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INTERNATIONAL ORANGE CHORALE OF SAN FRANCISCO TO RECEIVE \$25,000 GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

San Francisco, CA (May 15, 2024) – The **International Orange Chorale of San Francisco** (IOCSF) is pleased to announce it has been approved by the **National Endowment for the Arts** (NEA) for a Grants for Arts Projects award of **\$25,000**. This grant will support IOCSF's commission of a new work by world-renowned composer [Tarik O'Regan](#), "**Requiem for the Estranged**," which explores mourning complicated relationships and estrangement from the past. In total, the NEA will award 1,135 Grants for Arts Projects awards totaling more than \$37 million as part of its second round of fiscal year 2024 grants. Sourced and inspired from a process of community dialogue, "Requiem for the Estranged" will tell our community's stories to reflect back the often unspoken impact of the difficult but necessary choices we make in the name of social justice and progress to offer the opportunity of solace for those experiencing estrangement from a past that no longer fits our shared values.

"Projects like IOCSF's exemplify the creativity and care with which communities are telling their stories, creating connection, and responding to challenges and opportunities in their communities—all through the arts," said NEA Chair **Maria Rosario Jackson, PhD**. "So many aspects of our communities such as cultural vitality, health and wellbeing, infrastructure, and the economy are advanced and improved through investments in art and design, and the National Endowment for the Arts is committed to ensuring people across the country benefit."

“We are incredibly grateful to the NEA for their support of this timely commission from O’Regan,” said IOCSF Executive Director **Giacomo DiGrolì**, “It is a unique place and time for the creation of ‘Requiem for the Estranged’ – San Francisco has long been a city of refuge and reinvention for many who have been estranged from their families or displaced from their lives for a multitude of reasons. People have come to San Francisco for generations to escape political, religious, economic, and/or social oppression and persecution; or simply to find new opportunities while leaving behind past lives that asked us to exist in ways at odds with ourselves and our values. This piece aims to explore the ways in which the bold personal decisions we make in the name of social justice and a complete sense of self have ramifications that last throughout our lives.”

The collaboration between O’Regan and IOCSF is a natural fit – both parties share a commitment to pushing the boundaries of choral music, and both are dedicated to bridging traditions of old and new music, with a keen interest in the melding of these Old and New World traditions. IOCSF will premiere “Requiem for the Estranged” as part of its 2024–2025 season. For more information on other projects included in the NEA’s grant announcement, visit [arts.gov/news](https://www.arts.gov/news). For more information about the International Orange Chorale of San Francisco, visit iocsf.org.

ABOUT IOCSF

The International Orange Chorale of San Francisco (IOCSF), led by Artistic Director Zane Fiala, was founded in 2003. Named after the color of the Golden Gate Bridge, the International Orange Chorale of San Francisco is an auditioned, all-volunteer chamber choir devoted to performing established repertoire of all periods, with particular attention to contemporary music, including newly commissioned works by promising composers. For more information on IOCSF, visit the IOCSF website at iocsf.org, and follow them on Facebook at facebook.com/iocsf, Instagram [@iocsf](https://www.instagram.com/iocsf), and YouTube at [@Internationalorangechorale](https://www.youtube.com/@Internationalorangechorale).

ABOUT TARIK O’REGAN

Tarik Hamilton O’Regan is a London-born composer based in San Francisco. In recent years much of his work has investigated and been influenced by his dual Arab and Irish heritages. The 2023/24 season sees performances by the Aalborg Symphony Orchestra in Denmark, the Dunedin Consort in the UK, and Santa Fe Desert Chorale in the US. His work will also be heard at this year’s BBC Proms. Recently he was commissioned by His Majesty King Charles III to compose the Agnus Dei – “an ethereal and exquisitely worked setting” (Gramophone) – for the Coronation Service at Westminster Abbey. Tarik’s output, recognized with two GRAMMY® nominations and two Ivors®, has been recorded on over 47 albums, and is published exclusively by Novello. He maintains a longstanding commitment to education and service to the arts in general. Most recently, this has been recognized by his election to an Honorary Fellowship of Pembroke College, Oxford, and to the board of Yaddo, one of the oldest artists’ communities in the USA. Tarik was also included in the Washington Post’s annual list of creative artists “changing the classical landscape” for 2022. For more information, visit tarikoregan.com.

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