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Oratorio Society Celebrates 25th Season with Spring Concert in South Salem

Westchester Oratorio Society, Benjamin Niemczyk, artistic director, celebrate its 25th season with a performance entitled, "Conqu'ring," on Sunday afternoon April 23, 4 PM at South Salem Presbyterian Church. The concert, which features Bach, "Cantata" BWV 2 and "Cantata" BWV 5; Mozart, "Vespers" K. 339; Handel, "See, that Conqu'ring Hero Comes!" from Judas Maccabeus HWV 63; and Haydn, "Insanae et vanae curae," is being performed in memory of longtime WOS supporter Don Harder.

The chorus will be accompanied by soprano alto, baritone and bass along with the WOS Anniversary Orchestra. This year's performance is made possible with a grant from the [Westchester Community Foundation](#). Westchester Community Foundation's mission is to connect generous people to the causes they care about and invest in transformative ideas and organizations to improve lives and strengthen our community. WCF is a division of The New York Community Trust, one of the largest community foundations in the country, with assets of approximately \$2.6 billion as well as an Arts Alive Project Grant made possible with funds from the Decentralization Program (DEC), a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Hochul and the NYS Legislature and administered by ArtsWestchester.

The group is returning for the concert to the South Salem Presbyterian Church where the organization was originally created by a group of church members and neighbors with the noted choral conductor Harold Rosenbaum. For Mr. Niemczyk who is now in its 16th season as Artistic Director and conductor, seeing the group survive through the years of the financial crisis and then the pandemic has been rewarding. To keep the tradition of choral music alive and to provide performance opportunities not just for our volunteer choir but the many excellent young soloists and instrumentalists who join us from New York City for each performance has required a firm commitment from the board and the singers. He Enthusiastically assured that those who attend the concert will not be disappointed.

"Conqu'ring begins at 4 PM. South Salem Presbyterian Church is located at 111 Spring St. S., Salem, NY. Tickets are \$25 general, \$40 preferred and \$10 student. Children 12 years old and younger are admitted free and at the door. Seating is limited for this concert. Advanced tickets are available through the group's website, www.westchesteroratorio.org. For more information email WOSinformation@gmail.com. Find WOS on Facebook [@westchesteroratorio](#) and follow on Twitter [@westchesterora](#) and Instagram at [westchesteroratorio](#).

PHOTO: WOS portrait credit: Christian Harder 2017

Other photos courtesy Westchester Oratorio Society