Historical view of Yale Russian Chorus activities
1970 - 1979

Spring 1970  3rd YRC record (Lieberman).

Fall 1970  Dan Godfrey became conductor.

Summer 1971  Sixth tour to USSR (Leningrad, Kiev) arranged by Citizens Exchange Corps. More Georgian music learned.

Fall 1972  Brock Holmes became conductor.

February 3, 1973  YRC serenaded Moscow State Circus after their performance in the New Haven Coliseum.


Fall 1973  20th Anniversary concert and record (4th YRC record - Holmes).

March 30, 1974  YRC and Yale Slavic Chorus and Ajde Dancers give benefit concert in Woolsey Hall for Yale Charities Drive.

Fall 1974  Alex Kuzma became conductor. Ukrainian songs added.

October 23, 1974  YRC sang for visiting Soviet forestry delegation in President’s Round Room in Woolsey Hall.

December 14, 1974  YRC gave benefit concert with Yale Slavic Chorus in Battell Chapel for the Yale Hunger Action Project.

January 1975  Midwest tour.
March 1975  Spring tour included concert at Disneyland in Anaheim CA and Grace Cathedral in San Francisco.

March 1976  Spring tour to Texas and southern states.

April 17, 1976  Songs taped at WBAI in NYC for broadcast.

December 13, 1976  YRC worked for a day cleaning East Rock Park, earning money for its upcoming USSR tour.

January 1977  Winter tour to Ohio and Michigan.

March 1977  Seventh tour of USSR, again with the Citizens Exchange Corps (Leningrad, Tbilisi, Moscow, Kiev). Joint performance with the Moscow State University Chorus in the Great Hall of the Moscow House of Friendship is videotaped and broadcast nationwide on Soviet TV. YRC sang Bortnyansky’s music in his hall in the Glinka Kapella and sang in Tchaikovsky Hall in Kiev.

1977  5th record YRC on Tour (Kuzma)

Fall 1977  Steve Lipsitt became conductor.

December 2, 1977  Benefit concert with the Slavic Chorus in Woolsey Hall for the Yale Music Library to help raise money to buy the Alexander Tkaczenko collection of Russian and Slavic choral music.


November 10, 1978  Connecticut Public TV records full YRC and Yale Slavic Chorus concert for radio and TV broadcast.
May-June 1979  Eighth tour to USSR (Leningrad, Georgia and Armenia).

Fall 1979  Eric Lipsitt became conductor.

1979  Next spin-off group: Paul Andrews’ Slavyanka Chorus in San Francisco, which has made several records, tours, movie soundtracks, etc., and includes many ex-YRC singers, much YRC music.