



# Stephen Sondheim's *Sunday in the Park with George* with Dr. Gil Harel

**Tuesday, October 3rd \* 6:30pm**  
**Fairfield Public Library, Memorial Room**

Join us as we explore the music of Sondheim! Based on a book by James Lapine, Stephen Sondheim's *Sunday in the Park with George* revolves around a character based on the French Pointillist George Seurat. Premiering in 1984, the musical won many accolades, including Tony, Drama Desk, and Olivier Awards. Like many of Sondheim's timeless works, it was brought back to the stage in a successful 2017 revival. Written in the aftermath of 1981's *Merrily We Roll Along* (a critical disaster for Sondheim that led to him announcing his intention to quit musical theater), *Sunday in the Park with George* was to become a powerful meditation on the connection of the artist to the outside world.



Dr. Gil Harel (PhD, Brandeis University) is a musicologist and music theorist whose interests include styles ranging from western art music to contemporary musical theater. Previously, he served on the faculty at CUNY Baruch College (where he was awarded the prestigious "Presidential Excellence Award for Distinguished Teaching"). Currently, he is Full Professor of Music at CT State Naugatuck Valley, where he has been presented with the AFT "Merit Award for Exemplary Service to the College" for 6 consecutive years. In 2020, he was honored with the coveted Connecticut Board of Regents (BOR) Teaching Award. At NVCC, Dr. Harel conducts the college chorale, a cappella ensemble, teaches music history and theory, and serves as musical director of theater productions.



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