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MATT

AUSTERKLEIN

PRAYER LEADER
MUSICIAN
SCHOLAR

EDUCATION

PhD Candidate (current)
Halle-Wittenberg University (Halle, Germany)
M.S.M./ Cantorial Ordination
Jewish Theological Seminary of America
B.A. in Music *summa cum laude*
College of William & Mary in Virginia

RECENT/UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS

75th Anniversary Journal of the Cantors Assembly.
Editor (Akron: Cantors Assembly, [Upcoming] 2022).

"The Jewish Cantor (1500-1750): Professionalization and Conflict" in *Jewish Music Cultures in Early Modern Europe*. (Leiden: Brill, [Upcoming] 2022).

"The Sovereign Musical Self: Musical Leadership in the Conservative Movement" in *Journal of Synagogue Music*, September 2021 (5782).

"The Torahs of Music" *Hebrew College Blog* 10
November 2019. <https://hebrewcollege.edu/the-torahs-of-music/>

Ilufinu: A Cappella for Jewish Prayer. Editor (Akron: Cantors Assembly, 2019). www.ilufinu.org.

2021-2022 TEACHING & LECTURE TOPICS

MUSIC RISING: THE STORY OF THE EARLY MODERN CANTOR (1500-1750)

The early modern period saw the rise of many hallmark traits of the Ashkenazi cantorate - Western musical knowledge, professionalism, and the growth of choral assistants called *meshorerim*. Based on new research at Oxford University, this session will cover the musical practices and ideas of these pioneer cantors and explore the religious meaning of Jewish musical art – then and now.

CONTEMPORARY JEWISH MUSIC: 2000-2021

Songleading, niggunim, Jewish a cappella, and other new genres are expanding in Jewish life, revitalized by new forms of community, technology, and social media. This session will explore these growing trends in Jewish music and spirituality, and assess the place of traditional music and the cantorate within the Jewish musical ecosystem.

MUSIC THEOLOGY: THE MANY TORAHS OF MUSIC

People who pray have deep questions to consider: What is my relationship to the congregation and to God? What models does Torah offer me for understanding this? And how does liturgical music, in all of its forms, embody and enhance (or potentially threaten) these relationships and the practice of prayer? This session will engage learners with theology, political theory, and Jewish texts in exploring these fundamental questions.

THE SECULAR SULZER: MUSICAL POLITICS OF THE FIRST MODERN CANTOR

Salomon Sulzer (1804-1890) is most known as the first modern cantor, but less known for his prolific secular career -- both as a Viennese classical singer and as a composer of art songs, political anthems, and even kids music. This lecture/mini-concert will explore and demonstrate Sulzer's long forgotten secular music and seek the meaning of Jewish music and musicianship within public life.

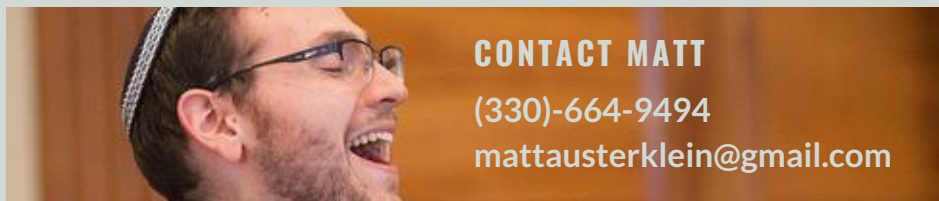
LEONARD BERNSTEIN & JEWISH PARTICULARISM

Raised to love music and yiddishkeit in a traditional synagogue, Leonard Bernstein rose to be an audaciously Jewish composer while simultaneously leading the world of classical music. This session will explore Bernstein's Jewishness via his biography and compositions, examining how he used his particularism to address universal questions through music.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR TORAH, TEFILLAH, & MUSIC

- MELODY-FILLED SHABBAT SERVICES
- NIGGUNIM/ZEMIROT
- SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE
- CANTORIAL COACHING
- ONLINE CLASSES
- CONCERTS

AVAILABLE VIRTUALLY & IN-PERSON (COVID PERMITTING)



CONTACT MATT

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