

lery factory to view their wares. Alas, nobody expected the choir to purchase anything, as the choir were but poor, simple folk. But Nay! The choir, knowing they might come across such difficulties, had brought a secret weapon. This secret weapon was known as Indiana Pam, the Soprano with Credit. Pam, being in possession of a magic talisman known only to us as VISA, bought a beautiful diamond ring, among other trinkets for her people back home, amounting to over one thousand dollars of our land's currency. After this amazing feat of buying power, the choir was tired, and hungry. Went they, to the Jumbo Floating Restaurant, to sup on dim sum. And sup they did, in a most splendiferous manner. Some of the group, needing to rid themselves of more money, went to the washroom, where an old, troll-under-the-bridge-like attendant guarded the gates, demanding money to exit. Upon finishing lunch, the group were taken back to their hotel, where verily they split up. However, I'm sure that this time was spent either shopping or resting, thus ending this small portion of the tale of the UVic Chamber Singers, shopping their way 'round the Orient.

Wade Noble

### Wednesday, May 12

Since we had the whole morning free, most of us spent it in bed, sleeping until 20 minutes before the restaurant stopped serving breakfast - except for Inge & Kim, who went swimming, and Ian, who went shopping (surprise?).

We met in the lobby to be whisked off to the St. John's Cathedral, in cabs. We sang a great concert, though only 40 minutes long. The audience enjoyed it so much they even bought tapes!! After the concert, a bunch of us headed back to the hotel to relax and swim, etc....(boring!), while the others, Byron, Ian, David, Noreen, Heather, myself, Bruce and more (no pun intended....really!) headed out on the town. Karian went out adventuring on her own, and Wade & Derek went out in search of the famed Hong Kong Space Museum (famed?!).

Bruce was intent on buying a fake Rolex. OOOPS! Sorry, that's an authentic Rolex imitation. I wonder why he'd want to replace that lovely timepiece he purchased in Russia, anyway? Anyhow, Byron knew exactly where to get them,

since he invested in 4 of them the day before. David and Ian were out searching for software for their nifty little translator/organizer gadgets.

Noreen, Heather and I were sent out on a mission by Bruce to find a gift for Liz. So off we went, exploring Kowloon on our Holy Quest. We took the Star Ferry across the water, and then split up. So - the girls were loose on the

town (well, bad choice of words, perhaps we should say out on the town). We eventually found our way back to the ferry terminal, and hopped on board the closest ferry, not knowing which way it was headed. Finally, we found our way back to the hotel via subway, only resorting once to asking what looked like a local for directions.

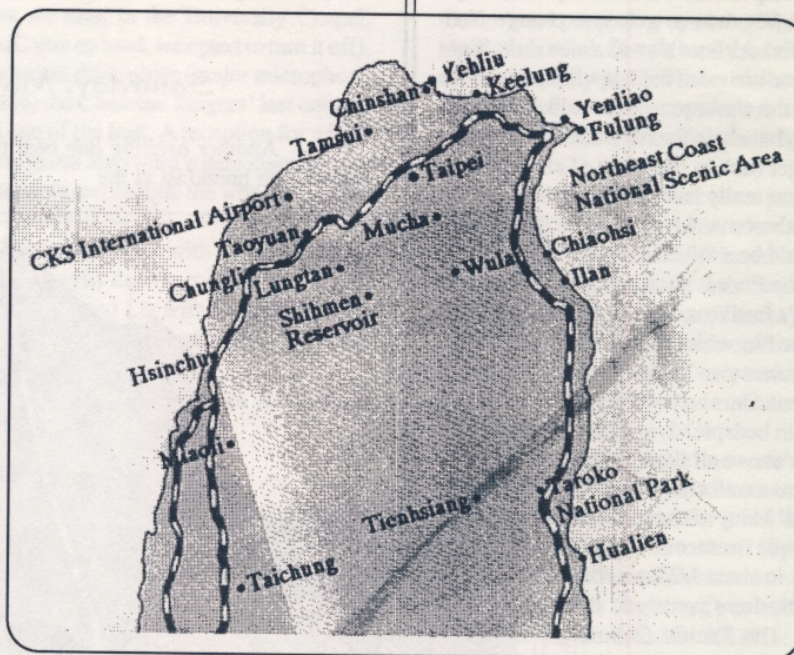
At the same time as our exploration of foreign ports was happening, Pam met a sweet guy from

Vancouver, who was also staying in the hotel. The new man met with approval from the rest of the girls. Then we were treated to a farewell Chinese banquet, which was only delayed for 20 minutes because Derek and Wade weren't yet back from where no one has gone before (NOT). Liz bought the whole crowd a beer, on ACFEA's tab of course. Then, we were set loose once again. Heather, Karian and Noreen were off exploring the subway system, while Pam was chatting with her new friend. Gord went out clubbing (surprise, surprise) and I'm sure the rest of us were up to something exciting, but since they didn't tell me, their exploits shall remain.....unknown.

Mehgan Atchison

### Thursday, May 13

Today was spent almost exclusively in transit, or at least waiting to be in transit, anyway. We seem to arrive everywhere at least an hour and a half early, and then of course, the planes are always late. We were able to sleep in a little, had breakfast about 9:30AM, checked our baggage and then waited around until 11:30AM when our bus left for the Hong Kong airport. I went to the grocery store and bought some cough drops during that time, and from talking to other people, that was about the most exciting thing that happened this morning. Upon arriving at the airport, Kinza made her ritual run to the toilet, we waited again in a tiny little room





with no seats and floors that could be sat on only at your own risk. We paid our HK\$150 airport tax and then waited some more. Oh, did I tell you that we did a lot of waiting today? It was extremely hot and muggy outside so we stayed inside the door where it was air conditioned. Then we waited, waited, waited and waited some more. We're getting used to this by now.

The flight to Taipei was with Cathay Pacific - a smooth takeoff and landing was a welcome change from previous flights with China Airlines! It was a nice short flight of about 1 1/2 hours. Upon arrival at the Taipei airport, Kinza again made a beeline to the washroom. It's not like she is the only one who has to go, but she's the only one who actually manages to find it and get back in the midst of all the chaos. Then again, you've got to really have to go to brave those airport bathrooms. I won't say "restrooms" as that would be a misconception - aiming over a hole in the floor is not the most relaxing way to do one's business.

We boarded the bus which took us to the Hotel New Asia in downtown Taipei. Each of our rooms was different. Ours had one single and one double bed, satin bedspreads and fake vines with fake flowers above all the mirrors. Outside our windows was a wall climbing with fake ivy. So, so beautiful! Many of us took naps until dinner, some people went out to look around. Jenn came back in about 1/2 hour with a beautiful pair of black dress pants and the coolest green sandals. The Pacific Cultural Foundation held a banquet for us where we had some of the most delicious food yet. The president was there (no, not Bill Clinton) along with our Taiwan guides, Frieda, Joanna and James. Frieda sat at our table and kept us all entertained. She was pretty funny.

Later on, they passed out gifts to all of us - wooden wall hangings with a fortune inscribed in Chinese lettering and red tassels. Bruce was presented with a plaque to the UVic Chamber Singers. We were also given posters advertising our concert, although the picture was of the choir as it was over two years ago. Kim and I went exploring later on and found that nearly all the stores on the street were wedding shops with bizarre photos, tacky dresses and a few nice dresses. There were a few bakeries as well, and even after stuffing ourselves at dinner, we managed to down a couple pastries without too much problem. Well, time to catch some ZZZZZZZ's. I think everyone is pretty tired.

Inge Schenck

### Friday, May 14

A busy day started off (with some chronically late Chamber Singers) at a changing of the guards ceremony. All of the singers are happy that they don't have to stand for long in this heat.

Next a trip to the National Museum. Two hours is barely enough time to begin to see everything but after a while, if you've seen one Ming Dynasty vase, you've seen them all.

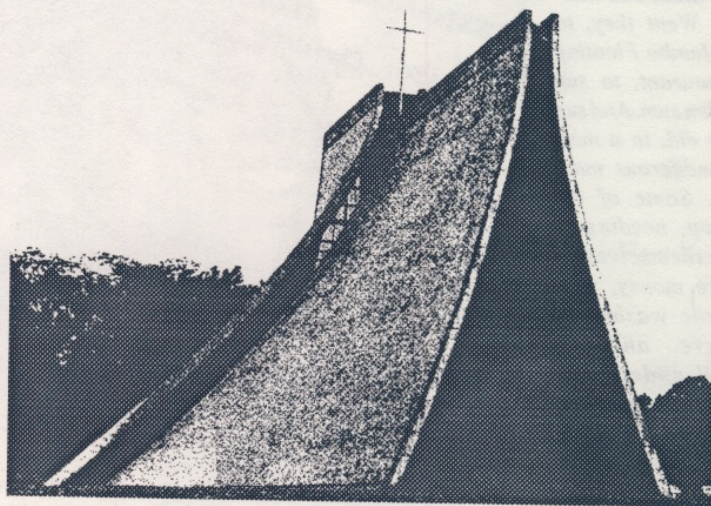
Great lunch at the Mongolian Barbecue - all you can eat (but not too much or you'll piss off the guides, and don't hang spoons from your face, either)!

Dinner was sushi on the bus after time to relax at the hotel. An interesting joint concert with a children's choir (and choralography) and a small women's choir (that is, small in number, not physical stature). Then early to bed (again) for an early start (again).

Mark Ward

### Saturday, May 15

Another exciting day nearing the end of our tour began with breakfast at the



A fabulous venue for our last concert!

Hotel New Asia where, because of their miscounting, one got extra toast or was forced to steal it. Our departure from Taipei was late (surprise) but the bus ride to Taichung was fairly uneventful aside from Gord's rather "enthusiastic" mood (but then, what else is new?).

Our arrival at the Tunghai University was met by more than the usual welcome committee, as Heather and Kinza were greeted by ant colonies, and Byron and Chris a lizard, upon moving into our rooms at the Alumni House. Lunch was excellent as we sampled many different dishes in the company of the President of the university, as well as a few other dignitaries. Highlights included our very own motorized Lazy Susan and YELLOW watermelon!

After lunch, the crowd split as some slept, or caught up on their journals, while most attended Kinza's piano recital. About 40 people, including the president, were there, and despite the lack of A/C and the brass quintet practising something from "Carmen" next door, it was an excellent recital.

Inge, Carmen, Derek and Bruce took the official tour of the university, and even stopped off to feed some cows at the School of Agriculture. Meanwhile, the UVic Volleyball team of Atchison, Brigidear, McVie, Comer and



power-hitter Balzer, joined forces with local favorites Olivia, Felicity, Beatrice, Jenny, Sammy, Bobby and Fred in a thrilling game on the outdoor courts. One of the social work professors generously bought a round of cokes at SFC (that's Super Food Chicken) for the worn out players following the game.

Dinner at McDonald's followed - home of the slowest fast food service in the world. The evening's concert was a great success as we sang in the University Chapel. Despite the heat (the A/C was so loud, we opted to turn it off), the incense, and the technical difficulties (major microphone feedback mid- Palestrina) the Chamber Singers' last concert of the tour was indeed one of the best. A reception for which we were NOT billed was given afterward where many got the chance to meet local students and sample the wonderful food provided.

The evening drew to a close with the annual tour awards ceremony as presented by the committee of Sue, Mark, Pam and Chris. We also presented Liz with our thanks and a few mementos, including a fake Cartier watch (that's genuine Cartier imitation, Karian. -editor).

Karian Brigidear

Sunday, May 16

-part 1-

Today is the longest day most of us have ever experienced. (Where have we heard that one before - see David's entry) It started at 6:30AM Taipei time, and for some, like myself, will end about 4:00AM Vancouver time. A new record was made on the last day of our tour. We were only 10 minutes late departing from Taichung. The bus ride to Taipei was a sleepy time had by many - even Byron! The long wait at the airport was tedious, but some found ways to pass the time (ie: Meghan & Wade playing Near & Far from Sesame Street) - YEAH!!!! Boarding the plane at 12:55PM

Heather McVie

Sunday, May 16

-part 2-

Well, I guess this is where I take over. Right now, it's 7:50PM (Oriental time), or 4:50AM (Home time), the choice depending on when one decides to grab a few ZZZZZ's. We're in a United Airlines Boeing 747, somewhere over the Pacific Ocean. Things are pretty quiet right now, as most of the group is snoozing. Two good movies so far, "Forever Young" with Mel Gibson and Jamie Lee Curtis, and "Cemetery Club" with Ellen Burstyn and Danny Aiello.

At the start of the flight, the UA crew gave every-

body on board socks - that's right people, SOCKS (no jokes, guys!) I put mine on my feet (surprise, surprise), while Gord wore his on his ears, confusing them, I believe, with stereo headphones. Some of the more enterprising and industrious of the group (read: Sue) got out sewing kits and made a little puppy dog puppet. The rest of the flight, to the best of my knowledge, has been pretty veggetary (new word). Chris and I pulled the same stunt we did on the other long flight (to Tokyo) and puppydog-eyed the flight attendants into giving us another meal. Shows how tired of Chinese food we were, that we actually wanted more airline food. Except for Mark and Jenn, I don't think anyone is drinking much on this flight - oh yeah, Chris is pounding back his share too, but that's a given.

Well, I think that covers pretty much everything for now, so I'll pick this up later, when something else happens.

It's now 3:37PM (Home time), and we're sitting in SeaTac airport, anxiously awaiting our reboarding call for our final hop to Vancouver (Yaaaaayyyyy!!!!) Between periods of passing out, I've been collecting journal sheets from the rest of the group. With only an hour and a bit to go on the entire tour, I still only have about half of the sheets back (Grrrrrr!)

As usual on these tours, we've been gradually losing people, the closer we get to home. First, we lost Ian, who stayed behind in Taiwan for a few extra days, to visit some friends. Then, Pam, who took off (literally, to the strains of us humming the Indiana Jones theme music) to make her flight connecting to her flight to Terrace. Gordon attempted to be one of the lost ones, as he tried at the last moment to transfer onto an earlier flight (what? do we stink?), but alas, to no avail. Inge's parents met her in Seattle, and took her away from us (with fear in their eyes at the subtle changes in our big-mouthed froglike friend). Finally, Ms. Lizzie, cherished tour-mom, without whom we'd probably all be rotting away in some Communist Chinese prison, deserted us for the greener pastures of her own home sweet home in Seattle.

Well, as the person with the very last journal entry, it's my responsibility to write something trashy and sentimental. So, here goes. Having been on several previous Chamber Singer Tours, I have to say that this has been my favourite one (pretty amazing, considering it's the end of the tour, and I'd rather see you all dead than be forced to spend another hour with any of you), and that this group has been by far the most unified and professional group I've ever had the pleasure to travel extensively with. Everyone, more or less, adhered to the "suffer in silence" guideline, and no matter how ill several of our troupe got, everyone was always contributing 110%. Kudos on the best tour yet, guys, and remember:

NEAR.....FAR!!!!

Wade Noble

題目表 (每場演出選自以下內容)



## TOUR QUOTES

1. "DOH!" - Chris Zarry
2. "Surly" - Bruce More
3. "One yen gets you DICK!" - Gord Comer
4. "I passed a drunk once, and I've never been the same since." - Pam Kerr
5. "DON'T! 'Kay?" - Mark Ward
6. "I'm getting stupid now, feel free to hit me, anyone!" - Jenn White
7. "Reach down deep inside you and grab some maturity!" - Noreen Balzer
8. "Sick and Wrong!" - Gord Comer
9. "Hey! He's a sexy guy, huh?" - Geisha, re: Zarry, onboard a Tokyo subway
10. "Do you have curiosity about me?" - Geisha, to Chris Zarry
11. "I went to the bathroom and there was no toilet paper, so I had to use my socks." - Wade Noble
12. "Socks?!" - Karian Brigidear
13. "NO (insert verb here). OTHERWISE WILL BE FINE" - Chinese government
14. (Re: the wind) "It's messing up my hair." - Mark Ward
15. "Ask me! I'll take my shirt off!" - Kinza Tyrrell, on the infamous Truth & Dare night
16. "I'm not wearing a bra, I'm just clenching it between my breasts." - Sue Kelly
17. "It's a go!" - Carmen Gorgichuk, on a cribbage bid of 14.

## TOUR AWARDS

1. PREMATURE CLAPULATION AWARD - Meghan "I've got rhythm" Atchison
2. NEVER SAY DIE - ALWAYS SAY BUY AWARD - Carmen "I'll shop till I drop" Gorgichuk
3. WATER CLOSET DIVINING AWARD - Kinza Tyrrell
4. FUJI FILM POSTER CHILD AWARD - Heather "overexposed" McVie
5. MADAME ZELDA AWARD - Pam "I got a good fortune and so I spent it" Kerr
6. SONGBIRD AWARD - Tammy "nightengale" Schwartzentruber
7. HICKEY KING AWARD - John "Tour Whore" Duncan
8. IF YOU'RE HAPPY AND YOU KNOW IT, COUGH UP A LUNG AWARD  
- Jenn "I'm fine, actually" White
9. BUSTING HER WAY THROUGH CHINA AWARD - Lisa "Don't worry, they're friendly" Tinney
10. PEARL DROPS SPOKESFROG AWARD - Inge "no shit" Schenck
11. SATELLITE DELAY AWARD - Kim "Sputnik" Braaten
12. JUST IN CASE AWARD - Noreen Balzer
13. REVERSE -ZZZZZT! AWARD - Karian "Shrinking Violet - NOT" Brigidear
14. PROFESSIONAL PACKER AWARD - Sue "I have everything" Kelly 1
5. RAPID EYE MOVEMENT AWARD - Byron "Shh! Don't wake him" Phillips
16. OOOOO-ALBERTO! AWARD - Chris "Doh!" Zarry
17. INTREPID EXPLORER AWARD - Gord "Indiana" Comer
18. DONALD TRUMP AWARD - Ian "Entrepreneur" Bullen
19. LAME CHAMBER SINGER AWARD - Derek "Aquarius the Water Bearer" Chenoweth
20. AMBASSADOR AWARD - David "Berlitz" Phillip
21. THE LAST GOOD MAN AWARD - Mark "Suave and Debonair" Ward 22.  
TOUR MOM AWARD - Liz "Nurse Lizzie" Kelly
23. ZADALA MAMKA AWARD - Bruce "they said it with flowers  
because they couldn't understand our Slovak" More
24. PACK AN EXTRA PAIR AWARD  
- Wade "Urban Boyscout" Noble



## China Tour Memoirs

- 1 Sun. Apr 25, Uneventful ferry, rain at Steveston, home to billets, love the people, hate talking and eating before a concert, particularly the first one. Hall, excellent acoustics, strange stage, **200 - mostly students - 2 encores (forced)**. Home to bed, this group can do anything.
- 2 Mon. Apr 26, 6:00 at School, 6:30 checkin, meet Liz, Great muffins and juice from Len. 8 am, Settle down to a long flight via Seattle, San Francisco. Meet Hugh in S.F., wait in VIP lounge. 2 Faxes, one from Waseda informing us that only breakfasts are provided.
- 3 Tues. Apr 27, First view of the orient. Cloudy & smoggy. Meet Norie Hagiwara, ride bus to Tokyo, countless miles of light industry. Raised Tokyo highway, unwordly but impressive. Arrive Waseda, meet Tohyama, Hosogai & Aota. Students are in tatami rooms(4-6) to a room. Seem quite charmed by the novelty. My room, 2 single beds, TV (no English). washbasin, shared bathrooms. (on women's floor). Force myself to stay in bed from 9 pm until 7 am. Tohyama bus dinner for all at local "western" restaurant.
- 4 Wed. Apr 28, Breakfasts intriguing - sprout salad or cereal, coffee, tea, some sort of rolls or toast, sausage and eggs. Morning free, walk around busy shopping area in Urban University community, Shinto Temple. Prices for foods, clothing etc. are not bad! Really enjoy the order and sensible approach to life (food statues). 3 pm rehearsal, first harangue with PK. Dinner of noodles & sushi. Concert approaches, (50 steps from dorm - strange sensation to view audience entering the hall while drying myself off after shower.) 5:30 "sandwich snack" - I slept. 8pm concert, superb performance, audience of **300 - fairly "hip"** claps enthusiastically but for a short time. Very enthusiastic final response with **2 encores and a full callback**, and of course Flowers! Reception following, very formal all seated in a large circle. Tasty hors' doeuvres, many speeches. Party in large room. One of two which I attended on the entire tour. (probably not more than 2 more which involved most of the singers.
- 5 Thurs. April 29, Sightseeing by subway - San ? Buddhist Temple & shopping stalls- Whiffing incense, prayer routine, buying fortune (stick in can). Tying fortune to rail. Shopping - mostly groceries - great dinner for five that night. (Brandy bought at Vancouver duty free, lasted entire trip). Continuing to enjoy local shopping. Late bill for reception - \$500 U.S.
- 6 Fri. Apr 30, Individual sight-seeing trips - Mark Ward and I to Shinguki, via circle rail tour. Tokyo doesn't feel as busy as I thought. The phenomenal number of trains bespeaks the real numbers. 2nd harangue with PK - Unforeseen meal expenses. First gripe meeting. Explain all, very successful. Defuses problems, but exposes GC as a potential problem.
- 7 Sat. May 1, Mid-day departure - 2 hour flight - as always, endless waiting at airport etc. really exhausting! Arrive, very smoggy, hurts throat, meet Vivian (throughout China). Road from airport dusty, run-down, Mexico, Hungary-like. Arrive hotel, sign is on a run-down building, heart stops. Actual Hotel phenomenally luxurious. Brand-new highly polished marble. Elaborate ponds and rockery. TV - CNN. Very comfortable evening!
- 8 Sun. May 2, Breakfast buffet! Cruise on Yangtze River - 1 1/2 hours each way to the mouth, continuous seaport, can't imagine the massiveness! Rainy, but fascinating. World's longest suspension bridge and China's tallest tower under construction (China is trying to counter Hong Kong by massively building up Shanghai.) The first Chinese meal. Generally, 8 - 10 at a table, 6 - 8 dishes including one greens and one or 2 soups (usually corn). Good, but not exceptional at this point. Shanghai traffic, bicycles, bus driver. Afternoon to craft research institute, fascinating, but very high priced, compared to other stores. Former mayor's mansion. Very impressive! Dinner another multi dish chinese meal, not as good. Shanghai Acrobatic troupe. Pretty neat stuff, great dog act, many fell asleep after long day. The people are well, if fashionably dressed and don't stop staring at us. Caucasians are apparently relatively rare still.
- 9 Mon. May 3, 9 am train to Suzhou - 1 1/2 hour ride, (takes 3). What a beautiful "Venice-like" city. It many ways out-Venices Venice. (booklet). Lunch at restaurant, meet with **Zhang Xue, Lisheng Fang and Shen Hong of Suzhou People's Assn' for Friendship with Foreign Countries** bring greetings from Mayor David Turner to Victoria's sister city - gift. Visit summer gardens, beautiful water, rock, building and plants environment (no blooming flowers). Visit silk factory, embroidery etc. Return, have an hour to go through department store. So much more available in China than Russia. Visible minority (people stare!). To dinner and Kinza's recital - 400 people - good reception. Beautiful theatre, acoustical disaster. Cab ride home (van holds 8).
- 10 Tue. May 4, Breakfast buffet, bus to theatre, confirm acoustical disaster. Huge banner outside theatre, lunch in excellent seafood restaurant, hotel to rest. Concert with **audience of 700, 2 encores, Richard Belliveau, Consul General for Canada & entourage in attendance**. Dinner following (Karaoke).
- 11 Wed. May 5, Early rising, bus to airport. Fly to Beijing - fairly good airplane, no soundproofing, pilot is a cowboy! Beijing, much more modern, freeways, tall buildings, much grander scale. Hotel on a par with Shanghai, flowers, fruit, welcome note. Visit to Temple of Heaven. (5th C.). Massive scale, visit to silk factory and adjoining alleyway. Guides steer us away from the alley, "much better deals in the factory", actually alleyway much better! Dinner at restaurant. Evening free, good thing! Very sleepy.
- 12 Thu. May 6, Beijing - Early departure for Ming Tombs. Beautiful mountainous country, tombs are massive but otherwise smelly and unimpressive. Outside gardens are impressive. To Great Wall, lunch at a Chinese Restaurant (next to KFC). The Wall area is very touristy but with the rather strenuous climb, the engineering feat and the mongolian band, still one to the great sights of the world. Dinner and evening free (to sleep in this very tiring environment).
- 13 Fri. May 7, Bus to Beijing Concert Hall, superb acoustical concert hall. Visit to the Summer Palace, an immense



park, large lake, beautiful buildings and landscaping. Lunch at the Oriole restaurant, visit to the Forbidden City. Rest, bus to concert hall. **1100 people, callback-2 encores. Reporter from China Daily, Representative of the Canadian Embassy, Wu Ling Fen and her conducting class from the Beijing Conservatory, Huang Pei-Lang and many singers from the Central Chorus of Beijing** (performing at the WCF conference in Vancouver in August). Afterward met with singers and students and sang chinese songs together which we had learned. A real "people" experience. Dinner at MacDonalds in Tuxes. Wild and crazy night.

**14 Sat. May 8,** Better flight than the last one. Arrive in Quangzhou to very hot and humid climate. Quick checkin at Hotel, first class, but lousy service and surly staff. Bus to reputedly Quangzhou's finest restaurant across river from beautiful new buildings, attractively lit. Sumptous traditional - one plate per person per course - dinner with **local business and labour people & Reiqi Xu and Chen Shao-Jong, conductors of the Guangzhou Philharmonic.** Through a labyrinth of narrow lanes to a rehearsal/meeting hall, where two choirs in formal attire waited. (Very embarassing, since we were in shorts etc.) Amateur choir sang chinese and pops, followed by the Quangzhou Philaharmonic Chamber (?) chorus. Not surprisingly modelled on the huge Russian sound. Excellent, if style-less singing. Joint singing following, lights went out, kept singing. Presentation of large plate for chorus and individual bowls of Guangzhou pottery for each singers. A propoganda-op, but nevertheless sincere and delightful, since all came to the concert the next night.

**15 Sun, May 9, Sightseeing** - to 5,000 seat Dr.? (Father of China) memorial hall. Monsoon rain, soaked, back to change, to department store - Chinese, well dressed, happy and prosperous and stores much fuller than expected (Russia). Home - rest, bus to Guangzhou Library - large hall, no air-conditioning, fans, no wonder the Chinese have such a large sound, they can't be heard below a mezzo forte! **400 in audience, 2 encores and a callback.** To Dinner.

**16 Mon, May 10, Train to Hong Kong** - arrive at most luxurious hotel yet! On own for meals, discover Hong Kong food prices quite reasonable in this booming economy.

**17 Tue, May 11,** Sight seeing - to peak to see the clouds, buy post-cards to see the real view. To jewellery factory, Repulse Bay, lovely beach, floating restaurant, great dim-sum. Relax. H.K. Baptist College. Lovely hall and acoustics and air cond'g. **350 people, 2 encores attended by Mr. John Higginbotham, High Commissioner for Canada, Mr. Andrew Cheung, head of the music dept., Dr. C.W. Tse, President.** Audience slow at first.

**18 Wed, May 12,** St. Johns Cathedral, no air, fans - Great audience - **2 encores and a callback.** Star Ferry to Kowloon to shop (watches etc.). Evening Banquet in hotel.

**19 Thu, May 13,** Airport - arrive in Taipei meet Wa and Tso. Checkin at small but nice hotel. Sumptous dinner hosted by **President Yu-Shen Shang and Vice President Nathan Yu-Jen Lai.** Speeches, enjoyable company. Presentation of huge banner and plaque and individual gifts to singers.

**20 Fri, May 14** Sight-seeing tour of Taipei - Changing of the guard at Shrine of the Martyrs, National Palace Museum, a unique and well documented collection of most of the treasures of China, brought to Taiwan by Chang Kai Shek (rescued from the communists) in 1949. Superb lunch at a Mongolian Barbecue. Visit to Chang Kai Shek Memorial Hall. Rest - Sushi and sandwiches on bus to Taipei Teacher's College. Childrens choir sings chinese and pop, Taipei Teachers Alumni choir sings good music, not really well. Chamber Singers wow audience. Kids go nuts - autographs etc. Conductors and adult choirs disappear after performance. (except for Tsu).

**21 Sat, May 15,** Bus to Taichung - lovely countryside, surprising for 20 million people on an island the size of Vancouver Island. Check in at dorm. Nice, but ants and lizards. Best lunch yet hosted by **President Ta-nien Yuan, Tzong-Kai Kuo and other faculty.** Tour of campus and Kinza's recital. Campus is large, verdant and full of architectural integrity. Dinner at McDonalds. Evening concert at the I.M. Pei Chapel. The aesthetically and acoustically superior setting along with the most enthusiastic audience of all was a fitting conclusion. **Audience of 300 - 2 encores and a callback.** Reception of fabulous dim-sum type snacks. President Yuan was present again as he had been all day. Awards ceremony following, anticlimactic and disappointing.

**22 Sun, May 16,** 6 am wake-up, 3 hours to airport, 3 hours in airport, 11 hours to S.F., 4 hours in S.F. airport, 1 1/2 hours to Seattle, 1 hour in Seattle, 45 minutes to Vancouver, 2 hours in immigration and to ferry, 2 hours on ferry, 1 hour home.....