences for her portrayals of Carmen and Dalila (*Samson et Dalila*). Denyce is a native of Washington, D.C., where she attended the Duke Ellington School for the Performing Arts. She has been the recipient of many awards, including the Grand Prix du Concours International de Chant de Paris and the Marian Anderson Award, presented to her by Miss Anderson.

HAROLD HOLZER is one of the country's leading authorities on the political culture of the Civil War era. Among his many monographs, he is best known for *Lincoln at Cooper Union: The Speech that Made Abraham Lincoln President* (2004), which won a 2005 Lincoln Prize. His most recent work is *Lincoln President-Elect: Abraham Lincoln and the Great Secessionist Winter 1860–1861*. He is the senior vice president for external affairs at The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Co-Chairman of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

WARREN JONES frequently performs with many of today's best-known artists, and his collaborations have earned consistently high praise from many publications: *The Boston Globe* termed him "flawless" and "utterly ravishing"; and *The New York Times*, "exquisite." For NPR Classics, he has recorded a recital of spirituals with Denyce Graves, entitled *Angels Watching Over Me*. Mr. Jones is a member of the faculty at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City and the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, CA. He is Principal Pianist for the exciting West Coast ensemble Camerata Pacifica.

GENERAL COLIN L. POWELL, USA (Retired) served as the 65th U.S. Secretary of State from January 2001 to January 2005. He served 35 years in the U.S. Army, rising to the rank of Four-Star General and from 1989 to 1993, served as the 12th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He also served as the National Security Advisor to President Ronald Reagan. Since returning to private life, General Powell authored his best-selling autobiography, *My American Journey*, and is helping to raise funds for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial in Washington, DC and for the construction of an education center for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

HILARY O. SHELTON presently serves as the Vice President for Advocacy/ Director of the NAACP's Washington Bureau. In this capacity, Hilary is responsible for advocating the federal public policy issue agenda of the oldest, largest, and most widely recognized civil rights organization in the United States to the U.S. Government. He also serves on a number of national boards of directors including, The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, The Center for Democratic Renewal, the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, and the Congressional Black Caucus Institute among many others.

SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK Founded by Bernice Johnson Reagon in 1973 at the D.C. Black Repertory Theater Company, Sweet Honey in the Rock®, internationally renowned a cappella ensemble, has been a vital and innovative presence in the music culture of Washington, D.C., and in communities of conscience around the world. The 2008–2009 season finds Sweet Honey celebrating her 35th birthday. Sweet Honey In The Rock is Ysaye Maria Barnwell, Nitanju Bolade Casel, Aisha Kahlil, Carol Maillard, Louise Robinson, and Shirley Childress Saxton.

Ysaye M. Barnwell has earned a significant reputation as a commissioned composer and arranger, author, master teacher and choral clinician in African American cultural performance. She created the Community Sing, which she conducts monthly in Washington, D.C., and the workshop *Building a Vocal Community® — Singing In the African American Tradition*. Her pedagogy is highly respected among musicians, educators, health workers, activists, organizers, and in corporate and non-profit sectors. Barnwell is also the author of several children's books, including *No Mirrors in My Nana's House*.

Nitanju Bolade Casel became a member of Sweet Honey In The Rock in 1985, after four years of studying, performing, and cultural organizing in Dakar, Senegal. She is a cofounder of Artistes Des Echanges Africaines and was the former assistant director of the Art of Black Dance & Music, and director of Young Afrique Dance Company. Nitanju now works as co-director of First World Productions, and heads her own publishing company. She is also an accomplished songwriter and a Grammy nominee for Sweet Honey's *Experience... 101*, which she produced.

Aisha Kahlil possesses a dynamic, innate power and range in jazz, blues, contemporary, and traditional African vocal styles and techniques. Her performances of *See See Rider* and *Fulani Chant* earned her the title of best soloist from the Contemporary A Cappella Society of America (CASA). She has been featured in other soundtracks, films, and theatre productions, and tours with her own band, MyKa and the Whole World Band. Aisha is also an accomplished songwriter and a master teacher in voice and dance.

Carol Maillard attended Catholic University of America where she began writing music and performing with the drama department, majoring in Theater. This passion for the stage brought her to the D.C. Black Repertory Company and the beginnings of the vocal ensemble that was to become Sweet Honey In The Rock. Carol is an accomplished actress and has performed in film, television, and on stage. She was also the Conceptual and Creative producer for the documentary film *Sweet Honey In The Rock: Raise Your Voice!* and produced the accompanying soundtrack for the film.

Louise Robinson's colorful career has taken her up many paths, including performances, both on and off-Broadway, and in film and studio recording. Her professional career began at Washington D.C.'s Arena Stage and she was a member of the D.C. Black Repertory Company Acting Ensemble. It was out of this theatre company that Louise, along with Carol Maillard, Bernice Johnson Reagon, and Mie, formed the a cappella quartet, Sweet Honey In The Rock. She is also an accomplished producer and founding director of the Bay Area a cappella quintet, Street Sounds.

Shirley Childress Saxton is passionate about her work. She is a skilled professional Sign language interpreter having learned American Sign Language (ASL) from her Deaf parents. In their honor she founded the Herbert and Thomasina Childress Scholarship Fund to assist other children of Deaf adults (CODA) to explore Sign interpreting as a career option. A native of Washington, D.C., Shirley is an avid reader, loves photography, and has written several articles about her work as Sign language interpreter and her life experiences with her Deaf parents.

U.S. MARINE BAND, also known as "The President's Own," was established by an Act of Congress in 1798, making it America's oldest continuously active professional musical organization. Its primary mission is unique—to provide music for the President of the United States and the Commandant of the Marine Corps. In its third century, the Marine Band continues a tradition of excellence. Whether in White House performances, public concerts, or national tours, the music of the Marine Band is the music of America.

DAR HONORS MARIAN ANDERSON

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is truly honored to celebrate the life and legacy of Marian Anderson. On this 70th anniversary of her historic Lincoln Memorial concert, the DAR deeply regrets that Marian Anderson was not given the opportunity to perform at Constitution Hall in 1939, but today we join with all Americans to honor her memory and commemorate a pivotal event in the struggle for racial equality.

DAR proudly welcomed Marian Anderson to Constitution Hall on several occasions soon after 1939, including a benefit concert for war relief in 1943. It is also meaningful to us that she chose Constitution Hall as the place to launch her farewell American tour in 1964. In 2005, DAR hosted the dedication ceremony of the Marian Anderson commemorative stamp at the invitation of the U.S. Postal Service and Miss Anderson's family.

Today, the DAR openly welcomes all women into our ranks who can trace their lineage to someone who contributed to American Independence, and encourages and celebrates diversity in our organization.

To all those across the country who join us in honoring Marian Anderson, the DAR is proud to demonstrate that change is possible. We thank the Lincoln Bicentennial Commission for allowing us the opportunity to be involved in this important event.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION AND FOUNDATION

Congress established the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission to recommend appropriate ways to commemorate the 200th birthday of Abraham Lincoln in 2009. The Commission works to engage the broadest range of individuals and groups in the commemoration. Through education programs, public forums, and the arts, the Commission provides an opportunity to re-examine Lincoln's legacy in our 21st century democracy. Its members, who are appointed by the president and congressional leaders, include political leaders, jurists, historians, and collectors.

The Commission is predicated on the premise that it will function as a public-private partnership. To support this partnership, and insure that Lincoln activities continue into the future, the Commission established the ALBC Foundation [a 501(c)3 based in Washington DC] in 2007.

Acknowledgements



THE MARJORIE KOVLER FUND
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THE SHAKESPEARE THEATRE COMPANY

Special thanks to the Washington National Opera for their artistic counsel and to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for their assistance with the naturalization ceremony.

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Continue the Celebration

Please join us for the next event in the
Lincoln Memorial Rededication Series:

REDEDICATION RETROSPECTIVE

May 30, 2009 • 2:45 p.m.

*To learn more about other national Lincoln Bicentennial
events happening throughout the country,
please visit www.abrahamlincoln200.org.*

*To learn more about the Lincoln Memorial
please visit www.nps.gov/linc.*



TWO HUNDRETH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR

Abraham Lincoln

