

Benjamin Niemczyk, Conductor

At work both in front of and behind the camera, **Benjamin Niemczyk** is an artist of uncommon range. Balancing his time between photography, graphic design, singing and conducting, he gave his debut as conductor of the Civic Orchestra of the Chicago Symphony in a staged performance of Saint-Saëns *Carnival of the Animals* in 2000. Since that time, he has sung in the most admired concert halls of Chicago and New York.

Having studied under contemporary music gurus Cliff Colnot and Harold Rosenbaum, he gave his Town Hall conducting debut in 2004, his European debut in the south of France in 2004 and continues to participate in concert performances at such venues as Avery Fisher Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Hall, Radio City Music Hall as well as on national television and in feature films. He can be heard on numerous commercial recordings, particularly those of early music. He is a founding member of C4 (Choral Composer/Conductor Collective, www.c4ensemble.org), the nation's largest new music choral ensemble.

He is a strong advocate of the production and performance of new music and in 2010 appears on multiple CD recordings as conductor of new music by Baroque great Anthony Newman. In addition to WOS, Mr. Niemczyk also conducts The Chrysalis Consort and the brand-new RTO Westchester, both based in Dobbs Ferry, NY. Chrysalis specializes in chamber music from all eras but particularly modern and contemporary music. RTO Westchester is a community orchestra comprised of business professionals who love music but never pursued careers in it.

In addition to his musical interests, Mr. Niemczyk is an accomplished photographer and graphic designer, having created advertising materials for companies including Hal Leonard, G. Schirmer and Lyric Opera of Chicago and numerous small arts organizations. His design business, BDN Design (www.myspace.com/bdndesign), specializes in advertising materials and art photography, particularly of and for the NYC area. Also a videographer, he has filmed many classical presentations, particularly of keyboard virtuoso Anthony Newman.

Mr. Niemczyk holds two degrees in composition from Wheaton College Conservatory of Music and the DePaul University School of Music. He resides in Brooklyn, NYC.