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PEDAGOGICALLY SEMI-EQUIVALENT REPERTOIRE ANALOGIES: SOPRANO FACH

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PEDAGOGICALLY SEMI-EQUIVALENT REPERTOIRE ANALOGIES: SOPRANO FACH

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DEDICATION

I want to thank the two greatest teachers in my life—my father and mother—who always told me the only failure in life was not trying. Without your love, support, and guidance, I would not be able to pursue my passion.

ABSTRACT

For decades, conservatories have divided singing into two tracks: classical (voce chiusa) or musical theater (CCM). Young singers are forced to decide which track they will continue on—seemingly for the rest of their careers. But the demand for a single skill set does not reflect today's job market nor the vocal demands singers will face throughout their careers. Singers, instead, must be readily able to compete at high levels on more than one track. Yet the majority of programs have not restructured to accommodate this change. Such recalcitrance is detrimental to singers as they navigate high-stakes, high-pressure careers with little to no knowledge of crucial skills they may need. Often this can lead to over-singing, poor vocal health, and sometimes the end of a career.

I propose a way in which both tracks—voce chiusa and CCM—can be used symbiotically. This combinatorial approach is good for future careers, but more importantly, it is beneficial to a singer's intrinsic laryngeal muscle development. Finding a healthy belt for voce chiusa-trained singers is equally beneficial as finding a strong head-voice for CCM singers. This synthesis of vocal techniques actually yields a super-technique—a more flexible, healthy, and individualized sound that is unified through the use of the breath.

This document is an exposition of the pedagogical benefits of learning both traditional, voce chiusa and CCM repertoire concurrently in vocal training. I also offer repertoire that supports this combinatorial approach in order to make its utility in the voice studio more accessible. This repertoire features pedagogically semi-equivalent song pairings with a focus on the soprano Fach.

¹ Wendy D. LeBorgne and Marci Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 2nd ed. (San Diego, CA: Plural Publishing, Inc., 2021), 287.

² Barbara Doscher, *The Functional Unity of the Singing Voice*, 2nd ed. (Lanham, MD: The Scarecrow Press, Inc., 1994), 188.

³ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 294–95.

⁴ Doscher, Functional Unity, 188.

⁵ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 288.

I will highlight the major areas of equivalence and pedagogical efficacy shared by the voce chiusa and CCM repertoire paired. Twenty-five style pairings are offered as a sample of the future catalog I hope to aggregate for all major voice types. The purpose of the catalog is to incorporate pluralistic style in the studio by combining the pedagogical methods of voce chiusa and CCM singing in order to train singers to have greater vocal development, flexibility, and health.

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CHAPTER 1

My doctoral research is rooted in combinatorial vocal pedagogy. The method I propose is the incorporation of pluralistic style—traditional (voce chiusa) and contemporary commercial music (CCM)—in the voice studio. Pluralistic style utilizes two systems of pedagogy that, when implemented concurrently, yield greater overall vocal function and health. Initially, I set out to research a way to diversify recital programming and to investigate the various styles that professional singers now find themselves having to juggle. In addition, I was receiving students who were interested in learning music beyond the traditional (voce chiusa) canon. I believe that in order to teach, it is important to employ the same methodology in my own training. This is why I set out to diversify my skills. As a singer steeped in conservatory training and the pedagogy of Richard Miller, I only had experience in one *track*—voce chiusa of the Italian school of singing. The mere idea of belting, let alone teaching it, were foreign and forbidden to me. But "contrary to the very sincere belief of many singing teachers, belting is not inherently unhealthy." So I set out from my one-*track* technique and began looking for a cross-*track*.

Music study and training, regardless of style, should demonstrate excellence. ¹⁰ In my experience, excellence is not a gift—it is earned. As I tell my students "[s]inging is a learned behavior." This is why I decided to try my hand at CCM training and repertoire in my own vocal

⁶ Elizabeth Ann Benson, *Training Contemporary Commercial Singers* (Oxford, U.K.: Compton Publishing Ltd., 2020), 17

⁷ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 288.

⁸ Richard Miller, *National Schools of Singing: English, French, German, and Italian Techniques of Singing Revisited*, (Lanham, MD: The Scarecrow Press, Inc., 2002), 139.

⁹ Scott McCoy, Your Voice: An Inside View; Multimedia Voice Science and Pedagogy (Princeton, NJ: Inside View Press, 2004), 76.

¹⁰ Benson, *Training Contemporary*, 20 (quoting American Academy of Teachers of Singing, "In support of contemporary commercial (nonclassical) voice pedagogy," 10).

¹¹ McCoy, *Your Voice*, 76 (quoting Helen Kemp, "Understanding the Developing Child's Voice," in *Children Sing His Praise*, D. Rotermund, ed. (St. Louis: Concordia, 1985), 66–86).

practice. It should be noted that a divide between "high" and "low" art pervades the Academy. 12 "High" art is generally associated with voce chiusa systems of pedagogy, and "low" art with contemporary commercial music (CCM). Having such deep roots in the traditional, voce chiusa-rooted pedagogy, I must impress upon you how "wrong" it was for me to step outside my chosen path. 13 But as I watched current trends, I noticed "[w]hat seems to be happening is in fact a cultural shift, a gradual artistic union of these two art forms [voce chiusa and CCM] in a way that enriches both, while maintaining the valuable distinctions between them." 14 With this writing on the wall, I felt compelled to explore the new world of cross-training and experiment within my pedagogical means. As voice teachers, "[w]e have a responsibility to encourage unorthodoxy, welcome diversity and embrace openness to create the cultural and structural conditions to kindle (or rekindle) learning." 15

My jumping-off point was the creation of my own pluralistic style recital. This may seem like a radical move for a soprano who has only ever utilized cricothyroid-dominant, voce chiusa singing. But I had a realization that sparked my confidence in the idea of combined pedagogical methodology. Having worked at a doctor's office for two years, I was aware of anatomical health, balance, and alignment, and here the spark was ignited—the body is full of muscles and the vocal folds, being muscles, must experience the same processes. Muscles have two different engagements—flex and release. "When muscles engage, they contract and the fibers become shorter and thicker. The extent to which this contraction moves the muscle and/or the surrounding

¹² Benson, *Training Contemporary*, 17.

¹³ Doscher, Functional Unity, 188; Richard Miller, Training Soprano Voices (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000), 26.

¹⁴ Norman Spivey and Mary Saunders Barton, *Cross-Training in the Voice Studio: A Balancing Act* (San Diego, CA: Plural Publishing, Inc., 2018), 23.

¹⁵ Benson, *Training Contemporary*, 21 (quoting Scott D. Harrison and Jessica O'Bryan, "Postlude: The Future of Singing Pedagogy," in *Teaching Singing in the 21st Century*, ed. Scott D. Harrison and Jessica O'Bryan (Dordrecht, Netherlands: Springer, 2014), 413).

structures away from the resting state is called the excursion."¹⁶ This excursion or work of the muscle is what I call "flexing." "Contracted muscles naturally release to their resting state once their work is done."¹⁷ This return to a resting state is what I call "release."

This simplification of muscle function led me to my next correlation. "[O]pposing muscles act either in dynamic equilibrium or co-contraction. Opposing muscles are muscles that pull in opposite directions. If one of the muscles releases as the other contracts, they are working together in dynamic equilibrium." This inspired my research into the simple idea of working on dynamic equilibrium in the vocal folds. Singers "need strength and coordination across the vocal mechanism to achieve balance and flexibility." So, I hypothesized that working on both thyroarytenoid-dominant production and cricothyroid-dominant production concurrently would yield stronger, more balanced intrinsic laryngeal function. My experience in preparing and performing my recital only bolstered my confidence in this hypothesis, considering that "[t]he success of any technical approach to singing must be measured by how nearly it arrives at the planned aesthetic result with the least cost."

The idea that I had been training my intrinsic laryngeal muscles with one dominant function (cricothyroid) meant that I was imbalanced. In order to correct this, I had to find a methodology within existing pedagogy that would help me to remedy this imbalance. Through repertoire of differing styles (voce chiusa and CCM), I found that specific pairings had the ability to engage the intrinsic laryngeal muscles in a balanced way. I began with a traditional, voce chiusa repertoire selection and searched for a CCM repertoire pairing that would address imbalances. When working

¹⁶ Melissa Malde, MaryJean Allen, and Kurt-Alexander Zeller, *What Every Singer Needs to Know About the Body*, 3rd ed. (San Diego, CA: Plural Publishing, Inc., 2017), 66.

¹⁷ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 66.

¹⁸ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 66.

¹⁹ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 325.

²⁰ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 2.

²¹ Richard Miller, The Structure of Singing: System and Art in Vocal Technique (Boston, MA: Schirmer, 1996), xix.

through song pairings that shared overlapping qualities, I was able to find areas important to greater vocal growth. The songs in each pairing are not meant to be equivalent; rather, through the inherent differences within the repertoire, greater function of the vocal mechanism can be achieved.

An unspoken curriculum exists in voice training.²² Voice teachers do not necessarily use a textbook; rather, each teacher has a set repertoire list of varying difficulty and efficacy. We have been teaching singing the same way for decades.²³ Students from thirty years ago used the same Twenty-Four Italian Songs and Arias that students use today. Of course, the way we approach this curriculum depends on the student—voice teachers listen to a voice, determine the next steps for that voice, and assign repertoire that will be conducive to building the needed skill(s). Traditional, voce chiusa repertoire essentially is an unspoken curriculum. I propose a way of adding to that curriculum—pairing a "traditional" repertoire selection with one from a varying style (CCM). The pairing would share the same purpose, highlighting the needed skill(s) within the unspoken curriculum. For example, if a student is rhythmically strong and melodically weak, a teacher would assign repertoire that would foster melodic growth. Rather than using a traditional, voce chiusa repertoire selection alone, I have found multifaceted benefits to using a pluralistic style pairing within the unspoken curriculum. This incorporation of pluralistic style not only adds to the curriculum but provides a way to address imbalances of intrinsic laryngeal muscle function. "Today, more than ever, there is a need for voice pedagogues to understand how to guide students seeking to sing in commercial music styles."²⁴ "Modern voice teachers must expand beyond the classical aesthetic."25

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²² Patricia Nelson, Ph.D (Associate Professor of Music Education, Oklahoma Baptist University), interviewed by the author, March 27, 2021.

²³ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 294–95.

²⁴ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 288.

²⁵ Benson, *Training Contemporary*, 17.

In this pursuit, I began to create a catalog of pedagogically semi-equivalent vocal style analogies with a focus on the soprano Fach. The purpose of the catalog is to facilitate the use of pluralistic style (voce chiusa and CCM) in training and to integrate combined pedagogical methodologies that lead to increased vocal health and development. Rather than using vocalizes alone to "exercise" the voice, I find that repertoire is a very useful tool in the training of singers. The role of the singer as a communicator is not neglected in my methodology. That is why repertoire was a fruitful door for employing existing methodologies in new and pedagogically effective ways—maintaining the need for storytelling while balancing the intrinsic laryngeal muscles. "Even 19th-century pedagogue Giovanni Battista Lamperti acknowledged that, 'Mind and muscle must be developed and sensitized to the "nth" degree, but they should never take command of the performance."²⁶ The benefits of using vocal style pairings within the unspoken curriculum are multifaceted—training flexibility between styles, adding to the current unspoken curriculum, keeping storytelling at the center of the methodology, and cultivating greater vocal development and health. The hope of this project is to empower singers and teachers to explore diversified repertoire pairings that promote intrinsic laryngeal muscle balance.

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²⁶ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 27 (quoting W.E. Brown, Vocal Wisdom: Maxims of Giovanni Battista Lamperti (Great Neck, NY: Taplinger Publishing, 1957), 96).

CHAPTER 2

While multiple methodologies of vocal pedagogy exist, the discourse around them is often divisive. The literature that I will be highlighting is not comprehensive, although it is a lens into the fundamental characteristics of each track. In this chapter, I will expound on the similarities and differences between voce chiusa, or bel canto style, and contemporary commercial music (CCM), drawing on three pedagogical texts: James Stark's *Bel Canto*; Wendy LeBorgne and Marci Rosenberg's *The Vocal Athlete*; and Norman Spivey and Mary Saunders Barton's *Cross-Training in the Voice Studio: A Balancing Act.* I will discuss the similarities and differences between these texts, highlighting the following areas of singing—registration, articulation, resonance, range, vibrato, and style.

First, we must distinguish between these two systems—voce chiusa and contemporary commercial music. The fundamental function of these two styles is rooted in the same scientific truth: coordination of body and breath.²⁷ Variance emerges in aesthetic preference and stylistic performance practice. Voce chiusa is most often associated with the Italian school of singing—bel canto.²⁸ Bel canto is a term that has been applied to many things and has evolved over time.²⁹ Stark's book discusses the historical context of bel canto as well as pedagogy on the subject. LeBorgne's and Spivey's books, respectively, discuss the need for singers of the twenty-first century to not only practice bel canto style, but also cultivate technical facility in the style of contemporary commercial music. With changes and demands within the job market today, singers are less able to specialize in one genre; rather, it is incumbent that they procure skills in an array of styles.³⁰ Although there are objective differences in the practice of these two techniques, it is

²⁷ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 197.

²⁸ Miller, National Schools, 81.

²⁹ James Stark, *Bel Canto: A History of Vocal Pedagogy* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press Inc., 1999), xvii-xxv.

³⁰ Benson, *Training Contemporary*, 17, 208–15.

now evident that a combinatorial method serves the development of each³¹—a newly found symbiosis that was separated by the dichotomy of "high" and "low" art for generations.

What does voce chiusa mean? Richard Miller identifies voce chiusa as a style and technique of covered singing. He states "Voce chiusa (closed voice) describes a timbre in all parts of the range with a desirable balance of low and high harmonic partials. *Voce chiusa* produces the chiaroscuro (light-dark) timbre in which both brilliance and depth are present in any area of the vocal scale."32 The use of voce chiusa is often associated with the bel canto style, although there has not been definitive proof that voce chiusa is only capable of being achieved in bel canto singing. Miller goes on to say that bel canto alone cannot be called a method because "there is no specific codified system of bel canto waiting for the vocal neophyte to pick up and assimilate."33 Voce chiusa is widely regarded as healthy, beautiful singing, where "there is a stabilized laryngeal position—relatively low—and a somewhat widened pharynx. These conditions together with proper vowel modification (aggiustamento) produce the so-called 'covered' sound of the upper range."34 The repertoire that is traditionally taught in conservatories and in academic settings often drives at the pedagogical implementation of voce chiusa. The even scale (the impression of having one register in the voice) is a product of the voce chiusa pedagogy. Voce chiusa "should prevail throughout the singing voice regardless of range, as opposed to 'open voice' (voce aperta)."35 The result of using voce chiusa throughout the entire range is the effect of the singer having a seamless voice—or a voice without register shifts. This even scale was an "aim of the bel canto period." 36

³¹ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 23.

³² Miller, *Structure of Singing*, 156.

³³ Miller, Structure of Singing, xx.

³⁴ Miller, *Structure of Singing*, 151.

³⁵ Miller, *Structure of Singing*, 151

³⁶ Miller, Structure of Singing, 150.

What does bel canto mean? The Italian translates to fine or beautiful singing. The term was first applied to Venetian opera of the 1630s with the emergence of public operas.³⁷ As stated earlier, the term bel canto has since been applied to many things, finding its ultimate distinction in its application to the operas and trends of Vincenzo Bellini's time (1801–1835).³⁸ The coining of the term is often credited to the sixty-five-year-old Gioacchino Rossini in a conversation that took place after dinner in his Paris residence in 1858.³⁹

Bel canto encompasses three elements: the instrument (the voice), the technique (voce chiusa), and the style (the ingredients of which are taste and feeling). Traditionally, voce chiusa was acquired through years of study between a student and teacher—often focusing on a single page of vocalises in order to cultivate and distill style. This technique focused on correct vowel placement, vowel modification, agility, facility, fast ornamentation, roulades, trills, conditioning of endurance, and the like. Of superlative importance was the acquisition of style—a requirement that determined a student's ripeness for public performance. Style was born of performance practice, learning and emulating the ways of the "greats." This seriousness of study characterizes today's university and conservatory systems, continuing the ideology of the bel canto tradition—vocal health, flexibility, and longevity.

The era of Gioacchino Rossini, Vincenzo Bellini, and Gaetano Donizetti is often implicated in this definition due to the demands of these composers' operatic vocalism and the dominance of their melodic line. ⁴³ Harmonic support and orchestral timbres undergird this lyricism and

³⁷ Stark, Bel Canto, xvii.

³⁸ Miller, Structure of Singing, xxi.

³⁹ Richard Taruskin, *The Oxford History of Western Music: Music in the Nineteenth Century* (New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2005), 37.

⁴⁰ Rodolfo Celleti, *A History of Bel Canto*, trans. Frederick Fuller (New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1996), 9.

⁴¹ Taruskin, *Music in the Nineteenth Century*, 39–40.

⁴² Taruskin, Music in the Nineteenth Century,40.

⁴³ Celleti, A History of Bel Canto, 9.

expressivity. "Skills of sustaining and moving the voice (cantilena and fioritura) are required to execute the bel canto literature; those skills join to produce 'beautiful singing.' They call for the most exacting technical accomplishments, in whatever century." Although melodic dominance and virtuosic display continue to be trends in twenty-first century contemporary commercial music, performance practices and audience preferences have changed drastically over the last two centuries, necessitating the adroitness and stylistic diversity of today's singers, at a level that never before has been demanded.

Due to the centrality of voce chiusa to bel canto singing, the two terms (i.e., voce chiusa and bel canto) are often used interchangeably, to describe both a style and a methodology. But Miller warns against the use of bel canto as a methodology because "[t]he term *bel canto* has become a twentieth-century shibboleth, with opposing methodologies staking out highly suspect claims for its possession." Although voce chiusa is a goal of bel canto style, it is separate from one all-encompassing pedagogical method. For purposes of this project, we will employ the designation bel canto for the *style* and voce chiusa for the *technique* that emerged in the era of the great bel canto composers—Rossini, Bellini, and Donizetti—both of which are implicated by the term, "the Italian school of singing."

What does contemporary commercial music mean? Although the term lacks exact definition, it can be gleaned that musical theater, pop music, triple-threat (singer, dancer, and actor) genres, mainstream media outlets, acoustical music (singing intended to be performed with microphones), and belting are the core of CCM. "The term 'contemporary commercial music'

⁴⁴ Miller, Structure of Singing, xxi.

⁴⁵ Spivey and Saunders Barton, *Cross-Training*, 27.

⁴⁶ Miller, Structure of Singing, xxi.

⁴⁷ Miller, National Schools, xvi.

(CCM) was coined by Jeannette LoVetri as a critical alternative to 'non-classical." The CCM performer is taken to new heights as *The Vocal Athlete* introduces the idea of a "hybrid singer" to the pedagogical discussion. A similarly equipped singer is also the point of focus in *Cross-Training in the Voice Studio: A Balancing Act.* Spivey and Saunders Barton advocate for "combin[ing] the best practices of traditional pedagogy with musical theatre singing pedagogy." The goal of the hybrid singer is the same as the cross-trained singer—"a new generation of performers emerg[e] from training as viable, sought-after artists who are versatile and easily able to adapt to whatever vocal styles are given to them." This is not dissimilar from the original goals of the bel cantoera, voce chiusa singer, who aimed to build a facile instrument that was prepared for the stylistic practices of current repertoire.

Alignment

Alignment is a foundational aspect of both bel canto and CCM styles.⁵¹ As Hemsley writes,

Today singers are concerned with the production of a preconceived sound, often taken from a recording—itself artificially adjusted to be as close as possible to a generally accepted, international, bland, and easily recorded sound—rather than permitting the sound of their voice to be the result of the body's reaction to the workings of internal feelings, imagination, and the higher human faculties. Adjustments and "improvement" are attempted . . . individuality and spontaneity are lost, and the direct connection between the musical sound, and the human experience—something unique to singing as it has developed in our culture—is broken.⁵²

With the advent of media and recording technology, the idea of studying voice has been commandeered by mimicry masquerading as autodidacticism. Consumerism has promoted a transactional approach to garnering skills that is slowly creating a future of short-lived vocal

⁴⁹ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 2.

⁴⁸ Benson, *Training Contemporary*, 15.

⁵⁰ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, viii.

⁵¹ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 15–16; LeBorgne and Rosenberg, The Vocal Athlete, 26.

⁵² Thomas Hemsley, *Singing & Imagination: A Human Approach to a Great Musical Tradition* (New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1998), 22.

careers. The problems with mimicking or imitating in order to gain skill is that we assume the premise that the model is correct. But this is not a long-term strategy for education, growth, or artistry. The emulation of another artist takes away the inherent individuality of the aspiring artist—looking for the product and not the process. With models for CCM repertoire being more abundant in media outlets, musicians that take to imitating perpetuate a trend of bad habits without the tutelage of professional teachers. Since the study of voce chiusa or traditional, classical singing is heavily monitored and guided by trained voice professionals,⁵³ the alignment of the voce chiusa singer is very balanced and healthy for the overall vocal mechanism. Alignment not only pertains to the six points of balance,⁵⁴ as outlined in *What Every Singer Needs to Know About the Body*; it also is a framework for laryngeal and facial structure alignment that will keep harmful production out of the habits of the voce chiusa singer.

"[A] high percentage of classically trained [singers] know almost nothing about the mechanics of producing [CCM singing]."55 "Consequently, many prospective Broadway or music theatre singers substitute style for a solid vocal technique and never learn how to emit a high intensity sound with as much functional freedom as possible."56 Voce chiusa singers, subject to the divide between higher versus lower art, are often left to their own devices when it comes to training for CCM repertoire. Again, this division leaves voce chiusa singers with little guidance or training pertaining to CCM practices, such that they often resort to poor practices or simply imitation. The faulty jaw movements, tongue engagement, and breath mechanism of the self-trained CCM singer are signs of future atrophy and injury. Although audiences love to see a singer

⁵³ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 281.

⁵⁴ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 15.

⁵⁵ Doscher, Functional Unity, 188.

⁵⁶ Doscher, Functional Unity, 188.

⁵⁷ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 281.

⁵⁸ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 288.

"struggle," such struggle must be an affect, a crafty bit of acting, with the singing remaining free and healthy. The self-taught CCM singer, left to her own devices, often relies on manipulation. The old quote holds true in this respect: "A little learning is a dangerous thing." We must ask ourselves, our students, and our performers to be fully informed—informed of both voce chiusa and CCM practices—in order to continue healthful growth in our art form.

Above all, what both CCM and voce chiusa singers must achieve is a replicable product—something they can repeat for the rest of their lives. The metric for singers should not lie in the reception of the listener; rather, it should be in the vocal longevity of their instrument. Instant gratification is the attitude *du jour*, but artists must not fall prey to this dangerous Lorelei. What seems like success can lead to future demise. We must decide what is healthfully repeatable. And in order for things to be repeatable, a technique must be built that is reliable. In other words, we must align our instrument and our priorities.

Registration

Registration is "the interaction of phonation and resonance." The Vocal Athlete and Bel Canto go through the history of registrational discovery, categorization, and methodology by covering the treatises of many famous vocal pedagogues, such as Garcia, Tosì, Vennard, Marchesi, and Lamperti. From their treatises, we see that the exact number of registers has been in discourse for centuries. There is validity in many of these pedagogues' claims regarding registers, but I will highlight similarities and differences between voce chiusa and CCM as they pertain to registers. Spivey and Saunders Barton provide a graph that clearly distinguishes stylistic registration points—"the vocal arc of registration and resonance." They note that the voice should be TA (thyroarytenoid) dominant until E4-G4. A belt option is available, depending on the context,

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⁵⁹ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 14.

⁶⁰ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 69.

between G4-D5. I find that it is beneficial to add twang (nasal mix) after D5 to give the effect of a continued high belt. All of this should be accomplished with correct alignment, freedom of the mandible/jaw articulation, and freedom of extrinsic laryngeal muscles. The novice singer will likely feel the need to stretch the chin forward—this needs to be avoided as the atlanto-occipital joint (AO) balance is key to free singing and correct laryngeal alignment.⁶¹ Although it may seem contradictory, the tongue must remain released at the base, with the tip resting at the back of the bottom lip. The soft palate must also maintain lift in order to create a balanced resonance, free of pushing or straining. The practice of soft palate lift and tongue release should be practiced daily. Often the tongue is wrongly employed in the lift of the soft palate—independence of the soft palate and the tongue must be coordinated. If the singer is unable to change pitch without moving the jaw or tongue, such jaw and tongue freedom must be practiced and obtained before moving on to further concepts. Freedom between the tongue and the jaw should also be addressed early in the training, as it is paramount to singing and stylistic ambidexterity. If the tongue and jaw are unable to find independence from each other, then the singer will wrongly use both in various combinations to create pitch changes. Pitch change should be the work of the intrinsic laryngeal muscles. "Pitch control also requires an exquisite interplay between laryngeal tension and breath pressure that is closely interrelated with intensity control. . . . As we know, the cricothyroid muscles are responsible for elongation and the thyroarytenoids for shortening."62

Interestingly, Spivey and Saunders Barton note that "the belt range does not vary according to voice type and is virtually the same for men and women." ⁶³ I think this is a very useful observation, as misconceptions surrounding the male and female belt abound. When modeling for

⁶¹ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 39.

⁶² McCoy, Your Voice, 123.

⁶³ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 48.

my tenor students, I find it useful to sing in their range—utilizing my belt, which is the same production and range that the tenor voice experiences. "For the male head voice, the optimally desired timbre is that of balanced chiaroscuro; in belting, by contrast, the balance is almost completely shifted to the *chiaro* side with a bright, brassy timbre." ⁶⁴ Another possible misconception is the confusion between a "call" (often born of freedom) and a "yell" (often forced and squeezed). "A belt is a mixed resonance and as such has dynamic flexibility like any other healthy vocal utterance." This prescription should be the first step in exploring a belt—a flexible, dynamically transformable, free sound.

Mandible locking tends to be the reaction to "the first belt." Locking can be heard in the sound and is a product of aural reaction, fear, breath instability, and muscle and joint panic. If the body is not free, the sound cannot be free. We must not chase the result (sound); rather, we must hone the process (coordination of breath and body). In the opening chapter of *The Vocal Athlete*, the authors emphasize the necessity for a singer to find a dynamic and flexible alignment in order to achieve optimal vocal production. It recommends further reading, which led me to find the following: "If [a singer] ha[s] an incorrect body map, [the singer's] movement and [his or her] singing will be tense, and can even cause injury." This statement from Malde's *What Every Singer Needs to Know About the Body* leads to a complex process of discovery for the singer. "[B]ecause your body map governs your movement, you move according to what you believe about your body." The implications of this statement suggest that anatomical truth can be transformational for the voice, the health of the body, and the expressive power of singing—how

⁶⁴ McCoy, Your Voice, 75.

⁶⁵ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 48.

⁶⁶ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 3.

⁶⁷ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 4.

⁶⁸ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 3.

approaching singing through anatomical truth will lead to healthy, flexible, breath-led singing. We can begin to see that, indeed, the process is more important than the product.

Another distinguishing marker between CCM and voce chiusa is the secondo passaggio. The second passaggio is a changing border for women going between CCM and bel canto styles. The change in resonance occurs at D5 for CCM and B-flat4 for bel canto. ⁶⁹ Head voice (cricothyroid) should be fully employed at B-flat4 for voce chiusa singing in order to build the top. This takes time for young students who have lived in TA-dominant function for most of their lives. However, many times singers will have a predisposition for head voice; this creates a difficult journey of inviting in the possibility of TA engagement above E4-G4. Calling exercises are a great first step in building up trust in TA function above E4.70 I myself have struggled trusting TA function above E-flat 4, told in the past that I would hurt myself if I did not abide by the law of the divide. I have found that, through the training of my TA function and belt, I have experienced a more balanced head voice. I also have found that training thyroarytenoid dominant production in CT-dominant singers can lead to better reliance on the breath as well as increased stability in the vocalis. I will explore this further in chapter five. The literature mentioned above expose that misconceptions exist on either side.⁷¹ I postulate that by training from both CCM and voce chiusa angles, the best processes are created, greater knowledge and ownership of the voice is achieved, and thus increased balance of the intrinsic laryngeal muscles is attained.

Articulation

Singers are unique from any other instrument that exists. We possess the gift of the word—the inspiration behind our inhalation. "The text is significant, and the words are an essential part

⁶⁹ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 46.

⁷⁰ Benson, *Training Contemporary*, 152.

⁷¹ Benson, *Training Contemporary*, 146.

of the artistic whole."⁷² As communicators of music and message, it is crucial that the processes of articulation are mapped and mastered. The structures of articulation are the tongue, teeth, velum, and lips. The independence of the tongue and jaw are paramount in mastering articulation. "[C]lean articulation and good diction in singing require vocal tract movements that can be recorded by exact phonetic symbolization. The adjustments of the tongue, the lips, the mandible, the velum, and the resonators can define a recognizable phonetic position more precisely during singing than they do in speech, because of the duration factor."⁷³ "Vowels seldom stand alone, either in speech or in singing. . . . Consonants need not be considered unwelcome intruders that impede good vocalization."⁷⁴ I find it beneficial to think of the consonants as a part of the vowel line—a sort of *vowel* themselves. They should be treated equally by the breath and supported with the same vocalization that the vowels receive. "Indistinct words result from two causes: undervalued consonants . . . and the mismapping of lips."⁷⁵

Historically, bel canto style was rooted in expressivity. Today a stigma has been connected with that style that paints its followers as sub-par communicators of the drama. Even Spivey and Saunders Barton note, "opera singers still tend to be woefully underprepared in acting. . . . [O]pera is still unquestionably music first and musical theatre is words first." ⁷⁶ I propose that the combinatorial use of voce chiusa and CCM systems can aid each other—bringing pure vowels to CCM repertoire and immediacy of text to traditional, voce chiusa repertoire. "After experimenting with musical theatre sounds, classical sopranos return to their operatic repertoire with a sense of greater resilience and power, with more authenticity, and a more reliable integration of the entire

⁷² Barbara Conable, *The Structures and Movement of Breathing: A Primer for Choirs and Choruses*, (Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, Inc., 2000), 22.

⁷³ Miller, *Structure of Singing*, 69.

⁷⁴ Miller, Structure of Singing, 79.

⁷⁵ Conable, *Structures and Movement*, 22.

⁷⁶ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 26.

singing range and an ability to 'speak' vowels with more ease and clarity."⁷⁷ I found it jarring that *The Vocal Athlete*, with its wealth of scientific and historical information, did not have a chapter dedicated to articulation. As such a monumental element of our singing, articulation should not be left to chance. Articulation alone could be practiced, without sound, for years before adding in the voice.

Coordination of the articulators is a major contributor to vocal freedom. Articulation should be the same for any style, adjusting only dialect to fit the context of the piece. The malleable resonating tract that singers possess is both wonderful in its uniqueness yet dangerous in its ability to be manipulated. This flexibility is conducive to imitating—allowing the singer to consciously or subconsciously change the acoustic abilities of her vocal tract. When we imitate, we take away the chance to discover our true, un-influenced, honest sound. I found for years I was displeased with the "raw" sound of my voice, adding pressure and driving my intent into the repertoire. In Stark's book, he cites Zacconi saying, "for the forced voice, being defective, always offends." ⁷⁸ I did not allow my breath to reveal my developing, "raw" voice, so I sped up the process and shot for the result I thought people wanted—manipulating my vocal tract. That kind of sound-seeking or sound-first method is disastrous—leading to years of undoing and rebuilding. In my teaching I instruct that it is the job of the student to be the alignment monitor and the job of the teacher to be the sound monitor. If we do not want students to control their sound, then we must change our language to promote process-based practice—replacing our sensation-based terminology with process-based terminology. Rather than, "I would like the top to bloom," we could address the articulatory alignment and functions that need to be instilled, thus entrusting the results to the

⁷⁷ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 29.

⁷⁸ Stark, *Bel Canto*, 59 (quoting Lodovico Zacconi, *Prattica di musica utile et necessario si al compositore*, as translated in Carol MacClintock, *Readings in the History of Music in Performance* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1979)).

process. We must also be patient with the pace of students' growth—not hearing the beginnings of freedom and asking for more, watching that we can convey *and* obey the process ourselves.

Articulation begins with kinesthetic awareness. In a world that is so busy, it is easy to let life go by without *being*. This systematic numbness must be lifted in order to listen to the body, redefine any imbalances, and grow. Giovanni Battista Lamperti agreed when stating, "Mind and muscle must be developed and sensitized to the 'nth' degree, but they should never take command of the performance." That said, performers must distinguish between kinesthetic awareness and scanning. Scanning is the busy mind, racing back and forth between concepts and sensations. This kind of unfocused overfocus leads to exactly that in singing—lack of focused resonance. Therefore, awareness, despite the pitfalls that may emerge, must be awoken in articulation.

Something as simple as defining the mouth can be difficult for a young singer. The mouth is a space amongst things. The *things* are the tongue, teeth, lips, hard and soft palate, pharyngeal constrictors, cheeks, mandible, and tissues that encase them. The atlanto-occipital joint must be aligned in order for the rest of the body to find alignment, and even the mouth is affected by this seemingly exterior framework. When alignment is addressed, movement and range-of-motion within each point of alignment must be included so that stiffness does not set in as the singer tries to find "correct posture." Singers must be aware that kinesthesia is sensing through movement—if there is no movement, then there is no sense, no singing.

The way in which we move the structures of articulation must be found in the release of tension.⁸¹ Any tension in the body, whether in the hands or the tongue, will result in laryngeal tension. Try to tighten your fists and sing a balanced onset on [a]—then release the hands and sing

⁷⁹ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 27.

⁸⁰ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 12.

⁸¹ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 15.

[a] again. Do you sense the presence of tension and the subsequent release of tension? The tongue's home, or default resting place, is found spilled out onto the bottom teeth and bottom lip, where the dry and wet portions of the lip meet. This promotes release not only in the blade of the tongue but also in the intrinsic muscles of the tongue (the swallowing function of the tongue). The tongue's first job is not to sing; it is to consume. If we engage the primal portion of our tongue—the base of the tongue—then it will automatically do what it was created to do: swallow. I find that many diction and pedagogy books will recommend that the tongue lay behind the bottom teeth. This is not incorrect, but there are many singers who will exchange tension in the base of the tongue for tension in the blade or tip of the tongue—pushing into the bottom teeth unconsciously. I promote a tongue that is released at the base; this causes the blade of the tongue to lay flat, with the tip of the tongue meeting the back of the bottom lip.

Movement of the mandible is also critical to free singing. Singers should practice moving the jaw at the hinge where it meets the skull (temporal mandibular joints). Frequently, the chin is what catches a singer's attention in terms of articulation of the temporal mandibular joints (TMJs). Sole attention to the chin will often lead to misuse of the jaw; rather, thinking of the jaw as an appendage hanging from the hinge of the skull will encourage a freer use of this structure. The masseter muscles and the temporalis muscles must be relaxed throughout the movement of the mandible. Any hyper-engagement of these muscles will cause holding and, therefore, the breath will be held, leading to pressurized resonance. As stated earlier, the tongue and jaw must declare independence from each other; this kind of practice requires no voice in the beginning. The use of these structures lies in micro-movements rather than macro-movements. Hours can be spent honing the aligned movements of these intricate structures.

Lastly, the articulatory lips (orbicularis oris) must find purpose in their function. ⁸² Often the lips, in an attempt to be accurate, will stop the breath. They can add tension via overly-engaged buccinators. The lips must also practice movement independent from the jaw. Practicing lifting a supple, bottom lip to meet the upper teeth for a [v] could take days or weeks for even a seasoned singer. ⁸³ One must be careful that when release is requested, the energy of the body does not dissipate with it. Each vowel and consonant should be practiced with this kind of individualized attention to the articulators. To avoid scanning (the busy mind), setting goals for each practice session must be a routine that is instilled from the beginning of study. One cannot practice what one does not know. But if a student knows what and how to practice, then she will enjoy the process.

Resonance

When analyzing singing, it is easy to go right to the sound. "This sound is the end-result." What is often missed is the process by which we come across this sound. Generations of "sound sculptors" have asked for a singer to create a sound that is brighter, darker, forward, back, open, rounded—creating a generation of sound seekers. This may work for a few, but many will benefit from cultivating a process that, if executed consistently and mindfully, will lead to an honest result (the sound). Imitators live among us, and maybe we are guilty of manipulation ourselves. But the ear cannot be the dictator of our technique—neither for CCM nor for voce chiusa. Regardless of style or technique, there are three basic vocal events: phonation (breath meeting vocal folds), resonation (breath meeting space), and articulation (breath meeting the tongue, teeth, and lips).

⁸² Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 207–08.

⁸³ Use of the COVID mask in my teaching has been beneficial for kinesthetic awareness of the lips and mandible. Everything that the mask covers should be released and supple.

⁸⁴ Hemsley, Singing & Imagination, 20.

This is the cardinal order of events, yet we often put the cart before the horse—asking our articulators to be phonators or asking our resonance to articulate.

Sound is created at the meeting of the vocal folds. The ensuing vocal tract is the amplifier of our sound. Unique to the voice is the fact that our resonating tract is malleable—unlike any other instrument. As Hemsley writes,

There is [another] important difference between singing and the playing of a musical instrument; a difference which should always be borne in mind. The playing of any musical instrument begins as a conscious act, initiated, it seems, in the left brain. A pianist must know that in order to make a sound he must press a key on the piano; that to make a sound of a higher pitch, the hand must be moved to the right, and so on. This involves doing something which is basically "unnatural" and learning to do it in such a way as to make it "second nature"—making voluntary actions seem like reflex actions—switching them over to the right brain, the right brain being that part which deals with instinctive, emotional, intuitive activity. In the case of singing, on the other hand, we are concerned with the opposite process: we are performing natural, instinctive, intuitive, reflex, "natural" actions, and learning to refine and control them; to make them conscious and voluntary.⁸⁵

With free will comes the dilemma of choice—our malleable vocal tract has this same free will. Choosing wrongly can distort or compromise the resonance; choosing rightly will allow the voice to reach its optimal resonance. With a mere thought, we have the choice to manipulate, impersonate, and imprison our resonance—that thought enacts movement of the structures that surround the space of the vocal tract. Our choice may come from good intent, but we must remember not to be sound seekers. For example, when a singer hears the term gola aperta (open throat), it is hard *not* to try to expand our existing throat opening. Be Despite our perception, the stretching that we feel in the pharynx is the act of the pharyngeal muscles constricting. The pharynx's primary function is not for singing—it is for consumption. When we engage the pharynx,

⁸⁵ Hemsley, Singing & Imagination, 20.

⁸⁶ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 160.

⁸⁷ The stretch in the pharynx to which I refer here is specific to the oro- and laryngopharynx, not the nasopharynx, which encompasses the soft palate.

we consume our resonance. Like a snake, the three pharyngeal constrictors squeeze and transport the nutrients to our stomachs. 88 That is the only work those muscles know—constrict and release. 89 Once we know that there is only one engagement of the pharyngeal constrictors, we realize that we are misinterpreting the sensation of the throat if we feel stretching—for it is actually squeezing. This squeezing is "often accompanied by a misunderstanding of sound, which is that sound is a substance, something that a singer may, for instance, 'project.' Singers with substance fantasies are prone to use the food-moving [consuming] apparatus to sing." Allowing those constrictors to remain passive upon receiving and releasing breath is the process by which we find the result of the "open throat." This unimpeded vocal tract creates a balance of tone characterized as chiaroscuro. This term is borrowed from paintings that exhibit a beautiful play on light and dark in their shading. Similarly, the resonance identified with voce chiusa singing is a perfect balance of light and dark—a product of formant acoustics and a low and suspended larynx. 91 Luckily, the singer does not have to think in such scientific terms—surrendering tension in the body to serve the unbroken breath line will yield this balance. The beginning of sound, the onset, is key in this recipe. "The quality of onset determines the quality of the ensuing phonation." Trying to free the structures after singing has initiated is a fruitless task.⁹³

Range

Vocal range is something that must be maximized in both voce chiusa and CCM techniques.

The lengthening of range will occur when there is proper coordination of vocal fold vibration, subglottic pressures, and unimpeded vocal tract amplification. Training the intrinsic laryngeal

⁸⁸ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 158-61.

⁸⁹ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 161.

⁹⁰ Conable, Structures and Movement, 24.

⁹¹ Miller, Structure of Singing, 156.

⁹² Stark, Bel Canto, 16.

⁹³ Miller, Structure of Singing, 6.

muscles to change pitch is a goal that should be set for each singer—any external function of pitch change will result in a diminished overall range. Some common sources of extra-muscular pitch change that should be discussed and avoided are raising and lowering of the chin, laryngeal manipulation of either the tongue or the muscles that surround it, employment of facial muscles like eyebrows or zygomatic arches, and using the tongue and jaw as the puppet masters of the larynx. Students should be made aware of these concepts early in training, as many unhealthy short-cuts in technique are subconscious and the result of attempts to have instant gratification or mastery of the skill. Training the intrinsic laryngeal muscles to do the work of changing and sustaining pitch requires much practice, mental focus, and understanding of function. "A slow, targeted approach will often get results faster and more efficiently." To that end, vocalises can be categorized in ways that target a specific skill that needs to be developed.

Although the ranges for both voce chiusa singing and CCM singing could be the same, the tessitura demands of each present their own challenges. Voce chiusa requires wide-ranging tessiture—often encompassing two or more octaves—for the roles and repertoire. The goal of voce chiusa range and tessitura is to hear a seamless voice, one that sails through the extremes of the range without audience recognition of vocal fold vibration change or vocal tract resonance changes that happen at the registration points (passaggi). The tessitura and timbre of the voice for much traditional repertoire and operatic singing has been catalogued into a Fach system—delineating what tessitura, weight, and qualities are demanded by roles within each category. Contemporary houses and companies have taken the Fach system to an extreme, interpolating the original use of catalogued roles onto the categorization of voice types. This kind of pigeon-holing has made it

⁹⁴ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 324.

⁹⁵ Miller, National Schools, 139.

⁹⁶ Philip Shepard, *What the FACH?! The Definitive Guide for Opera Singers Auditioning and Working in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland*, 2nd ed. (Kansas City, MO: What the FACH?! Press, 2010), 28–31.

easy for houses to audition singers, but the idea that singers can only fall into one Fach reflects administrative convenience and not reality. Convenience may work within a company, but teachers should be aware that voices are capable of thriving in multiple Fachs.

The challenge that a CCM singer faces is endurance within a limited tessitura. Whereas traditional, "classical" roles and repertoire span over two octaves, CCM repertoire usually stays under two octaves, living within a range of a fifth for much of the time. One of the reasons for the truncation of tessitura in CCM repertoire is the need to deliver clear, intelligible, and expressive text.97 If the range is too large, a singer will have to allow for vowel modification at the upper extremes and could lead to text that is less intelligible. This is why much of the compositional writing for this repertoire lies in a shortened range, to account for the acoustical and formant challenges of vowels. This may sound easier for the singer, but the endurance and capabilities required for a truncated tessitura are taxing. Proper coordination and training for CCM tessitura will also call for the ability to access various timbral and color changes within that range, 98 leading to a greater likelihood of fatigue. The use of the breath is key in all areas of singing, but in this technique, many of the voce chiusa rules are broken in service of variety and to elicit interest from the listener. Nasal mix, straight-tone, and other breath manipulations require a mastery of breath management—being able to venture out of a balanced production and back in without employing external laryngeal tension to do the bidding.

In the tessitura of CCM repertoire, the TA muscles are more dominant, creating a greater closed quotient which, ironically, yields a more consistently *closed* voice. This TA-dominant production aims to make it seem as if one is speaking, taking out the filter of refinement associated

⁹⁷ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 290.

⁹⁸ Benson, Training Contemporary, 151.

with voce chiusa. In traditional repertoire, the CT muscles are more active, often trying to bring the head voice down as far as possible within the range to make for easier ascending lines and blooming high notes. The lingering aesthetic connotations of TA- and CT-dominant productions are often used in divisive terms, though the connotations of "high" and "low" art are fizzling out of the discourse. Singers must remember their job is not to impress but to express. By marrying dichotomous styles (CCM and traditional, voce chiusa), we open up a branch of training that demonstrates multifaceted benefits.

Vibrato

"The physiological and neurological origins of vocal vibrato are not yet fully understood." What we do know is that vibrato is "a quasi-periodic modulation of the fundamental frequency." Of Good vibrato is "a pulsation of pitch, usually accompanied with synchronous pulsations and loudness of timbre, of such extent and rate as to give a pleasing flexibility, tenderness, and richness to the tone." There has been quite a lot of interest in how one creates vibrato or develops vibrato. Singers in search of this holy grail often are very frustrated to find out that vibrato is an outgrowth of freedom. If there is any hold or overt build-up of pressure in the body, then true vibrato will not emerge. Cultivating freedom in singing will allow vibrato to develop. This must be addressed at the foundational level of alignment—the skeletal and muscular framework of our singing bodies.

Voce chiusa singing employs vibrato at nearly every moment of singing—even a short pitch that does not have time to undulate should have the potential for vibration. Originally, musical stage productions were given in theaters without amplification. Healthy projection of the

⁹⁹ Stark, Bel Canto, 138-39.

¹⁰⁰ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 72.

¹⁰¹ Stark, Bel Canto, 122.

voice was key in textual delivery and vocal health of the actors and singers. The phenomenon of vibrato allowed for easier amplification and freer vocal production. With the advent of acoustical equipment, amplification, and microphone technology, the need for an unassisted voice to project to thousands diminished, and along with it, the need for vibrato as an amplification mechanism. The initial need for vibrato was for text to be delivered and for the voice to be heard—i.e. communication. The twenty-first century preference for less vibrato, similarly, is for clarity of text and for communication. Vibrato has become less ubiquitous and more of an aesthetic, stylistic practice, though in opera houses today, external amplification is still not used. The freedom that comes with a vibrant voice is pleasing and allows for an honest vocal production, one typified by a relaxed pharynx, free articulators, and the ability to respond to the singer's inspiration and expression.

CCM that employs belting relies less on the presence of vibrato than voce chiusa. "The literature reports that classical singers maintain vibrato in as much as 95%" of phonation and "the most aesthetically pleasing belters possessed vibrato in more than 50% of their songs." As stated earlier, technology has allowed for composers of newer repertoire to write without concern for amplification or text delivery issues. This has led to a lower-register phenomenon (especially in music written for the female voice) as well as less demand for vibrato. "In modern performances [vibrato] usually is heard as an ornament which is entirely different from any other: no matter what its mode of execution, it does not sound consistent with the general musical line, either because of a striking change of timbre, a cessation of the 'vocal legato,' or some other vocal aberration." The Vocal Athlete claims "one of the reasons singers are hired in the professional arena is because

¹⁰² LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 73.

¹⁰³ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 73.

¹⁰⁴ Stark, *Bel Canto*, 151.

of their uniqueness. As such, singers may each choose to use vibrato in a different way within the particular songs they perform."¹⁰⁵ Belting is not univocal. "[T]here are many different kinds of belting (heavy, ringy, brassy, nasal and speech-like)."¹⁰⁶ And within those different kinds of belt are the options to incorporate vibrato. The need for CCM singers to invent constant varieties of color and texture alludes to the concept of vibrato being an ornament—not fundamental to the line or technique, but an embellishment or color choice that is placed strategically for emphasis and expressive purposes. The preferred vibrato rates are also different amongst these two techniques—CCM allowing for the extent of vibrato to alter throughout the duration of a pitch or be delayed in onset, and voce chiusa searching for consistency and evenness of line (normally around 4.5–6.5 Hz). ¹⁰⁷

Style

Style has been evolving since the beginning of time. Cultural shifts lead to cultural tastes and preferences that are reflected in the arts. The market often dictates the styles that emerge. Bel canto style has been passed down through great singers, its florid melodic style displaying power, virtuosity, and soloistic expression. Beauty in bel canto comes from the singer's ability to create a legato line, unbroken by any ornamentation or by the direction it follows. In voce chiusa singing, one cannot help but take note of the ever-present breath. The source of the singing is on full display in voce chiusa. The ability for the line to arc—messa di voce—is fundamental to this technique.

In training the messa di voce, it is important to know how to sustain a pitch, how to crescendo, and how to decrescendo. For me, this concept was never taught; only through the reactions of my teachers was I able to judge whether I was "doing it right." Needless to say, my

¹⁰⁵ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 74.

¹⁰⁶ Benson, *Training Contemporary*, 146 (citing Lisa Popeil, "The Multiplicity of Belting," *Journal of Singing* 64, no. 1 (September/October 2007), 77–78).

¹⁰⁷ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 73.

concept of crescendo was perpetuating my tendency to push rather than "sing." I had misinterpreted the growth of decibel for a true crescendo, when in actuality, I was blowing and pressing the breath. I learned through Body Mapping that piano singing is created by an increase in intensity of the body and breath. I also learned that a crescendo in a sustained note was attained through greater elasticity in the body and breath. In fact, no pressure should build in the body beyond what was necessary to keep the vocal folds occluding. When these concepts first were introduced to me, I was dubious—but upon application came realization that pressure was not equivalent to dynamic change. I had been going about dynamic variance incorrectly my entire singing life before this realization. This habit did not go away without a fight. The power of habit is crucial to any skill-based profession. Just as athletes prepare for the game, vocalists must prepare for the act of singing.

Because the work of a singer is heard rather than seen, it is easy to understand that misconceptions about training a singer can arise. Bad habits can be planted and miscoordination or false understandings about the process can become the foundational ideas that inform the singer. This can lead to poor practice and singing habits. Unfortunately we are not able to erase habits—we must create stronger habits. The build-up of myelin between brain synapses is created through repetition. With enough repetition comes memory and habit. Therefore, identification alone does not fix an incorrect habit; repetition of accurate processes will replace habit. Very much a derivative of the Alexander Technique, Body Mapping allows for redefinition of the structures of the body that are causing poor vocal use. 108 Through Body Mapping, we redefine our perception of our Body Map to meet reality—the scientific truth. 109

¹⁰⁸ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 2.

¹⁰⁹ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 24–25.

Richard Miller reminds us that we do not need to reinvent the wheel in vocal pedagogy. Rather, through the use of existing methodologies, we can find a methodology that is conducive to free and healthy singing. I propose that the combined pedagogies of voce chiusa and CCM, when employed safely, yield greater vocal development. CCM style is a "controversial topic in the field of voice pedagogy." Many overestimate the dangers it poses to the health of the voice, cautioning, "If you belt, you will ruin your voice." Yet "[t]he new millennium provides opportunities for singers, teachers, and scientists to bridge the gaps in knowledge previously unexplored." We must invite a balance into the studio—to our teaching, to our singing—that allows for our singers to experience success in the career that awaits them. And we can bridge the gap between voce chiusa and CCM techniques by synthesizing them.

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¹¹⁰ Benson, Training Contemporary, 146.

¹¹¹ Benson, Training Contemporary, 146.

¹¹² LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 311.

CHAPTER 3

I believe that pluralistic style in the voice studio will yield greater function of the intrinsic laryngeal muscles. The combined skills of voce chiusa and CCM practices promise to be advantageous to a singer's vocal development. In order to implement this pluralistic style, a method and resource for functional repertoire pairings is needed. Due to the inherently subjective nature of music, finding a methodology that produces the desired symbiotic results can be difficult. Music is possibly the most subjective art form. For example, beauty is perceived differently by each person—a rose to one is beautiful and to another a thorny danger. As a means of creating concrete standards within music's subjectivity, I have disaggregated the fundamental qualities or "building blocks" of *song* and organized them into categories in the chart below. I call these building blocks *cumulative qualities*. My methodology is built around song pairings that share a minimum number of qualities from each category.

CUMULATIVE QUALITIES CHART

Categories	Qualities
Pitch	 Harmonic landscape Tonality Articulation: patter, parlando, language, legato, staccato, flow Contour of melody: leaps, step-wise motion, etc. Range Tessitura Dynamics Timbre
Rhythm	 Articulation Meter Tempo Rhythmic patterns
Form	 Formal Structure Phrasing Timing/length Accompaniment: texture

	Story/context/content
Pedagogy	 Underpinning stylistic influence Appropriate level of difficulty Teacher's overall impression of the pairing Pedagogical efficacy of the pairing (promote growth bidirectionally)

From this methodology, I have created a catalog of repertoire for the soprano Fach. The catalog is comprised of song pairings that are grouped together because they share, at minimum, one quality from each of the four categories in the chart above (for a minimum total of four shared qualities). I want to create greater opportunity for overlap between the styles by keeping the metric for connectivity relatively low. In this way, I can maximize the frequency with which one finds common ground. The symbiotic pairings are not meant to be equivalent; rather, through the inherent differences between the repertoire, greater function of the vocal mechanism can be achieved. The song pairings are meant to be used concurrently in the voice studio. When the songs are used in tandem in training, singers garner greater vocal function. Although this is not an empirical study, I have seen positive outcomes from this combinatorial pedagogy in the voice studio. I have plans for an Evidence Based Vocal Pedagogy (EBVP) study in the future.

In deploying this catalog, we must be mindful of the distinct historical and stylistic context in which each individual song was composed. Stated differently, I am not suggesting, for example, that a golden-era musical theater piece be as nuanced and refined in terms of inward expression as a Lied; conversely, I am not suggesting that Schubert's Lieder break the fourth wall and present itself through a lens of mid-century American optimism. The voce chiusa and CCM genres may share different historical lineages, but both were developed in response to the needs of society. Their respective contexts provided different resources; thus, the voice had to evolve to accommodate new music. This could be seen as a limitation, but by acknowledging the diversity

of the styles and celebrating their contribution to music, we can enrich our training, our singing, and our careers. 113 With this clarification, I will now explain my methodology.

I have devised what I call a *cumulative qualities chart* (see appendix C), organized by pitch, rhythm, form, and pedagogy. Through shared qualities in each of the aforementioned categories, I find song pairings. The pairings advance particular aspects of musicianship (e.g. rhythm, legato, diction) and challenge the intrinsic laryngeal muscles of a singer through the stylistic differences between the songs that form a given pair. The catalog is comprised of song pairings that share a specific number of these qualities. In order for a pairing to occur, the songs must share a minimum of four qualities—and at least one from each category (pitch, rhythm, form, pedagogy). I also sing the songs to ensure the results are supported by actual vocal use.

Each category is comprised of qualities that characterize the category. Thus,

- 1. In the category of *pitch* there are eight qualities: harmonic landscape, tonality, articulation, contour of melody, range, tessitura, dynamics, timbre.
- 2. In the category of *rhythm* there are four qualities: articulation, meter, tempo, rhythmic patterns.
- 3. In the category of *form* there are five qualities: formal structure, phrasing, timing/length, accompaniment, story/context/content.
- 4. In the category of *pedagogy* there are four qualities: underpinning stylistic influence, appropriate level of difficulty, teacher's overall impression of the pairing, pedagogical efficacy of the pairing.

These qualities are meant to be similar to those used by teachers in selecting and assigning repertoire. Many of the pairings will feature more than one overlapping quality, but a minimum of four cumulative qualities must be present. Again, this means that each pairing should share one or more of the same qualities from each category: pitch, rhythm, form, and pedagogy.

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¹¹³ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 2.

The objective of this methodology is multifaceted—to give voice instructors the tools to begin incorporating pluralistic styles in the studio, to provide diversity of programming to the unspoken curriculum, and to develop the fullest function and abilities of the intrinsic laryngeal muscles. Fluency in diverse styles (both in teaching and performing) takes understanding. Action without knowledge is devoid of purpose. This methodology aims to shed light on the reasoning and deduction behind the repertoire pairings. By sorting through characteristics and qualities that each song has to offer, a fully informed repertoire assignment can be made. Not everyone "has the ear" for finding repertoire, but through an objective selection process, everyone can develop "the ear." Knowing what you are listening for, knowing what you are trying to achieve, and knowing what makes up a song will free both teacher and performer pedagogically and artistically.¹¹⁴

The four categories above are derived from the main scaffolding of a song: pitch, rhythm, form, and pedagogy. They are also sufficiently broad to allow for various pairings across song literature, favoring inclusivity and variety over exclusivity. One could argue that these parameters are too vague, but I aim to build links between inherently polarized styles. I do this in order to facilitate pluralistic style training in the studio that promotes combined pedagogical methodology as a means of developing the full function of the intrinsic laryngeal muscles. Exclusion is much easier to argue for than inclusion, but my goal lies in the latter. 115

Equivalence is not the goal; rather, I aim to find pedagogically effective pairings. True equivalence would not have the same pedagogical significance as the pluralistic style that I suggest. It is through the incongruous nature of the pairings that greater function of the vocal mechanism

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¹¹⁴ Miller, Structure of Singing, xix.

¹¹⁵ As well, categorization of song can be approached through other qualities, such as those seen in Carol Kimball's *Song: A Guide to Art Song Style and Literature.*

can be achieved. I propose that healthful practice of pluralistic style can yield repeatable, reliable, diversified, individualized, and sustainable singing.

The voice has adapted throughout history to its surroundings. In this evolution, today we can benefit from a combinatorial approach to voice training. From open-air amphitheaters to the amplification of the microphone, the voice has found creative ways to adapt to its surroundings. Vocal styles have multiplied as technology has advanced. 116 Technology is a large part of the emergence of CCM style.¹¹⁷ When we enter the catalog, the relative style of each song in a given pairing must be respected—i.e. a Baroque-era aria will not be sung with a microphone, and a belting piece will not be expected to carry over the pit orchestra without amplification technology. The female belt, or thyroarytenoid dominant production as a featured solo range, is a recent development—recent in terms of evolution within the pedagogy and practice of singing. 118 Before the emergence of acoustic amplification, the voice and possibly the literal space were the only two amplifiers for delivering the sound. As early as Greek drama, voice production was developed as a means of carrying the story out to the audience. As music dramas emerged in the Renaissance, the evolution of arioso arose as a purely musical form. Throughout centuries, arioso matured into the Romantic-era, bel canto, two-part aria form (cantabile/cabaletta) that only virtuosos could perform. 119 Over time the singer and teachers of singing honed the power of the voice without extra-musical amplification. With the advent of all things media and technology, we have more options available to explore the limits of the voice. 120

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¹¹⁶ Benson, Training Contemporary, 188.

¹¹⁷ Benson, Training Contemporary, 188.

¹¹⁸ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 297.

¹¹⁹ Miller, Structure of Singing, xxi.

¹²⁰ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 375.

Due to acoustical qualities of the belt or thyroarytenoid dominant production, a female has difficulty projecting the voice without the aid of acoustical amplification in TA-dominant range. The singer's formant is not present in this production, and the ability to carry over an orchestra, or other amplified instruments for that matter, is limited. These new technologies have allowed the female voice to explore new terrain. The emergence of new song literature and experiments with new styles and methods of vocal production have started to raise CCM closer to the powerful pedestal of voce chiusa. ¹²¹ I argue that the inclusion of the female belt together with voce chiusa pedagogy can yield greater overall vocal function as the development of the intrinsic laryngeal muscles is more balanced. The female belt has received far less rigorous treatment in the academic literature than has traditional voce chiusa singing. ¹²² But we are seeing a change in that trend as more scholarship is introduced into the discourse. ¹²³ The resources of today have allowed for the female voice to evolve in ways that voce chiusa pedagogues had never anticipated. ¹²⁴ And I believe that the incorporation of CCM and voce chiusa pedagogies facilitates greater overall vocal development.

To this end, the song pairings within the catalog are to be learned together. This yields the most beneficial coordination of the intrinsic laryngeal muscles. Although I began research initially within the context of changing career demands, the purpose of this catalog is found within the pedagogical scope—pluralistic style training offers a way to combine two pedagogical systems (CCM and voce chiusa) that benefit the intrinsic laryngeal muscle development of the singer. Imagine if one were to only work out the biceps. The triceps would atrophy and the full strength, coordination, and abilities of the arm structure would not be available. Yet working both biceps

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¹²¹ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 288.

¹²² LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 288.

¹²³ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 295; Benson, *Training Contemporary*, 146–50.

¹²⁴ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 375.

and triceps yields a fully functioning mechanism that will enjoy healthier movement, longer endurance, and fuller range of motion. This same idea is what comes to fruition in the strengthening, coordinating, and developing of the cricothyroids and the thyroarytenoids through the means of pluralistic style training. The intrinsic laryngeal muscles are able to function with greater range, balance, and endurance when utilized equally throughout training. I believe strongly in application before teaching—putting the concepts and theories to the test by means of my own pluralistic style recital. While training for my recital, I saw greater stability in my CT function, a fuller spectrum of timbral resonance, the cohesion of an even scale, increased dynamic range, and greater breath control. My vocal endurance has also grown through this empirical trial of my thesis. In the future I hope to create a larger empirical study to further research the spectrum of results of pluralistic style training as a method to increase vocal function.

The pairings generated for this catalog are not the only possible pairings. Depending on the collective qualities within the cumulative qualities chart, there are other matches to be discovered that may serve a different paradigm of skill development from the pairings listed here. There is no definite right or wrong, but the teacher must be the expert ear in choosing the appropriate level of difficulty or area of training. For example, the subsections of the category *pitch* offer a wide array of pairing options: harmonic landscape, tonality, articulation (parlando, language, patter, legato, staccato, flow), contour of melody (leaps, step-wise motion, upward motion, downward motion), range, tessitura, dynamics, and timbre. Within the larger category of *pitch*, the qualities could be utilized to create a spectrum of pairings. For example, the utilization of the qualities *range* and *dynamics* would yield a much different pairing choice from *contour of melody* and *timbre*. This catalog is pairing one of many options in stylistic analogies.

The ability to pair songs by ear and then uncover the underlying cumulative qualities is one angle that a pedagogue could use; the pairing of stylistically diverse repertoire could also be chosen first by cumulative qualities before analyzing the repertoire matches possible. Following the latter method would give the teacher more control in the outcome of the pairings and therefore address the specific skills they deem necessary for the student of singing. The flexibility of this methodology marries itself beautifully with the individual needs of each singer. This methodology is not one size fits all; rather, it is a tailored approach to the individual and geared toward maximizing a singer's vocal development.

The methodology of pairing stylistically divided repertoire as a means of promoting combined use of CCM and voce chiusa pedagogies in the studio is geared to the development, health, and fullest function of the intrinsic laryngeal muscles. This catalog is a gateway into the pluralistic pedagogy for which I am arguing, and many other variations of the catalog are possible within the use of cumulative quality pairing methodology. Even if the context of changing career demands did not frame this argument, the need for pluralistic pedagogy would still be as relevant due to the technical benefits of such training. This catalog or the method of pairing by means of cumulative qualities are both avenues for pedagogical implementation of varying systems within the studio. Overcoming the hierarchical division within the implicit biases of "high" and "low" art styles and embracing the benefits of both in training will lead to greater vocal unity.

CHAPTER 4

1. Samuel Barber's "Sure on This Shining Night" finds a partner in "I Don't Need a Roof" from Big Fish by Andrew Lippa. Both songs present a chordal accompaniment that underpins the simplicity of the vocal lines—giving plenty of opportunity to explore timbral and emotive inflections for the singing actor. The songs are characterized by the melancholy nature of the lyric line and stay within a medium tessitura. The melodic contour is similar, with phrases often ending in descending lines. Though the Barber's range is larger (D4–G5), the high belt (D5) required in "I Don't Need a Roof" mirrors the Barber's tessitura when considering the TA-dominant production range. The andante tempi in both pieces feature brief moments of meter change that prevent overly-repetitive verses. Both songs present a similar story and vocal arc. Legato and crisp diction are necessary for these pieces. Both pieces end with a dynamic decay and in the lower register of the soprano voice. The efficacy of pairing these two pieces lies in the balance of resonance throughout the middle voice. The sostenuto singing required in each piece promotes a relaxed larynx and a streamlined articulatory process. Due to the nature of each piece, the temptation to cover the voice in order to elicit a heavier production must be avoided. Individualized, free resonance of the singer must be promoted, rather than mimicking existing models.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	 Harmonic landscape Articulation speed Contour of melody Dynamics Tessitura Timbre 	TempoRhythmic patterns	PhrasingAccompanimentTextureContent	 Appropriate level of difficulty Pedagogical efficacy

2. Ned Rorem's "The Silver Swan" and W.S. Gilbert's "Poor Wandering One" from *Pirates of Penzance* are a good match for the soprano working towards greater flexibility. The agility required in each piece is demanding—occupying over half of the composition. The melismatic passages require great connection to the singing actor's inner-monologue, which ideally would serve as the impetus for coloratura. The somber nature of the Rorem piece is balanced nicely by the light articulation and tonality of Gilbert's aria. Both pieces require facility and legato throughout the registers. The tessitura of both pieces is near the highest range for a soprano—reaching C6 in "The Silver Swan" and D6 in "Poor Wandering One." Although the tempi vary, the timing of the pieces are equal at about three minutes in length. The symbiotic relationship between these pieces in found in the timbral and stylistic differences. By working on both pieces in tandem, the two songs benefit each other. This is most readily experienced in the demands on the respiratory muscles, requiring much buoyancy and lightness in Gilbert's aria and sostenuto in Rorem's art song.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	 Articulation Contour of melody Range Tessitura 	Rhythmic patterns	PhrasingTiming/length	Appropriate level of difficultyPedagogical efficacy

3. Roger Quilter's "My Life's Delight" and Harvey Schmidt's "Much More" from *The Fantasticks* are pieces that share sweeping vocal lines that call for continuously forward-moving phrasing. Sudden shifts and dynamic juxtaposition are features of both songs. The range of both pieces is equally matched, Quilter's art song varying only by one step. There is a directness inherent in the diction of both pieces that calls for weightless vocal production. Streamlined articulation is needed

for both pieces. While the accompaniment is denser and more complex in Quilter's art song, the accompanimental texture in "Much More" creates the same vocal support despite its simpler harmonic function. Conducive to these pieces being paired is their optimistic message. This is what drives the forward-moving phrases. Pedagogically, this pairing addresses various skills, from articulation and organic phrasing to dynamic suppleness and buoyant breath support. The clarity of text needed in "Much More" can inform the text of "My Life's Delight" and bring greater clarity to the poetry.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	 Articulation Contour of melody Range Tessitura Dynamics 	TempoRhythmic patterns	PhrasingContent	 Appropriate level of difficulty Teacher's overall impression of the pairing Pedagogical efficacy

4. Aaron Copland's "Heart We Will Forget Him" and Stephen Sondheim's "Children Will Listen" from *Into the Woods* may seem an unlikely match at first, but as we compare the qualities of articulation, sostenuto, range, tessitura, accompanimental texture, and dynamics across the songs, we find many similarities. Due to the songs' tessiture, which lie on the staff, true clarity of text is demanded. The accompaniment may be static in the Copland and flowing in the Sondheim, but the texture in both pieces is linear rather than horizontal, often featuring a contrapuntal, single-line melody. Both pieces function within a limited dynamic range—mainly around *piano*. These combined qualities, although not immediately evident to the ear, call for similar pedagogical and technical demands. In the pairing, breath line is the main pedagogical aim. The Copland requires uninterrupted line, while the Sondheim offers many opportunities for breath renewal. Multiple,

consecutive breaths can often lead to stacking, so the key here is retaining the legato line cultivated in the Copland when singing the Sondheim.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	 Harmonic landscape Tonality Articulation Range Dynamics 	■ Meter	PhrasingTiming	 Underpinning stylistic influence Teacher's overall impression for the pairing Pedagogical efficacy

5. Alban Berg's "Nachtigall" and Stephen Sondheim's "Green Finch and Linnet Bird" have more than avian themes in common. While Berg's piece features a whole-tone scale, Sondheim's solo also displays difficult melodic structure that deviates from traditional harmonic progression. Both pieces call for good facility in a large range, execution of rubato, and Brahms-ian sweeping lines. Berg's piece averages around 2'15," and the Sondheim, 3'00." Spinning and free sound is required in both of these pieces; therefore, avoid giving them to students who tend to push on the instrument. Much collaboration is needed with an accompanist—especially in "Nachtigall," due to the complexity of the accompaniment and the dovetailing of interlacing lyric lines. Vowel modification (aggiustamento) can be addressed in these two pieces given the consonant demands in the upper register.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	Harmonic landscapeRange	Forward driving tempiRhythmic patterns	PhrasingAccompanimentContent (themes)	Appropriate level of difficultyPedagogical efficacy

6. "A Piper" by John Duke and "The Finer Things" from Paul Gordon's musical *Jane Eyre* are surprisingly similar in virtuosic vocal demands. The agility, range, and articulation required in both pieces is closely matched, utilizing CT-dominant production throughout. The melismatic passages are the main feature of both pieces. The tessiture in both songs encompasses the secondo passaggio, with "A Piper" reaching B5 and "The Finer Things" reaching B-flat5. The melodic contours are comparable, featuring many leaps and scalar passages. The bidirectional benefits of pairing these two pieces lie in the clarity of the English text. The more forward diction in the musical theater piece can help to keep the traditional selection from becoming too covered. Inversely, the traditional selection can help connect the melismatic passages of the musical theater selection to the breath due to the pedagogical expectations of the style (voce chiusa). The tempo indications are tied to physical movement patterns—a waltz in "The Finer Things" and a march in "A Piper." This gives each piece a bit of *earthiness* that can promote deeper connection to the release of the pelvic floor and the requisite body alignment.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	 Harmonic landscape Articulation Contour of melody Range Tessitura Timbre 	ArticulationTempoRhythmic patterns	PhrasingAccompaniment texture	 Underpinning stylistic influence Appropriate level of difficulty Teacher's overall impression of the pairing Pedagogical efficacy

7. The relationship between "Gleich und gleich" by Anton Webern and Peter Mill's "Patience" from *Illyria* is grounded in their similar timbral qualities. The opening of "Patience" and the subsequent repetitions of the first section have a striking similarity to Webern's serial Lied. The

difficulty inherent in a serial piece (atonality) can be a good pedagogical tool for cultivating a precise musician ready for the unexpected harmonic and melodic moves in "Patience." Similarly, the legato and expansive phrasing of "Patience" promotes phrasal connection and legato singing in Webern's Lied. Using these two pieces in tandem in the voice studio can be advantageous. For instance, the leaping melodic nature of both pieces requires flexible use of the respiratory muscles. Also, the temptation to memorize pitch based on feeling in the pharynx or in other areas that experience secondary vibrations should be avoided from the beginning of the assignment. *Patience* is truly needed in the learning of these selections if the singer is to sing with a breath-led line—allowing the breath and the intrinsic laryngeal muscles, rather than structures extrinsic to the larynx (i.e. the tongue, jaw, or head movements), to change pitch.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	 Harmonic landscape Articulation Contour of melody Range Timbre 	■ Articulation	Phrasing	 Underpinning stylistic influence Appropriate level of difficulty Pedagogical efficacy

8. "Otherwise" from William Bolcom's *Briefly It Enters* was actually written thirteen years after Stephen Sondheim's "Send in the Clowns" from *A Little Night Music*. The musical idiosyncrasies of the Bolcom share a surprising amount of intersectionality with the Sondheim. The accompanimental textures and patterns are repetitive throughout both pieces, with a quasi-modern take on alberti bass. The narrators in both pieces are suffering from life's circumstances, with an apathetic acceptance of the imminent outcome. This is heard in the harmonic and tonal choices of both composers—Sondheim staying in traditional harmonic movement, and Bolcom pushing the

boundaries. The speech-like delivery of both texts blossoms into a fuller, more sung section, then returns to parlando delivery. Both pieces experience a fragmented delivery of the melodic line that displays the internal psyche of the characters. This song pairing experiences a high number of cumulative qualities (see chart below). The symbiotic benefit of the pairing is found in the use of articulation and diction. The need for expressivity within a repetitive and truncated tessitura presents opportunities for refining diction and creating a line that does not sacrifice textual immediacy.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	 Harmonic landscape Articulation Contour of melody Dynamics Timbre 	ArticulationTempoRhythmic patterns	PhrasingAccompanimentContent	 Underpinning stylistic influence Appropriate level of difficulty Teacher's overall impression of the pairing Pedagogical efficacy

9. A rolling arpeggiated accompaniment underpins the vocal lines of both Henri Duparc's "L'invitation au voyage" and Ryan Scott Oliver's "The View from Here" from *Darling*. The range is large and requires facility in both the upper and lower extremes (for a lyric soprano, not a coloratura). The songs are dramatic and call for many dynamic changes motivated by the message. Each song has two climactic moments that call for a CT-dominant range that blossoms and immediately pulls back to a sweet, spinning production in the lower register. "The View from Here" is approximately 3'20," and Duparc's mélodie nears 4'00." Sensitive collaborative skills are needed to perform these successfully. The songs encourage long phrasing, although backup breaths are easy to add within the lines.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	Harmonic landscapeRangeTessitura	Rhythmic patternsTempo	AccompanimentPhrasing	Appropriate level of difficultyPedagogical efficacy

10. "Aurore" by Gabriel Fauré and "Inside Out" from Steven Lutvak's *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* are strikingly similar despite their obvious stylistic differences. An oscillating chordal figure opens each selection, as the narrators reference the nature that surrounds them, which mirrors their lives. The songs' phrases also mirror each other, with similar melodic contours and formal climaxes. Each composer shows a sensitivity for text setting in his maintenance of poetic prosody. A floated upper range approached by leap is necessary in this pairing. The harmonic landscape of Fauré's mélodie is more complex than Lutvak's piece, but learning the two songs together provides different benefits, with Fauré's mélodie encouraging the singer to vary repeated melodic content in the Lutvak, while the Lutvak helps the singer streamline and simplify the melodic contour in the Fauré. Both pieces alternate between 3/4 and 4/4 meters, requiring the singer to subdivide and maintain the shared rhythmic pulse.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	 Tonality Articulation Contour of melody Range Tessitura Dynamics Timbre 	ArticulationMeterTempoRhythmic patterns	Accompaniment texturePhrasingContent	 Teacher's overall impression of the pairing Pedagogical efficacy

11. "Had it not been for the war I should doubtless never have written this cycle." Francis Poulenc composed in a reactionary time of world wars, political unrest, familial strife, societal upheaval, and ephemeral trends. Despite his surroundings, he was able to create a world of enchantment, fantasy, innuendo, and fun. Poulenc is often considered to be a composer of a "joking" nature due to the sharp changes in tempo, texture, articulation, and line in his songs. But Poulenc was serious about the pieces he composed, keeping a journal of his experiences, preferences, and ideas as he composed. That is why I have followed his wishes and kept the two mélodies from *Fiançailles pour rire* together. 126

In "Violon" and "Fleurs," Poulenc sets the poems of Louise de Vilmorin. The songs are devoid of profundity and imbued with charming escapism, voyeurism, and expression. The mixture of hymn-like accompaniments and Hungarian cabaret music lures the listener into the spell of Poulenc's music. Similarly, Kurt Weill demonstrates his hybrid approach to musical theater in "Youkali" from *Cycle des Chansons Cabaretistiques*. Although the song's modified strophic form can lend itself to potential pedanticism, a singer can easily find variety in the song's use of tango and habanera dance rhythms. The Weill and Poulenc have many commonalities, such as language, dance rhythms, range, and tessitura. There is a familiarity or casualness inherent in both selections of this pairing, although the actual singing of them is anything but casual. The pieces must be accurately sung, and rhythms, pitch, harmonic complexity, articulation, and dynamics all require attention to detail. Only through the refinement of these areas is the *effect* of casualness achieved. This is not a set of songs for a beginning singer. Great strength and flexibility of the respiratory muscles must be present, as well as endurance in tessiture that encompass the passaggi.

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¹²⁵ Winifred Radford, ed., *Francis Poulenc: Diary of My Songs; Journal des Mes Mélodies* (Amersham, U.K.: Kahn & Averill, 2007), 55.

¹²⁶ Radford, Francis Poulenc, 54-57.

CQC:	Pitch Rhythm		Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	ArticulationRangeTessituraDynamicsTimbre	ArticulationRhythmic patterns	Accompaniment textureContent	 Underpinning stylistic influence Appropriate level of difficulty Pedagogical efficacy

12. Claude Debussy's "Beau soir" and "Falling into You" from Jason Robert Brown's *Bridges Over Madison County* share a common key signature—"Beau soir" using modal mixture of Emajor and F#-minor and "Falling into You" occupying C#-minor. Debussy's harmonic landscape is unorthodox (at least for its time), which gives the piece a feeling of being neither major nor minor. The tessitura of "Beau soir" occupies the staff, with high and low peaks reaching beyond the staff momentarily. "Falling into You" also shares a tessitura that largely stays within the staff, featuring more moments dipping below the staff than Debussy's mélodie. The parlando articulation of the vocal lines is masked by the legato needed in each piece. The pieces also share a rolling accompaniment figure that supports the voice and leads the harmonic shifts seamlessly. Although "Falling into You" is originally a duet, using it as a solo is an easy transition. Both songs require adept rhythmic attention and dynamic nuance. Flexibility in the respiratory muscles is necessary for these pieces, making them a good pedagogical pairing for students working on breath support. The thoracic-lumbar joint 127 should experience micro-movements 128 that prevent overpressurization of the glottis.

CQC: Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
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¹²⁷ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 46–47.

¹²⁸ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 15.

Qualities	 Harmonic landscape Articulation Contour of melody Range Tessitura Dynamics 	■ Tempo	Accompaniment texturePhrasing	 Appropriate level of difficulty Pedagogical efficacy
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13. Johann Strauss's "Mein Herr, Marquis" and George Gershwin's "By Strauss" clearly have common stylistic underpinnings. Strauss is well-known for his waltzes, and Gershwin uses this in his satiric nod to the former in "By Strauss." Both pieces feature a florid top. Facility in the upperextension of the soprano range is necessary for this pairing; Strauss's aria has written melismatic material in the score, and Gershwin's traditionally is ornamented freely by the singer. Both pieces offer a playfulness in both the music and story-telling that promote the buoyancy needed in the respiratory muscles. Although the languages differ, both are Germanic and offer similar articulatory experiences. A significant challenge within this pairing is maintaining clarity of text while simultaneously delivering legato. It is helpful to think of the vowels as the connective tissue of the text in languages that feature many consonant clusters. Articulatory staccato, portamento, and rubato are features of both pieces. This pairing is beneficial to the singer who is prone to sacrificing stylistic connection for accuracy—both can exist freely in these pieces. It is incumbent upon the singer to use breath and the intrinsic laryngeal muscles to change pitch and not structures external to the vocal folds (i.e. the tongue or jaw). Beginning the pieces at a slow tempo and gradually accelerating as coordination is mastered can be helpful in promoting breath-led line.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy	
Qualities	 Harmonic landscape Articulation Range Tessitura Dynamics 	ArticulationMeterTempoRhythmic patterns	Accompaniment texturePhrasing	 Underpinning stylistic influence Appropriate level of difficulty Teacher's overall impression of the pairing 	

14. "Sempre libera" by Giuseppe Verdi and "Being Alive" by Stephen Sondheim, despite being on opposite ends of the vocal spectrum, enhance each other when paired. The TA-dominant production in "Being Alive" helps to strengthen the vocalis muscle that makes up the body of the vocal folds. In singing "Being Alive" in tandem with "Sempre libera," greater balance of resonance and support in the CT-dominant range can be cultivated. This takes time, diligence, and patience, as the singer coordinates breath and strengthens the vocalis. Sostenuto singing is needed in both pieces, and the pairing is conducive to finding and maintaining the right amount of pressure needed in the body. Often with these two selections, singers are prone to pressing or pushing the voice. If this is the case, the micromovements of the thoracic-lumbar joint are helpful in releasing excess sub-glottic pressure. Both songs should promote a raised soft palate—the use of the incipient sneeze is helpful in maintaining and training this lift. The parlando aspect of the Sondheim piece is very useful in preventing over-modification of vowels or covering in Verdi's aria. Inversely, Verdi's aria requires a heightened awareness of laryngeal alignment. Any use of the tongue to change pitch or modify the space is incorrect and will result in vocal fatigue. The laryngeal alignment garnered through working on "Sempre libera" yields advantageous benefits for "Being Alive." The articulation of each informs the other in ways that streamline and simplify the singing and cultivate balance in the vocalis.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy	
Qualities	TonalityArticulation	ArticulationTempo	TimingContent	 Appropriate level of difficulty Teacher's overall impression of the pairing Pedagogical efficacy 	

15. Two songs that will pull at your heartstrings are Giacomo Puccini's "Donde lieta usci" from La bohème and Adam Gwon's "I'll Be Here" from Ordinary Days. Both songs center around the loss of a lover—in the former, due to terminal illness, and in the latter, due to the tragedy of 9/11. "Donde lieta" is more legato and dramatic in nature, but the vocal demands of "I'll Be Here" make for a compelling pairing with Puccini's aria. The tessiture are similar until the endings—Puccini's reaching a B-flat5, but "I'll Be Here" reaching a D5. A full, natural middle voice is needed for both pieces. "I'll Be Here" is more TA-dominant in production, which helps to balance the CTdominant production in "Donde lieta." Having to employ both registers (head and chest voice) in subsequent song pairings helps to connect kinesthetic awareness to the singer's breath and, therefore, generate greater flexibility of the respiratory muscles. The singer must also navigate the terrain of accelerando and rubato, as the tempo is malleable in both pieces. The text, which motivates the tempo changes, requires honest delivery and clear diction from the singer, as well as attention to syntax. The immediacy of text inherent in CCM repertoire helps to bring out more immediate expression in voce chiusa pairings, as well as elicit more natural communication. The same musical arc is present in both pieces, with the musical climax being followed by a softer and more inward melodic conclusion.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm Form		Pedagogy
Qualities	ArticulationTessitura	■ Tempo	■ Context/story	 Appropriate level of difficulty Teacher's overall impression of the pairing Pedagogical efficacy

16. "Dove sono" from W.A. Mozart's Le nozze di Figaro and "I'm Still Hurting" from Jason Robert Brown's *The Last Five Years* are both songs about grief over the loss of a spouse's love. Here the songs are paired due to their inherent differences rather than their similarities. Although both pieces have parlando sections—in the recitative in Mozart's, and throughout in Brown's they occupy opposite ends of the spectrum in terms of vocal production (Mozart's CT-dominant, Brown's TA-dominant). Learning these selections concurrently will cultivate greater balance of the muscles of respiration. After the lengthy recitative of "Dove sono," the formal arcs of the pieces are similar despite the stylistic variance. The repeat of the initial melodies is followed by an increasingly intensifying middle section, ending with the climax of the piece. Working in both CTdominant and TA-dominant ranges, respectively, with similar intensity yields a very balanced usage of the intrinsic laryngeal muscles. The parlando nature of "I'm Still Hurting" is very helpful in informing natural text flow in the recitative of "Dove sono." Singers will often take to oversinging the recitative, making a quasi-aria out of a text-derived section. Sometimes instruction against this is not enough, but this is where the pairing elicits bidirectional pedagogical efficacy. Through the text and delivery of "I'm Still Hurting," the singer can inform the recitative of "Dove sono." Although the harmonic landscapes are not evenly matched, the accompaniments share a similar texture that supports the vocal line. This may seem minor, but to a singer the texture of the accompaniment can evoke competition or collaboration. With the vocal demands inherent in the selections, having a subordinate accompaniment is very beneficial to breath-led line.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	ArticulationDynamics	ArticulationMeter	 Formal structure Accompaniment texture Context/story 	 Appropriate level of difficulty Teacher's overall impression of the pairing Pedagogical efficacy

17. "Ain't It a Pretty Night" from Carlisle Floyd's *Susannah* and "Climb Ev'ry Mountain" from Richard Rodgers's *The Sound of Music* are pieces that require a wide range, both emotionally and vocally. The pieces have a similar formal structure—"Ain't It a Pretty Night" varying with a recapitulation at the end. Both pieces climb in the range, which requires flexibility and strength from the breath muscles. It is very easy to push the breath in both pieces due to the emotional arc and musical response, but this must be avoided. A constant bloom is required in the phrasing, which requires a collaborative sensitivity with the accompanist. The thick texture of the accompaniments, the ceaseless forward pull, and the climbing vocal range make for dramatic sonic and emotional explosions that must be countered with lightness and flexibility in the respiratory muscles. This pairing requires self-control, as over-singing in either register can lead to an uneven scale and laryngeal tension.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	ArticulationContourDynamicsTimbre	■ Tempo	Formal structurePhrasingAccompaniment texture	 Appropriate level of difficulty

		•	Teacher's overall impression of the
		-	pairing Pedagogical efficacy

18. The musical expositions of mental spiraling found in both "Gretchen am Spinnrade" by Franz Schubert and "Losing My Mind" by Stephen Sondheim are reason enough for this pairing. But beyond thematic connection lies a symbiotic relationship that challenges a singer's endurance, creativity in repetition, and pacing. Although both songs occupy separate laryngeal dominant functions—thyroarytenoid for "Losing My Mind," cricothyroid for "Gretchen am Spinnrade" similar vocal demands are present. Each song begins by establishing the main musical theme. As the songs unfold, the iterations get increasingly challenging and higher within their given ranges. The danger here is starting out too heavy in production and causing laryngeal fatigue before the climax of the piece. Proper pacing of these selections is one of the pedagogical aims of the pairing. This requires a level of breath connection and control typically present in a more seasoned soprano (but perhaps lacking in a novice). The songs occupy the upper ranges of their respective registers, requiring poise within all points of alignment and inclusive awareness. The mounting harmonic tension in each piece can often inform a sensitive musician's physical reaction. Teachers must monitor their students for physical manifestations of this harmonic tension (and, if they present, correct them). There should be no tension in the body, the pharynx, the tongue, or the torso beyond what is experienced for appoggio. Planking exercises are good for diverting internal tension if release cannot be found while standing.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy	
Qualities	Harmonic landscapeArticulationDynamics	Duple meter	PhrasingTimingContent	 Appropriate level of difficulty Teacher's overall impression of the pairing Pedagogical efficacy 	

19. Richard Strauss's Lied "Allerseelen" and Frank Wildhorn's "Once Upon a Dream" from *Jekyll & Hyde* are both pieces on remembrance. A pianissimo top is called for in both pieces. Often, this kind of dynamic *painting* can lead to laryngeal and articulatory manipulation—and counteracting this impulse is the major reason for this pairing. The challenge of this pairing is to keep the three basic vocal events in line: the phonation should remain the product of breath meeting the vocal folds, the resonation the product of an uninhibited vocal tract, and the articulation the product of free and efficient movements of the tongue, lips, and teeth. Freedom at the base of the tongue is crucial to success in these pieces.

CQC:		Pit	ch	Rh	ythm	Fo	rm	Pe	dagogy
Qualit	ies	• • •	Articulation Dynamics Timbre	•	Meter Tempo	•	Content	•	Teacher's overall impression of the pairing Pedagogical efficacy

20. "Der Nußbaum" by Robert Schumann and "Follow Your Heart" by Mark Hollmann at first seem an odd pair, but beyond the stylistic differences, it is easy to find many shared qualities. The sweetness of both pieces is a combination of harmonic predictability, narrow tessiture that lie within speech-range, clear articulation, soft dynamics, and fragmented or short phrasing. Both pieces also share similar contours that have short upward arcs that descend gently. Great attention

must be paid to the articulation of the text—avoiding overly-mechanized delivery of consonants and maintaining an unencumbered vowel stream. A challenge that both pieces share is the avoidance of syllabic delivery. Much of the text-setting is syllabic and can easily lend itself to syllabic delivery—speaking the text first and finding the natural prosody of the line is a good starting point in these selections. As well, teachers might encourage their student to turn these songs into textual monologues before adding music. This will help to give naturalness and nuance to the syllabic melodic contour. These selections are great for cultivating a true legato line—making the journey between notes the priority 129 rather than worrying about overly-complex melodic movement. The short phrases also allow the singer to feel at ease with the breath—not pushing the normal limits of speech within the transition from speaking the text to singing the text.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	 Harmonic landscape Tonality Articulation Contour Range Tessitura Dynamics Timbre 	ArticulationTempo	Phrasing	 Appropriate level of difficulty Teacher's overall impression of the pairing

21. Mozart's "Das Veilchen" and Lin-Manuel Miranda's "Helpless" from *Hamilton* may not seem like a likely pair on the surface, but when looking at the details, their similarities are notable. Both pieces revolve around relationships—Mozart's an allegory for unrequited love, and Miranda's a snapshot of the beginning of a relationship. Both pieces are repetitive and feature many leaping

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¹²⁹ Berton Coffin, *Historical Vocal Pedagogy Classics* (Lanham, MD: The Scarecrow Press, Inc., 2002), 17.

intervals. The upbeat nature of these pieces is also striking, as both push forward as they unfold. The tessitura is slightly more condensed in the *Hamilton*, putting extra endurance-based demands on the singer. Finding nuance within the repetition of "Das Veilchen" and "Helpless" is also a requirement for the singer. Using these two pieces in tandem within the voice studio will help to yield a more balanced instrument and a singer that is versatile. The light belt of "Helpless" and the glittering melodic articulation help to develop semi-equivalent TA-dominant terrain that "Das Veilchen" develops in CT-dominant terrain. Both exhibit the same skills within their relative vocal productions and styles. The flexibility needed—mentally, physically, and stylistically—in these selections is a major pedagogical aim of this pairing.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	ArticulationContour	TempoRhythmic patterns	_	Pedagogical efficacy

22. Stefano Donaudy's "Luoghi sereni e cari" and Adam Guettel's "The Beauty Is" are a fitting match, as both feature sweeping lines and moments of speech-like delivery. Guettel's selection is more demanding in terms of rhythm, meter, and leaps, but Donaudy 's art song nearly matches it with vocal turns and inter-phrasal leaps. Both pieces feature the same tessitura, requiring a range well over an octave and CT-dominant production. Donaudy's piece does not feature an introduction, but the erratic and difficult entrance of "The Beauty Is" presents a similar experience (that is, a jarring one) due to the feeling of urgency in the opening. A blooming top is required for both pieces, as well as clear diction and attention to dynamic markings. Both scores have many instructions from the composer—adherence to these details is key for these pieces to stand out. A flexible and agile vocal instrument, paired with breath-led legato, are fundamental requirements of both songs. The benefit of pairing these pieces together is in the delivery of text. "After

experimenting with musical theatre sounds, classical sopranos return to their operatic repertoire with a sense of greater resilience and power, with more authenticity, and a more reliable integration of the entire singing range and an ability to 'speak' vowels with more ease and clarity." 130

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	ArticulationContourDynamicsRangeTessitura	■ Tempo	PhrasingAccompaniment textureContent	Appropriate level of difficultyPedagogical efficacy

23. "La promessa" by Gioacchino Rossini and "My White Knight" by Meredith Wilson are two pieces that feature CT-dominant production. Given the similarities between the two, pairing these songs especially benefits students who are not native speakers of Italian; that is, by working on these pieces in tandem, students can incorporate the expressive impulses cultivated in Wilson's musical theater selection into Rossini's lirica. Musical theater features an immediacy of text that much of the voce chiusa repertoire does not. The immediacy of text practiced in "My White Knight" is helpful in creating the same immediacy in "La promessa." These selections also feature leaps that traverse the upper passaggio for a soprano. The breath connection needed for maintaining line and for evenness across the registers is another pedagogical aim with this pairing. The selections feature duple meters with three-note rhythmic patterns throughout. Although the tessitura of "My White Knight" is lower, both pieces share a similar range, concluding with an A-flat5 that crescendos to a close. Formally, the pieces share structural similarities—ternary form that features a modified recapitulation of the A section. The ascending scalar and interval movement is another

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¹³⁰ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 29.

binding feature of these pieces. Flexibility within the torso and unobstructed alignment of the larynx are key to maintaining a light and free line that is associated with the timbre of these pieces. Pushing or heavy production must be avoided in these selections. The pieces share an inherent lightness of articulation and melody that displays of dynamic over-production would violate.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	 Harmonic landscape Tonality Articulation Contour Range Dynamics Timbre 	ArticulationDuple meterRhythmic patterns	Formal structurePhrasing	 Appropriate level of difficulty Teacher's overall impression of the pairing Pedagogical efficacy

24. "O falce di luna" by Ottorino Respighi and "What Good Would the Moon Be?" by Kurt Weill both feature expansions of musical boundaries—Respighi with his decadent influence, and Weill with his hybrid approach to musical theater. The jazz-inspired work of Weill features syncopation that melds nicely with Respighi's "O falce di luna." With the rise of the symphony orchestra during his lifetime, Respighi was not immune to such influences. Indeed, the accompaniment in the Respighi is clearly orchestral and demonstrates rich texture for an Italian art song. Respighi's incorporation of chromatic melodic movement makes his piece not only rhythmically difficult—featuring a 12/8 meter—but harmonically complex. Both pieces also share a climbing melodic line with weak beat stresses. The rhythmic and melodic demands of "O falce di luna" help to prepare the singer for the same attention to detail in Weill's "What Good Would the Moon Be?" Similarly, the jazz-inspired movement of Weill's melodic line helps to make the melody of Respighi's art

song less rigid. Working on these two pieces concurrently challenges a singer's musicianship and forces her to be attentive to the expressive and rhythmic details of the vocal line.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	ArticulationContourRangeDynamics	ArticulationRhythmic patterns	PhrasingTiming	 Appropriate level of difficulty Teacher's overall impression of the pairing Pedagogical efficacy

25. "Per pietà bel idol mio" by Vincenzo Bellini and "Climbing Uphill" by Jason Robert Brown are a surprising pair due to the vast differences in style between the two. While separated by almost two hundred years, the pieces share expressive qualities and treatment of the melodic line. Bellini's piece is exemplary of bel canto style. The narrator is quite forward and interrogates the suspicion of a lover. This is treated musically with charged, large leaps and dynamic swelling that give the narrator power and dominance in the dispute. Similarly, Brown's piece is borne of the contemporary musical theater style and portrays a narrator pointedly questioning why she is pursuing a musical career. In Brown's piece, the narrator uses an ascending belted line to convey the distress and frustration of the singer. Working on these two pieces concurrently not only sheds new light on the emotional interpretation of each, but also helps to build and strengthen both TAand CT-dominant productions in the soprano voice. The opportunity for mixed voice belting is also present in the musical theater selection. The rapidity of text and the need for clear and breathled articulation is an additional pedagogical aim of the pairing. Both pieces exemplify frustration on behalf of the narrator, making the importance of the vowel line key. Often when frustration is attempted in song, singers will resort to emphasizing the consonants. When this happens, the breath tends to become held or pressed. Improper emphasis on and articulation of consonants can cause a build-up of tension in both the breath and alignment. Encouraging the *musical line* to convey the frustration, rather than the articulators, will challenge, but ultimately benefit, the singer.

CQC:	Pitch	Rhythm	Form	Pedagogy
Qualities	TonalityArticulationDynamics	■ Tempo	PhrasingTiming	 Appropriate level of difficulty Teacher's overall impression of the pairing Pedagogical efficacy

CHAPTER 5

"In the search for beautiful and healthful singing, the singer or teacher does not need to invent a unique system of voice pedagogy. All technical maneuvers can be codified into existing methodologies." The use of pluralistic styles within the studio is rooted in two systems of pedagogy that, when implemented simultaneously, yield greater overall vocal function. I propose that combining CCM and voce chiusa practices will achieve increased vocal capabilities. Moreover, the complementing systems, if used properly, will result in healthier vocal technique. This combinatorial approach is relatively new in the literature of vocal pedagogy, yet both systems are fluid in application due to the common thread they share—the use of the breath. In this chapter, I make the argument that pluralistic application of CCM and voce chiusa systems are functionally compatible and effective in the development and balance of the intrinsic laryngeal muscles. I also will make a case for the incorporation of each respective system for singers who have already been trained in one track or style specialization. I continue to find that, at any stage in the development of the singer, the pluralistic, systematic approach in the studio is advantageous—for growth, for vocal function, and for the demands of the career.

Although there is great knowledge to be gained in reading literature on vocal pedagogy, the fact remains that singing is a skills-based artform.¹³² The mind may understand each function of the singing method—acoustical changes and formants, alignment and language—but it is through the practice of these functions that true understanding and technique are molded.¹³³ Like athletic training, the singer must commit herself to practice, routine, and performance. Unlike athletic training, the muscles that we engage are only accessed through the mind, not physical

¹³¹ Miller, Training Soprano Voices, 7.

¹³² McCoy, Your Voice, 76.

¹³³ Miller, Structure of Singing, xix.

force. Vocal pedagogy is a feat of mental awareness, endurance, capacity, and energy. It must be made known that patience is key to the process of growth in singing. Coordination does not always present itself with a "yes" or "no" apparent to the singer—this means that we must rely on the teacher's ear and recording technology to confirm good processes in the early stages. Similar to the student, the teacher must also be patient—trusting that the process of building the voice will deliver the final desired result—beautiful and healthful singing.

For teachers it is imperative that we practice what we teach. As noted above, knowledge alone is not sufficient in this skills-based artform. For teachers, like myself, who have been trained from the start to singing only one system or style, this may seem a daunting or impossible endeavor. In my studio I was receiving more and more students looking for diversity of repertoire. Similarly, I was being asked more and more to offer a variety of styles in my performing career. This incongruous experience from my formal training led me to introspectively unpack my unconscious biases. "LeBorgne and Rosenberg note that within the pioneering generation, CCM pedagogy relies on 'conventional wisdom and empirical observation combined with the research that does exist' which must be perpetually refined." So I began lessons with a teacher that helped me understand that I was capable of learning a new system of singing, and through those lessons I came to realize the vast benefits of training with combined styles. I continue to train in the pluralistic method I propose here. Although I had never allowed myself to have thyroarytenoiddominant production past an E-flat4, 135 I found that a healthy belt beyond that barrier is within each singer's capabilities (whether old or new to this system), and that my cricothyroid production became balanced, richer, easier, and healthier when training simultaneously with voce chiusa and

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¹³⁴ Benson, *Training Contemporary*, 146 (quoting Wendy D. LeBorgne and Marci Rosenberg, "Belting pedagogy: An overview of perspectives," in *The Vocal Athlete* (San Diego: Plural Publishing, 2014), 255).

¹³⁵ Miller, Training Soprano Voices, 26.

CCM systems. In my studio, the incorporation of both voce chiusa and CCM systems has fostered quicker understanding of breath management in students and healthier growth in the singer's practice and application outside of the studio. This kind of evidence-based teaching and learning of pluralistic styles in the studio is something I plan to continue researching and implementing.

"Primum non nocere: the first thing is not to do harm." This ancient medical dictum is of primary importance when dealing with the human voice. The vocal folds are mighty, but we must remember they are small, ¹³⁷ and we are only given one pair—for life. In order to sing freely, we must have an understanding of our physiology and anatomy. ¹³⁸ In order to healthfully apply voce chiusa and CCM systems, we must understand what to expect of our voices. I would like to continue to uncover the fluidity between these systems of voice pedagogy throughout the rest of this chapter. I will highlight the connections between the combined styles in the following areas of singing: the even scale, passaggio, registration, timbre, range, and intrinsic laryngeal function.

The Even Scale

Having been trained for years under the tutelage of a Richard Miller protégé, I find that Miller's concepts arise when I discuss vocal pedagogy. I believe that much of his teaching is also applicable to the pluralistic method that I use. Miller impresses upon the singer the need to build an even scale. 139 This is very true, but if we tell a singer to have an even scale, possible misconceptions could fall into play as the student attempts to "even-out" her voice. Teachers must find a way of addressing all major areas of singing with a balanced approach—one that will not lead to fixation on a particular outcome or concept. Although it is of great importance for a teacher to understand the functions and physiology of the voice, the terminology employed should be

¹³⁶ Miller, Structure of Singing, dedication page.

¹³⁷ McCoy, Your Voice, 107.

¹³⁸ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 3.

¹³⁹ Miller, Structure of Singing, 150-160.

conducive to a healthy process. For example, if I were to hand the keys of a manual car to someone learning to drive and instruct them, "drive home," I would be operating under the assumption that they would know where home is, how to start the car, how to fasten a seat belt, how to change gears, how to signal, how to use the mirrors, how to use the clutch, and how to drive according to the rules of the road. Similarly, in our teaching, we should always instruct in a way that builds a process, a technique in the students (or ourselves). If we talk in "result" terminology, we are telling a student our sensation rather than the means that will lead her to proper function. We must also avoid sound becoming an idée fixe—this could lead to a generation of sound-seekers, an unstable foundation for any technique, as sound is liable to change. In young singers, and even professionals, the manipulation of sound could compromise their practice. Signs of this will be evident in their anatomical alignment, their reaction to the change of acoustical space, and their laryngeal manipulation. Similarly, many young singers will come in with a beautiful voice but not know how to use it. Teachers must instill the power of habit, process, and proper coordination rather than the result. Manipulation of sound¹⁴⁰ is often masking the true capabilities of a singer and must be addressed as such.

The introduction and training of the source (breath) and the instrument (body) must be coordinated in order to connect the CCM and voce chiusa systems. Rather than looking for a sound, we are instilling a process. It is important to note the three basic vocal events: (1) phonation (breath meeting the vocal folds); (2) resonation (vibrating breath meeting space); and (3) articulation (breath meeting the articulators). The breath is the primary function in all three of the basic vocal events—which are in their cardinal order. Without breath we cannot have phonation,

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¹⁴⁰ Miller, Structure of Singing, 151.

¹⁴¹ My thanks to my colleague, Dr. Louima Lilite, McGavern-Montgomery Professor of Music, Oklahoma Baptist University, for his work clarifying this idea for our students and for me.

resonation, or articulation. Every instrument has a vibrator and a source of vibration. ¹⁴² For the piano, the vibrator is the string, and the source of vibration is the hammer that strikes it. For singing, the vibrator is the meeting of the vocal folds, and the source is the breath. This means that singers are aerodynamic, myoelastic instruments. ¹⁴³ The voice is able to move seamlessly throughout the range with just the work of the intrinsic laryngeal muscles and the breath. In order for this truth to manifest into form, where the breath and the intrinsic laryngeal muscles are the only elements actively changing the pitch, the coordination of the body cannot be neglected. True union of the breath and body has the ability to essentially create one seamless voice. On paper and in the mind's understanding, this makes great sense and sounds simple enough. But this requires relinquishing control. The need to control is one of many reasons beyond function that leads us away from the fact that singers are a glissando instrument. We unconsciously create divisions in the voice, controlling every aspect of sound until we are divided into a million little pieces.

The role of breath support and Body Mapping should be introduced in the early stages of training along with the three basic vocal events. Body Mapping provides a foundation for singers to build their personal vocabulary for singing. This makes for an easier transition when applying the concepts to their own singing. The ability of singers to locate, determine the size and structure, and define the function of each part of their singing anatomy is key to building a process. Here, learning rates differ widely, as kinesthetic awareness and mental focus vary among individuals. Body Mapping provides tangible, anatomical truths that can be taken to the practice room and applied with little mistranslation. Metaphor is great, but only if it is translated accurately, whereas

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¹⁴² McCoy, Your Voice, 27.

¹⁴³ McCoy, Your Voice, 36.

¹⁴⁴ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 4–7.

Body Mapping is key to developing a consistent, healthy, reliable technique. Proper coordination of the body will more quickly reveal a singer's vocal abilities.

Recently, I had a student that struggled with breathing—in singing and in life. The shallowness of her breath astounded me. She would come into lesson and talk about how she fainted in class, and often she would ask to sit down in lessons due to dizziness. Through Body Mapping we were able to find that she had a misconception about where her lungs were located and how they functioned in accordance with the rib cage. After a few weeks of reinforcing the truth behind her physiology, her ability to breath in lessons vastly improved, and her fainting spells and dizziness vanished. She also found that she had an upper extension to her voice that soared to a G6. After two semesters I was able to sit with her and discuss what had led her to the previous misconception about her lungs and the function of breathing. She claimed that she was operating under the premise of "breathing into the belly," 145 which led her to protrude her abdominals and flex outward when singing. This tension is what caused a freeze in the muscles of the torso, the intercostals, the pharynx, and the tongue. Subsequently, the body did not create enough of a vacuum to repopulate the lungs with air upon the opening of the glottis. She was taking away the subglottic pressure needed to initiate the Bernoulli effect of the vocal folds. "A literally-minded singer might hear the instruction to breathe into the belly and try to force air down through the esophagus to the stomach."146 A mere idea, a mere perception corrected through Body Mapping, was what stood between her and a flourishing soprano extension—and, more importantly, a healthy, breath-filled life.

A singer is not just an instrument made up of lungs and vocal folds—her instrument is her entire body. Body Mapping must be in constant dialogue with our three basic vocal events. After

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¹⁴⁵ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 110.

¹⁴⁶ Malde, Allen, and Zeller, What Every Singer, 110.

this has been established, the work of unifying the registers (achieving the even scale) can begin. When discussing the unification of scale, there is nothing, physically, that needs to be unified. By unification, I mean that a singer must coordinate changes in timbre and functions of the intrinsic laryngeal muscles without significant shifts. 147 This is approached, first, through alignment of the body and, therefore, alignment of the larynx. Often a singer, when meeting a shift in her range, will accommodate this change in terrain by adjusting the body or the internal muscles that attach extrinsically to the larynx. This will cause a significant change of resonance and timbre, while also indicating physically the discomfort that is being experienced. This reaction is much more apparent in young singers, but even many mature and seasoned singers will yield to these impulses. In accordance with the alignment, the breath must have increased energy, but not overly-increased subglottic pressure. Hallmarks of a young singer are breathiness or subglottic over-pressurization (through the pulling up and in of the abdominals). Careful attention must be given to the use of the term "breath support," as many singers take to the idea of "support" and flex the abdominals or tighten the muscles of the neck in an attempt to actively comply with instruction.

The breath and anatomical alignment of both CCM and voce chiusa systems is congruent. In the combinatorial application of voce chiusa to CCM systems, a healthy belt can be achieved. Yes, a belt that is not influenced by voce chiusa breath and anatomical alignment can be well-received in the world, but it is not repeatable indefinitely. The trend of ignoring vocal pathologies by replacing the injured singer with a younger version of herself must end. "A common pitfall in belting is when singers try to make what is loud even louder. They do not realize that the room does all the work." "Our approach to belting technically has the same principles as our approach

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¹⁴⁷ Miller, Structure of Singing, 132.

¹⁴⁸ Benson, Training Contemporary, 156.

to all genres of music."¹⁴⁹ "[E]xtensive work in a heavier chest register must be balanced by the working in the opposite register. This helps minimize the risk of getting vocally stuck [or unbalanced]."¹⁵⁰ Through the pluralistic systems, a repeatable, healthy product can be achieved in the thyroarytenoid production.

The concept of unifying or creating an even scale can be fully understood intellectually, but this does not mean that application is guaranteed. Singing is a skills-based art form. We must practice the coordination of the concepts in our actual singing. That is why training a voice with a primary instructor is key to a successful technique. The ear of the teacher is invaluable. Much of what is transmitted in lesson is through the body language, trust, and communication of the teacher. There is an ancient axiom that I think pertains here: "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." It is excellent to supplement teaching with pedagogical readings, Body Mapping readings and illustrations, and listening assignments, but the seed of growth and development is planted in the studio.

Registration

Registration is an area of voice training surrounded by a "semantic minefield," with many troops fighting on seemingly different sides yet for the same cause—unification of the voice. Generations of vocal pedagogues, from Manuel Garcia to Richard Miller, have developed methods of identifying and dealing with registers. Despite the numerous methodologies that exist, one fact seems to dominate them: registers are a laryngeal function. In order to understand more fully why this component of vocal training is so prominent in pedagogical discourse, we must define register. Scott McCoy offers a concise definition: a register is made up of consecutive pitches that all have

¹⁴⁹ Benson, Training Contemporary, 156.

¹⁵⁰ Benson, Training Contemporary, 158.

¹⁵¹ McCoy, Your Voice, 64.

the same timbre and production.¹⁵² His definition is important to note due to recent developments in vocal pedagogy that confirm that resonance is the second contributing factor in registration. Before the advent of Electroglottology (i.e. *Voce Vista*), Manuel Garcia foreshadowed the effects of both laryngeal and resonance properties in his definition of register. Garcia claimed that the register was a series of consecutive "homogenous" sounds produced by one mechanism that differed from the surrounding groups of homogenous sounds produced by another (differing) mechanism.¹⁵³ So what happens when we encounter a change from the contiguous pitches that exhibit the same physiological manner and timbre? In classically trained professionals, the unification or blending of registers is the goal. This would give the listeners the perception that they have an even scale throughout their range. But this aurally perceived evenness belies the intricate physiological coordination required to effectuate a smooth connection of pitches.

There are two passaggi points (primo and secondo) that correspond to changes in laryngeal function—particularly the intrinsic laryngeal muscles.¹⁵⁴ These transitionary areas between the registers, born of intrinsic laryngeal muscle function, will require formant tuning (acoustical adjustments).¹⁵⁵ Formant tuning is an acoustic filtering through the vocal tract. The vocal tract extends from the glottis to the lips. The balance of the fundamental frequency within formant 1 (F1), the vowel formant (F2), and the singer's formant (F3, F4, F5) will not allow the singer to remain the same through the extent of the voice. (When looking to adjust the formants through vowels, it is good to note that back vowels are acoustically lower in upper partials, and front vowels are acoustically higher in upper partials).

¹⁵² McCoy, Your Voice, 64.

¹⁵³ Coffin, Historical Vocal Pedagogy, 20.

¹⁵⁴ Miller, Structure of Singing, 132.

¹⁵⁵ McCoy, Your Voice, 72.

Something that must be mentioned in discussing registration is the breath. Breath is the universal solvent for any vocalization, registration event, or communication. Registration is not just an acoustical event; it is a coordination of subglottic pressure, unimpeded airflow, laryngeal function, and formant tuning. As McCoy describes,

Formant tuning is approached very differently in belting, which generally relies on speech-like vowel production. At the point in the scale where the [voce chiusa] singer begins to close vowels to aid the transition from [TA- to CT-dominant production], belters choose to open vowels in a strategy that associates [harmonic 2] with F1, which would be regarded as a register violation for operatic tenors and baritones. Linking H2 with F1 helps maintain [TA-dominant production] with ascending pitch, and further enhances the brilliant, edgy quality characteristic of belting.¹⁵⁶

When incorporating the pluralistic method of voice pedagogy, the female singer will generally have a predisposition to cricothyroid- or thyroarytenoid-dominant production. The weaker of the two registers must be addressed first. Marci Rosenberg goes so far as to say, "The instrument must be balanced on both ends before I address belting." Often singers predisposed to TA-dominant production will have trouble letting go of tendencies such as over-thickening the vocal folds. This will manifest in a large timbral disparity in the area between the primo and secondo passaggio. In this case, the singer must practice the lengthening of the head voice as low as B3. As well, the singer must be encouraged not to overly thicken the vocalis—this is a short-cut designed to mimic the work of a strengthened vocalis. Rather than keeping the objectives a mystery, it is good to inform the singer of the "deconstruction" that is taking place, advising the singer that the purpose is to efficaciously rebuild the vocal mechanism with balanced and healthful technique. Similarly, keeping the "vocal utterance" connected to the impulse to sing, 158 the outpouring of a need to express, must not be separated in the technical preparation and training of

¹⁵⁶ McCoy, Your Voice, 76.

¹⁵⁷ Benson, Training Contemporary, 158.

¹⁵⁸ Hemsley, Singing & Imagination, 19–20.

the voice. Belting "comes out of very deep emotional expression and cannot be taken separately from the environment and culture in which a singer grows. Belting effectively is dependent on a person's anatomical structure, personality, and tonal perception. It can be developed but it takes time and patience." The act of *music making* must always be in our process and methodology. "We need to be on 'pressed vocalization alert' due to a fine line between belting and hyperfunction of the throat muscles, which can cause fold dysfunction or muscle tension dysphonia. High-level belting increases tension on the vocalis music." Encouraging a spectrum of belting rather than one timbral choice is key to preventing a pressed and injury-prone belt. The ability to add or mix in CT-dominant production to TA-dominant production is the flexibility that pluralistic style can cultivate.

Inversely, the singer with CT-dominant production will often have trouble bringing up the chest voice beyond E-flat4. Utilizing a light belt (TA-dominant production) will help to usher in a longer range of the belt without the use of nasal resonance. The results are for long-term gain, not short-term gratification. Patience here is a theme that should be insisted upon each week. As the singer finds more balance in the CT- and TA-dominant productions, the timbre will begin to take on a more "beautiful" aesthetic—many initial ventures into the building of a weaker register have a period of transition from sound to *beautiful* sound. To the singer this may feel like a leap of faith; teachers who practice this symbiosis of register balancing themselves will have a keener ear when listening for what is developing in their students.

One contributing factor to the emergence of audibly-separated registers has to do with the misconception of how we change pitch. Many singers are reliant (consciously or unconsciously) on the action of the back of the tongue to change pitch. This kind of extrinsic laryngeal

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¹⁵⁹ Benson, Training Contemporary, 152.

¹⁶⁰ Benson, Training Contemporary, 152.

manipulation will make the tilt of the larynx and the use of the cricothyroids much more mechanical. The intrinsic laryngeal muscles must be trained as the only means of changing pitch. "Pitch control also requires an exquisite interplay between laryngeal tension and breath pressure that is closely interrelated with intensity control. In very general terms, the vocal folds must be elongated for pitch to ascend and shortened for pitch to descend." Careful attention should be paid to vocalizing with a piano. When every note that is sung is doubled on the piano, I have seen that it leads many singers to believe that their voices should emulate the same articulation between pitches—as if vocal folds were actual cords, and there was a hammer for each pitch. The attempt to control pitch change rather than train the intrinsic laryngeal muscles in accordance with the breath will lead to multiple, discernable registers among singers. Instead, using the piano to give the starting pitch only in practice is a way for singers to listen to their own legato and hone pitch change borne of breath and thought rather than extraneous muscle engagement.

The sharing of knowledge and objective(s) is important to the training of a singer as well. I found that I was never told *how* to change pitch—relying on good reviews or approval of those around me for confirmation of my performance. Much of my pedagogical training was shrouded in mystery—in order to keep hierarchical divisions between student and teacher. This mystery pervaded my understanding of technique—understanding *what* the anatomy of singing was but not *how* to use it. I began to unconsciously change pitch with the help of the back of my tongue, as the need for control and accuracy became my concern. I was in disbelief when, at a summer program, a coach told me I needed to start over—that the coloratura I was singing was being produced with the tongue and not the breath/intrinsic laryngeal muscles. I could not believe that my desire to be accurate had led to inaccurate technique. I had been mistaking my articulator (tongue) for a

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¹⁶¹ McCoy, Your Voice, 123.

¹⁶² McCoy, Your Voice, 125.

phonator (the vocal folds). If I had engaged in discussions regarding this concept, I could have caught my error before it became habit—eliminating years of re-training.

Another factor in the emergence of separate registers is the aural perception of one's own voice. Singers like to hear themselves sing—as humans we like to control and alter things according to our judgments (or those of others). Often times when the tongue is pulled back, the singer is able to hear amplification due to the inverse "megaphone" that is produced by the vocal tract alteration. Rather, the tongue should be completely released from the base, laying over the bottom molars and spilling out onto the bottom lip where the dry and wet tissues meet. This will ensure that tension is released in the entirety of the tongue and not exchanged for pushing the tip of the tongue into the bottom, front teeth. Upon correction of the pharyngeal and oral manipulation that occurs when the tongue is pulled back, singers may be unhappy with the loss of immediate amplification and resort back to their original tension—usually a product of praise at an early age when over-darkening. As to reversion must be addressed in each lesson until the student is able to release the tension. There is an "awkward" phase where the student/singer has to retrain the ear to what free and resonant singing is, but with the use of recording technology and persistent instruction, the singer will be more likely to adjust and grow.

The varying sensations¹⁶⁵ that occur throughout the vocal range are an important aspect to address in relation to the unification of registers. What seems simple on paper is very complex in terms of development. Ingo Titze states that the length of the vocal tract is "the primary determinant for uniform scaling of formant frequencies." A misconception of the singer is that the vocal tract and surrounding structures should experience an even sensation, that this

¹⁶³ Miller, *Training Soprano Voices*, 75.

¹⁶⁴ Thank you to my anonymous student who bravely shared her honest experience.

¹⁶⁵ Miller, Structure of Singing, 115.

¹⁶⁶ Miller, Training Soprano Voices, 20.

experiential aspect coincides with an even scale. This myth must be "debunked" early in training. As we sing, we produce frequencies. These frequencies vibrate at different rates—the higher we sing, the faster the frequency; the lower we sing, the slower the frequency. The secondary vibrations of those frequencies can lead a singer to question any change of sensation. I have found that, with many of my students, there is an unconscious goal to have the same secondary vibrations experienced throughout the entire range. When this happens in women, their tendency is to bring the heavier production up—causing extreme strain. It does not help that the trends of female singers today largely revolve around TA-dominant production that borders on vocal fry. In men, when this happens, the body's reaction will cause the head and larynx to lift. This alignment alteration, along with open, wide vowels, leads to cracking and other unpleasant sounds. Thus, we find that registers are not a functional aberration as much as they are a mental apparition.

In voce chiusa methodology, the chest voice for a female singer should not exceed E-flat4 ("the Melba point"), 168 and more commonly should transition at C4. The elongation of the chest voice to B4 or even D5 is where significant CT stability increases in the octave above. As the two styles (CCM and voce chiusa) fuse, the belt should not be forced to those ranges; rather, the same voce chiusa systems of a raised soft palate, an aligned larynx, a proportional amount of subglottic pressure, aggiustamento, and gola aperta are to be utilized. A light belt can be a good primer for the full belt in the early stages of implementation. The female singer should treat the ascent of the chest voice beyond F#4 like that of a tenor—adjusting the vowel to tune the formant, allowing the tongue to front in order to keep the vocal tract open. The reason that female singers can function like tenors in the elongation of the belt range is due to the fact that they both are singing with the same laryngeal function at the same octave. Usually the tenor high-C and the soprano high-C are

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¹⁶⁷ Miller, Training Soprano Voices, 68.

¹⁶⁸ Miller, *Training Soprano Voices*, 26.

an octave apart (tenori in chest voice and soprani in head voice), but when the female singer is singing in chest voice, she is in the same range as the tenor. "Because belting is an acoustic phenomenon, the belt range does not vary according to voice type and is virtually the same for men and women." ¹⁶⁹ "A belt is a mixed resonance and as such has dynamic flexibility like any other healthy vocal utterance." ¹⁷⁰

Passaggio

The passaggi of the human voice not only indicate various vocal registers, but they also reveal each individual's potential voice type. Passaggio means "passage" in Italian. This terminology has been used for centuries in vocal pedagogy and is a staple to voce chiusa teaching, though it is also relevant to CCM teaching. The passaggi serve as the bridge or passage between two registers. There are many theories that surround the number of registers, the implications of registers, and the blending of registers. With developments in vocal science, I am sure that many more will evolve over time. But the function of the voice remains the same. How we coordinate the breath and body will lead to healthful, balanced, even singing—and maintaining this balance through the passaggi will yield an even scale.

The primo passaggio, or first transition, typically occurs where the easy speaking voice range ends. The primo passaggio essentially is a change in the physiological function of the intrinsic laryngeal muscles and alteration of timbre. The key to negotiating this event is found in the two elements that define register—laryngeal function and resonance.¹⁷² Again, we must remind

¹⁶⁹ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 48.

¹⁷⁰ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 48.

¹⁷¹ McCoy, Your Voice, 64.

¹⁷² "Often teachers of singing assume that 'openness' characterizes all good singing, when in fact, the lowering of the epiglottis may be part of the 'covering' action. No extensive study on the contribution of the epiglottis to 'covering' has yet been undertaken. However, fiberoptic observations seem to indicate that where there is the omega-shaped epiglottis (the so-called 'infantile' epiglottis) there is frequently the inability in the adult male to achieve *voce coperta* ('covered voice') with ease. It is probable that limited participation of the epiglottis (at a nonproprioceptive level, of

ourselves of the three basic vocal events: phonation, resonation, and articulation. The only way for the three events to occur is through the breath. Similarly, as we negotiate the primo passaggio, breath must be the undercurrent to the change of laryngeal function and resonance. In terms of laryngeal function, the intrinsic laryngeal muscles move from thyroarytenoid-dominant to cricothyroid-dominant. The cricothyroids are responsible for lengthening the mass of the vocal folds, allowing for higher pitches, and drawing together the cricoid cartilage and thyroid cartilage anteriorly. The change in resonance is borne of the change in laryngeal function, as well as the acoustic phenomenon of phonating air in the vocal tract. The modification of vowels allows for formant tuning, and the increased energy of the breath (not subglottic pressure) will help to equalize the transition. "Classical vocalists experimenting for the first time with speech-based singing may feel like they have moved from a mansion to a studio apartment. However, there can be a distinct technical advantage to being able to introduce more chest into the soprano middle voice and to finding those speech-like vowel spaces. The reinforced resonance helps to bridge the primary passaggio and evens the scale."¹⁷³

The secondo passaggio, or second register transition, will typically emerge a fourth above the primo passaggio in male voices and anywhere from a fifth to a ninth above the primo passaggio in female voices. Knowing that the cricothyroid muscles are dominant at this shift in register and that timbral changes will occur can often lead a singer to the conclusion that they can manipulate those muscles and effects by means of direct control. The ample time spent around this area of vocal training is, in large part, due to the fact that we cannot command direct, conscious control of the muscles of the larynx isometrically. Rather, it is in the coordination of breath pressure and

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course, just as is the case in vowel differentiation) is necessary to filter out the strident timbre traditionally associated with *voce aperta* (*voce bianca*)." Miller, *Structure of Singing*, 151.

¹⁷³ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 52.

formant tuning through which evenness can be achieved. 174 Many young singers will unintentionally indicate the second passaggio through increased subglottic pressure, a byproduct of contracting abdominals and tensing of the pharynx. One way to remedy this tendency is to allow the range that is being approached to inform the lower range that proceeds it, which facilitates an easier transition through the secondo passaggio for both male and female voices—bringing more CT-dominant production down in the range to make for smoother dynamic equilibrium. These acoustical accommodations are going to be best served through a released mandible at the TMJs and a relaxed tongue (at the base). The idea of "holding back a sneeze" or "singing through the first part (only) of a yawn" will aid in the maintenance of the soft-palate lift and prevent air leakage from the nasal cavity. In order for the mandible and tongue to find true release, the buccinators, temporalis, and masseters must also surrender undue tension. Due to a singer's resonating tract being malleable, terms such as "open throat" must be rooted in physiological understanding rather than metaphor. The pharynx, upon engagement, only serves one function—to swallow. ¹⁷⁵ The idea of opening the throat, in a young singer, can lead to contraction of the pharyngeal constrictors, thereby narrowing the vocal tract and not allowing for proper formant tuning. Going back to the alignment of the atlanto-occipital joint (the skull on the spine) will allow for proper balance of the larynx, a lengthened vocal tract, and neutral surrounding muscle engagement. Manipulation of this alignment can induce the "swallowing" contraction of the pharynx and yield a pressurized and precarious sound. After the pharynx finds release upon phonation, the tongue and mandible acquire independence of articulatory movement, and the ideal alignment for the larynx is balanced at the atlanto-occipital joint.

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¹⁷⁴ McCoy, Your Voice, 69.

¹⁷⁵ McCoy, Your Voice, 107.

The expanse between the primo and secondo passaggi is called the zona di passaggio. 176 Navigating this range will require an increase in breath energy as the laryngeal function changes from the primo passaggio (TA-dominant) to the secondo passaggio (increased CT-dominant). Here is where much discussion takes place in the studio—students wanting the feeling of the zone to disappear and delegating the work of the breath to alterations of alignment and forced TAdominance. Terminology should be shared, but the use of unifying language should be employed rather than separating language. "Working playfully without self-judgement, experimenting with optional colors and aesthetic choices can result in greater ease, smoother transitions, more confidence, and a fuller palette of expression."177Vowel modification or aggiustamento is used in transitioning between passaggi. A cohesive way to maintain clarity of diction and acoustical balance can be found in the underlying sound of each vowel—something I call the "ah" space. This primal cry¹⁷⁸ or call is innate to every person (with exceptions for vocal disorders or injury). The mere process of phonation filtering through the vocal tract generates a fundamental sound that informs every vowel. "Ah" space is a position of a "neutral" or open throat. From this all vowels can emerge. Maintaining this idea of the "ah" space can allow for greater intelligibility and greater ease through the zona di passaggio. "Ah" space can also be very helpful for female singers that find it difficult to maintain the integrity of diction at higher pitches (above the secondo passaggio). Gradual vowel modification will be helpful here as formant tuning will become more volatile— F0 able to exceed F1.¹⁷⁹ Therefore, we employ [a] to realign the resonance.

Each voice type has a tendency toward specific locations of the passaggi. It is from these locations that both male and female voice categories can be defined. The passaggi points serve as

¹⁷⁶ Miller, Structure of Singing, 116.

¹⁷⁷ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 53.

¹⁷⁸ Benson, Training Contemporary, 155.

¹⁷⁹ McCoy, *Your Voice*, 69–73.

a demarcation of Fach. There are many subdivisions (Fachs) of the standard SATB, but I will highlight the primo and secondo passaggi points of the following: soprano, Eb4 and F#5; mezzosoprano, E4 and E5; contralto, G4 and D5; tenor, D4 and G4; baritone, B3 and E4; bass, Ab3 and Db4. Through the identification of the passaggi points, upon maturation, the voice type can emerge. Further knowledge of the Fach system is necessary for the professional world today, but we must remember that the Fach system was originally created to categorize operatic roles, not voices. Many singers are capable of singing multiple Fachs—which is evident upon the development of the even scale. Singers are also capable of singing in multiple *styles* by using pluralistic methodology in the studio.

Timbre

The definition of register has been covered previously but bears repeating: a register is a series of adjacent, continuous pitches that are produced with the same physiological mechanism, which yield a cohesive timbre throughout the given pitches. Although pedagogues do not agree across the board on the number of registers, I will draw on three traditional names for registers that are often used today: chest, middle, and head voice. It is important to note that the names are derived from the secondary vibrations associated with them. Register names are not cohesive throughout pedagogy, and their mistranslation has serious ramifications for understanding certain teachings. Historically, the register names also do not equally apply to both genders—for instance, historical and pedagogical readings will easily exchange head voice for falsetto or falsetto for head voice, depending on sex. Just as Body Mapping is able to promote a process-based practice, rooted in anatomical truth, 183 registers should turn to function in order to clarify processes of the intrinsic

¹⁸⁰ Miller, Structure of Singing, 117–35.

¹⁸¹ Shepard, What the FACH, 28–31.

¹⁸² McCoy, Your Voice, 64.

¹⁸³ Conable, Structures and Movement, 13–14.

laryngeal muscles. I agree with McCoy that talking in terms of function (TA, CT, CA) prevents confusion, but for our purposes, I will interchangeably use traditional designations: chest, middle, and head voice.

Chest voice, pertaining to the secondary vibrations experienced in the chest, corresponds to the speech-inflection range that typically is produced until encountering the primo passaggio. The muscles that are dominant in this register are those of the thyroarytenoids. The use of the thyroarytenoids can produce what some (*e.g.*, William Vennard) call the heavy mechanism. This heaviness is the experience of thicker and shorter vocal fold engagement, and a higher rate of closed quotient glottal occlusion.

The middle voice corresponds to the contraction of the cricothyroids as pitch ascends from the chest voice. This gives increased resistance to the thyroarytenoids. Middle voice lies between chest and head voice. Female voices experience a longer middle voice range than male voice. In the female middle voice, the range is a balance of head (CT) and chest (TA) vocal functions. For men, the middle voice is the zona di passaggio. Although full thyroarytenoid function can traverse this range alone, the incorporation of the cricothyroids is key to a balanced ascent and building of the head voice. This leads to a gradual and smooth transition between middle and head voice—inviting vocal fold lengthening needed in the head voice into the middle voice.

Head voice lies above the secondo passaggio. The lengthening of the vocal folds (CT) defines much of the timbre of this register. Male voices can experience a head voice of four to five notes, whereas women may be able to extend it seven notes before reaching the flageolet. Head voice has been used much less in current musical output, leaving students timid about exploring

the timbre of the head voice.¹⁸⁴ Incorporating listening assignments of the great singers helps to adapt students' ears to the sonic information that abides in the head voice.

A singer's timbre is the quality of resonance, the color and weight of the voice defined by physiological build. 185 It was once believed that looking at a singer's stature (length of neck, height, and bone structure) would indicate the voice type of that singer. Due to the number of exceptions to the initial correlation, it is no longer the route by which such judgments are made. 186 A singer will likely have a predisposition to effort-neutral singing in a specific register (chest, middle, or head) after the aforementioned areas of technique have been built. It must be noted that manipulation easily can be embedded in a singer, masking her potential voice type. But once the foundational elements have been addressed, a singer's true, individual timbre is more likely to emerge. 187 The baritone timbre is robust, rich, and often highly connected to the qualities of speech. A tenor's timbre may be just as robust and rich, but there are higher overtones, upper partials that are a part of the harmonic sequence that distinguishes it from a baritone. Since much of the range of a baritone overlaps with that of a tenor, it is in the timbre that discernment must be made and tested. The ranges of a soprano and a mezzo similarly experience overlap, but the qualities of the soprano will be heard in the spin of the head voice at the top and above the staff. If a soprano has anatomically thicker vocal folds, the weight and richness of the timbre can be misleading—often being mistaken for a mezzo-soprano. Here the passaggi points are of primary significance demarcating the registrational shifts that can lead to the categorization of the voice type. Initial ease/difficulty of the top is not necessarily a primary indicator of whether a singer is a soprano or

¹⁸⁴ Hemsley, Singing & Imagination, 21.

¹⁸⁵ Miller, Training Soprano Voices, 3.

¹⁸⁶ Miller, *Training Soprano Voices*, 3.

¹⁸⁷ Miller, *Training Soprano Voices*, 56–57.

mezzo-soprano. Voice type can be deciphered through its combinatorial properties of timbre, passaggi, and tessitura.

When alternating between CCM and voce chiusa styles, timbre has a significant impact on the overall technique. The ability of a singer to have a diversified range of timbral variety is crucial to the marketability of the emerging artist. ¹⁸⁸ I propose that the use of voce chiusa and CCM concurrently in the studio helps to elicit a wider range of timbral variety. "[E]ven though running is part of a gymnastics floor routine, it would be unlikely that an Olympic gymnast would train exclusively with a running coach when he/she is required to perform backflips on a balance beam. This has become even more relevant as newer" ¹⁸⁹ music and increased demand of CCM style necessitate a hybrid singer. Moreover, the use of voce chiusa and CCM systems concurrently increases endurance, timbral variety, longevity, and healthful vocal technique.

Intrinsic Laryngeal Muscle Function

As she incorporates pluralistic methodology into her vocal training, a singer must pay close attention to coordinating, balancing, and conditioning her intrinsic laryngeal muscles. Since we cannot control the muscles directly, ¹⁹⁰ we must have an excellent system of breath management to develop these functions. The balance of subglottic pressure, anatomical alignment, physical abnormalities, mental tenacity, and process-focused practices are the work of the pluralistic-style singer. As I stated in the opening of the chapter, "In the search for beautiful and healthful singing, the singer or teacher does not need to invent a unique system of voice pedagogy. All technical maneuvers can be codified into existing methodologies." ¹⁹¹ The use of pluralistic styles within the

¹⁸⁸ Benson, *Training Contemporary*, 151.

¹⁸⁹ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, xiii.

¹⁹⁰ McCoy, Your Voice, 79.

¹⁹¹ Miller, *Training Soprano Voices*, 7.

studio are rooted in two existing systems of pedagogy that, when implemented simultaneously, yield greater overall vocal function.

CHAPTER 6

Singers today are expected to be stylistically versatile in their profession. The industry increasingly expects singers to be able to sing both traditional, voce chiusa repertoire and CCM repertoire with excellence. 192 Within the unspoken curriculum of vocal training, I offer a new opportunity for development of intrinsic laryngeal muscle function—the use of pluralistic style in the voice studio. "[A]t the 2017 International Congress of Voice Teachers in Stockholm [presenters shared] some very enlightening findings in a National Association of Teachers of Singing survey of students graduating with Bachelor of Music, Master of Music, and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in voice performance." 193 "Almost 60 percent of the professionals currently working who presumably spent upwards of one to two hundred thousand dollars for their education do not feel their training adequately prepared them for a successful performance career." ¹⁹⁴ I myself can identify with the lack of preparation in cross-training. In my career I have turned down many opportunities for performing CCM literature due to my lack of formal, academic training in that area. Although new career trends played a part in my initial research, the quest to diversify my stylistic facility led me to discover the use of pluralistic style as a means of balancing the intrinsic laryngeal muscles. Through the strategic pairing of voce chiusa and CCM styles, a symbiotic relationship is struck—one that helps to balance the use of the intrinsic laryngeal muscles. Much fear has surrounded the use of non-traditional training within academic vocal studies, yet beyond the fear there is an effective and healthful pedagogical methodology. 195

Through the creation of a catalog, I have paired each traditional, voce chiusa repertoire selection with a CCM repertoire selection that shares overlapping qualities important to greater

¹⁹² Benson, *Training Contemporary*, 208–15.

¹⁹³ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 28.

¹⁹⁴ Spivey and Saunders Barton, Cross-Training, 28.

¹⁹⁵ Benson, Training Contemporary, 54–67.

vocal growth. The songs in each pairing are not meant to be equivalent; rather, through the inherent differences between the repertoire, greater function of the vocal mechanism can be achieved. The song pairings are meant to be used concurrently in the voice studio. When the songs are used together in training, singers can garner greater vocal function. To streamline the incorporation of pluralistic style pairings in the studio, I began a resource, this annotated catalog, of pedagogically semi-equivalent vocal style analogies, with a focus on the soprano Fach. The songs included in this document were paired according to their equivalence in the *unspoken curriculum* and their variance in style. The hope is that each pairing can address the need(s) of the developing singer as she grows in her musicianship, while also approaching CT- and TA-dominant function of the intrinsic laryngeal muscles with balance. The purpose of the catalog is to facilitate the use of pluralistic style (voce chiusa and CCM) in training and to integrate their combined pedagogical methodologies in service of increased vocal health and development.

In the future I aim to aggregate a catalog of pairings for each major voice type: soprano, mezzo-soprano, tenor, baritone, and bass-baritone. I also plan to hold a study on my combinatorial method that can give more empirical data on the outcomes of using pluralistic style in the studio, with an emphasis on vocal technique and development of the intrinsic laryngeal muscles. This will be geared toward the Evidence-Based Vocal Pedagogy studies that are emerging. The vocal mechanism contains "complex structure and functions [that] are a true miracle of nature. Understanding its anatomy will lead to more efficient teaching—teaching based on accurate physiological principles, not mythology and wishful thinking." To this end, I am interested in the development of the vocalis muscle (the body of the vocal folds) of CT-dominant, voce chiusa trained soprani when incorporating CCM repertoire in their daily training. I have found in my own

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¹⁹⁶ McCoy, Your Voice, 131.

singing (as a CT-dominant, voce chiusa trained soprano) that adding CCM repertoire to my daily practice has resulted in increased vocal function, timbral color, dynamic ability, and breath connection. Additionally, the belting emphasis has increased the abilities of my upper register and created a more even scale throughout the voice. "Quantifying art rarely provides clear-cut results," but through the use of voice science, I hope to find a way to study the results of using combined pedagogy. "The increased understanding of the voice will supplement and enhance previous research and provide teachers of voice a rationale for methodology in the voice studio, and we must continue to seek out information to better understand pedagogical implications for managing these vocal athletes." 198

In this document, I offer a lens into my own pedagogical approach to the catalog, but the catalog is meant to be incorporated as each teacher sees fit. Although the goals of instruction may be the same, the person who is delivering instruction is rarely the same. The teacher should allow his or her own experiences to inform the incorporation of pluralistic styles. The catalog is meant to be a resource that can be employed within existing methodologies. The "new" pedagogical element of this catalog is in merging "high" and "low" art—which, when qualitatively combined, create a flexible, individual, balanced, and healthy singer. Although many excellent vocalises exist to "exercise" the voice, I find using the medium (repertoire) as the method (pedagogical implementation) retains our message as singers. ¹⁹⁹ As aforementioned, the role of the singer as a communicator is not neglected in my methodology. That is why repertoire was a fruitful door for employing existing methodologies in a new and pedagogically effective way—maintaining the need for storytelling while balancing the intrinsic laryngeal muscles. The benefits of using these

¹⁹⁷ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 311.

¹⁹⁸ LeBorgne and Rosenberg, *The Vocal Athlete*, 311.

¹⁹⁹ Marshall McLuhan, "The Medium is the Message," chap. 1 in *Understanding Media: The Extension of Man* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1964), 7–21.

vocal style pairings within the unspoken curriculum are multifaceted—training flexibility between styles, adding to the current unspoken curriculum, ²⁰⁰ keeping storytelling at the center of the methodology, and cultivating greater vocal development and health. The hope of this project is to empower singers and teachers to explore diversified repertoire pairings that promote intrinsic laryngeal muscle balance. Implementation of pluralistic style should not be forced. "The vast majority of classically oriented voice teachers probably choose to specialize in that singing style and repertoire because it is what they know and love." Appreciation and love for the music we teach should ultimately inform our pedagogy.

²⁰⁰ Patricia Nelson, Ph.D (Associate Professor of Music Education, Oklahoma Baptist University), interviewed by the author, March 27, 2021.

²⁰¹ McCoy, Your Voice, 77.

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APPENDIX A

CATALOG: Undergraduate Soprano

English Art Song	Composer	CCM Pairing	Composer
1. Sure on This Shining Night	Samuel Barber	I Don't Need A Roof	Andrew Lippa
2. The Silver Swan	Ned Rorem	Poor Wandering One	W.S. Gilbert
3. My Life's Delight	Roger Quilter	Much More	Harvey Schmidt
4. Heart We Will Forget Him	Aaron Copland	Children Will Listen	Stephen Sondheim
Post-20th Century	Composer	CCM Pairing	Composer
5. Nachtigall	Alban Berg	Green Finch and Linnet Bird	Stephen Sondheim
6. A Piper	John Duke	The Finer Things	Paul Gordon
7. Gleich und gleich	Anton Webern	Patience	Peter Mills
8. Otherwise	William Bolcom	Send in the Clowns	Stephen Sondheim
Mélodie	Composer	CCM Pairing	Composer
9. L'invitation au voyage	Henri Duparc	The View from Here	Ryan Scott Oliver
10. Aurore	Gabriel Fauré	Inside Out	Stephen Lutvak
11. Violon & Fleurs	Francis Poulenc	Youkali	Kurt Weill
12. Beau soir	Claude Debussy	Falling into You	Jason Robert Brown
Aria	Composer	CCM Pairing	Composer
13. Mein Herr, Marquis	Johann Strauss	By Strauss	George Gershwin
14. Sempre libera	Giuseppe Verdi	Being Alive	Stephen Sondheim
15. Donde lieta	Giacomo Puccini	I'll Be Here	Adam Gwon

16. Dove sono	W.A. Mozart	I'm Still Hurting	Jason Robert Brown
17. Ain't It a Pretty Night	Carlisle Floyd	Climb Ev'ry Mountain	Richard Rodgers
Lieder	Composer	CCM Pairing	Composer
18. Gretchen am Spinnrade	Franz Schubert	Losing My Mind	Stephen Sondheim
19. Allerseelen	Richard Strauss	Once Upon a Dream	Frank Wildhorn
20. Der Nußbaum	Robert Schumann	Follow Your Heart	Mark Hollmann
21. Das Veilchen	W.A. Mozart	Helpless	Lin-Manuel Miranda
Italian Art Song	Composer	CCM Pairing	Composer
22. Luoghi sereni e cari	Stefano Donaudy	The Beauty Is	Adam Guettel
23. La promessa	Gioacchino Rossini	My White Knight	Meredith Wilson
24. O falce di luna	Ottorino Respighi	What Good Would the Moon Be?	Kurt Weill
25. Per pietà bel idol mio	Vincenzo Bellini	Climbing Uphill	Jason Robert Brown

APPENDIX B

CUMULATIVE QUALITIES CHART

Categories	Qualities
Pitch	 Harmonic landscape Tonality Articulation: patter, parlando, language, legato, staccato, flow Contour of melody: leaps, step-wise motion, etc. Range Tessitura Dynamics Timbre
Rhythm	 Articulation Meter Tempo Rhythmic patterns
Form	 Formal Structure Phrasing Timing/length Accompaniment: texture Story/context/content
Pedagogy	 Underpinning stylistic influence Appropriate level of difficulty Teacher's overall impression of the pairing Pedagogical efficacy of the pairing (promote growth bidirectionally)

APPENDIX C SHEET MUSIC FOR CATALOG REPERTOIRE

Sure on this shining night

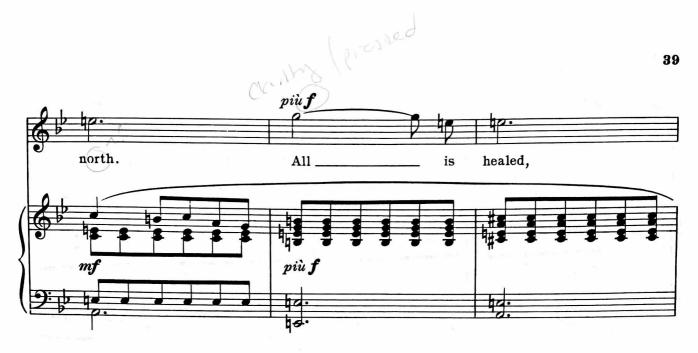
James Agee* Samuel Barber, Op. 13, No. 3 Andante J=50 Of star-made night Sure on this shin-ing molto espress. Piano* p molto legato con pedale Kind This shad-ows round, ness must watch for me side the ground. The late year lies down the

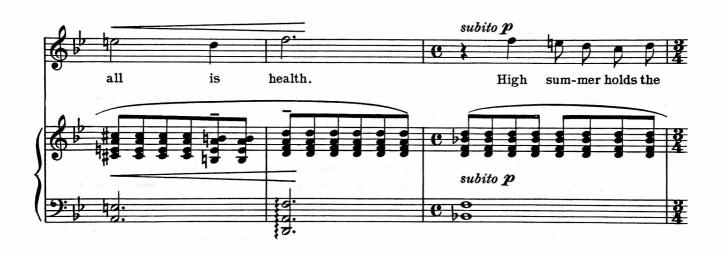
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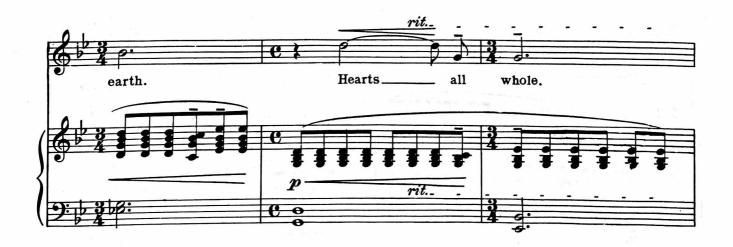
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^{*} From "Permit Me Voyage". Used by permission of Yale University Press, Publishers.

^{**}An orchestration by the composer is available on rental.









From: "Big Fish (Musical)"

I Don't Need a Roof

from the musical Big Fish

by

ANDREW LIPPA

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I DON'T NEED A ROOF

from the musical Big Fish

Music and Lyrics by ANDREW LIPPA



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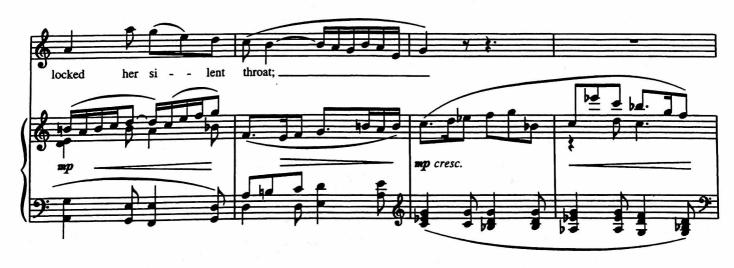
The Silver Swan

ORLANDO GIBBONS

NED ROREM







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No. 8. "Poor wandering one!" Solo and Chorus

Mabel and Girls











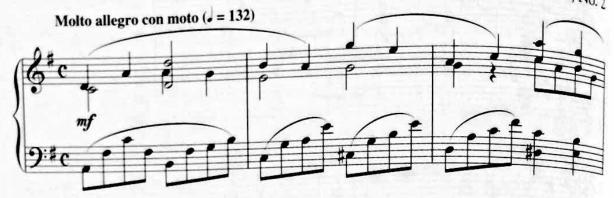


To the memory of my friend, Mrs. Cary-Elwes

MY LIFE'S DELIGHT

from Seven Elizabethan Songs, Op. 12 original key

Words by Thomas Campion Music by Roger Quilter Op. 12, No. 2







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MUCH MORE from The Fantasticks















5. Heart, we will forget him



Grace note on the best

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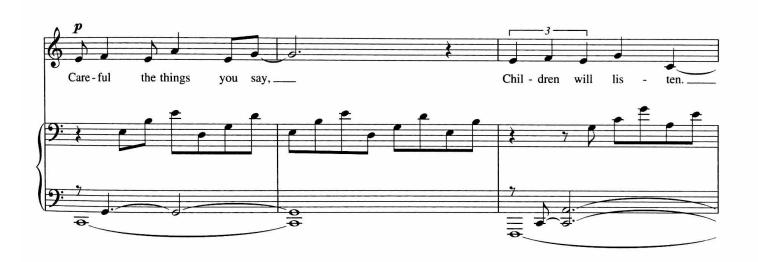


CHILDREN WILL LISTEN

from Into the Woods
Original Key

Music and Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM







An ensemble number in the show, this song has been adapted as a solo.











DIE NACHTIGALL

(Theodor Storm)



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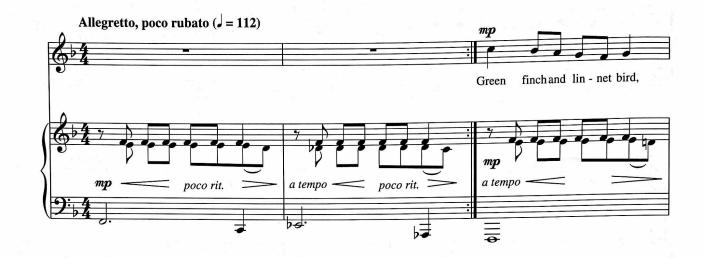
*) siehe Anmerkung Seite 32

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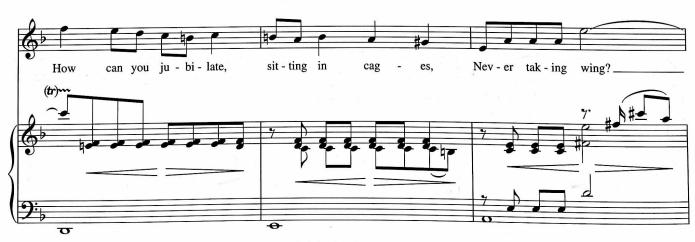
GREEN FINCH AND LINNET BIRD from Sweeney Todd

Original Key

Music and Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM



















A Piper



^{*}The coloratura passages at the beginning and at the end of this song may be omitted by the singer, in which case the small notes should be added to the accompaniment.

^{**}Words used by special permission.











From: "Jane Eyre: The Musical"

The Finer Things

by

PAUL GORDON

Lyrics by: JOHN CAIRD and PAUL GORDON

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THE FINER THINGS

Music and Lyrics by PAUL GORDON Additional Lyrics by JOHN CAIRD



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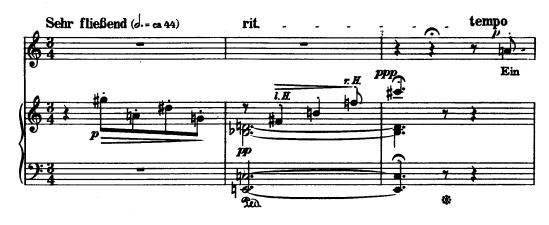




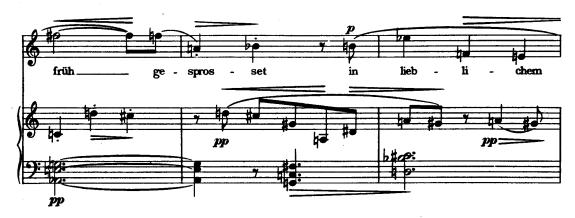
GLEICH UND GLEICH

(Goethe)

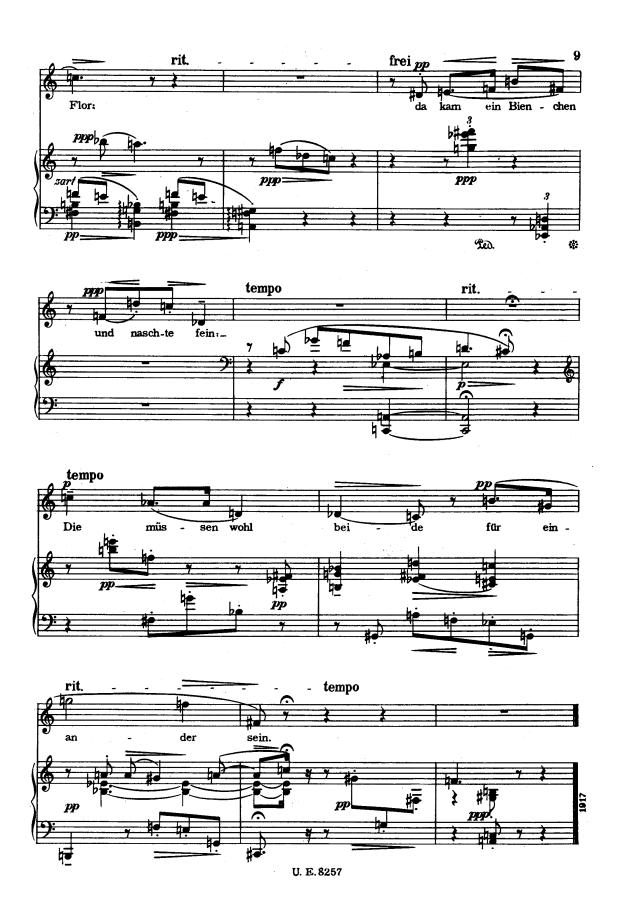
Anton Webern, Op. 12 Nr. 4







U. E. 8257



Piano/Vocal

Patience

7

ILLYRIA

Music & Lyrics by PETER MILLS

Cue: (Viola)

VIOLA: And they die even as they grow to perfection.

ORSINO: Good night, Sebastian.

(Exit ORSINO)









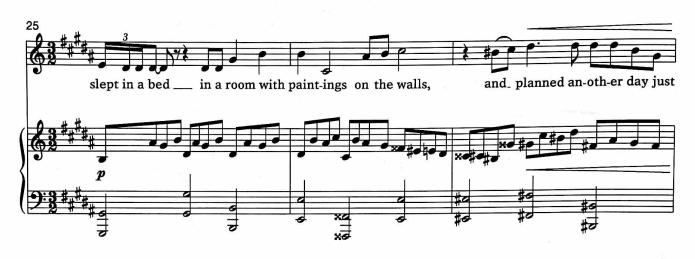












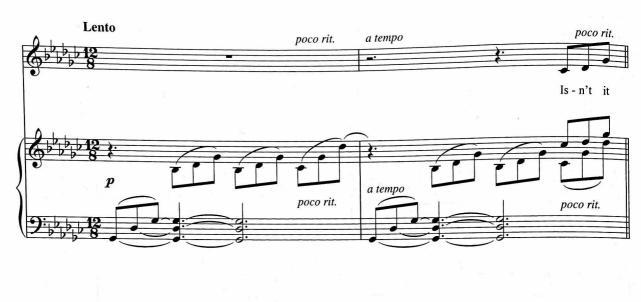




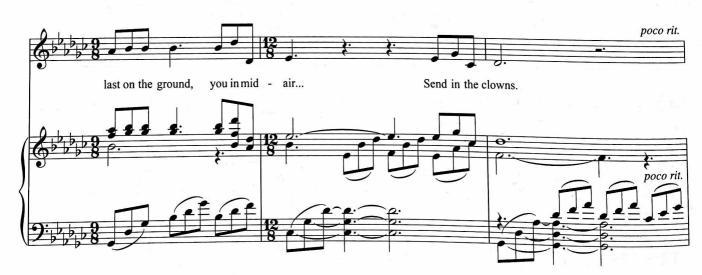
SEND IN THE CLOWNS from A Little Night Music

Transposed Key

Music and Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM







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L'INVITATION AU VOYAGE

MUSIQUE DE POÉSIE DE HENRI DUPARC CH. BAUDELAIRE (1) VOIX ÉLEVÉES Presque lent Doux et tendre CHANT Mon en . Presque lent PIANO _ fant,_ douma sœur, Songe . D'al ler _ ceur vivre

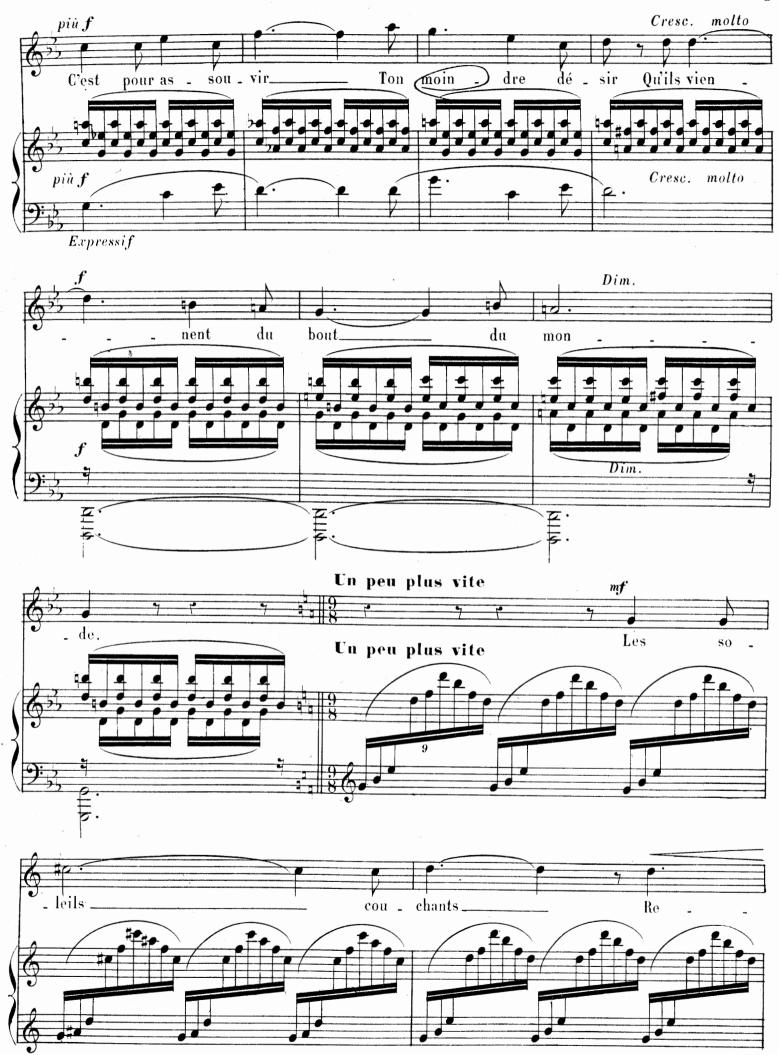
(1) (Chez CALMANN-LEVY Éditeur)



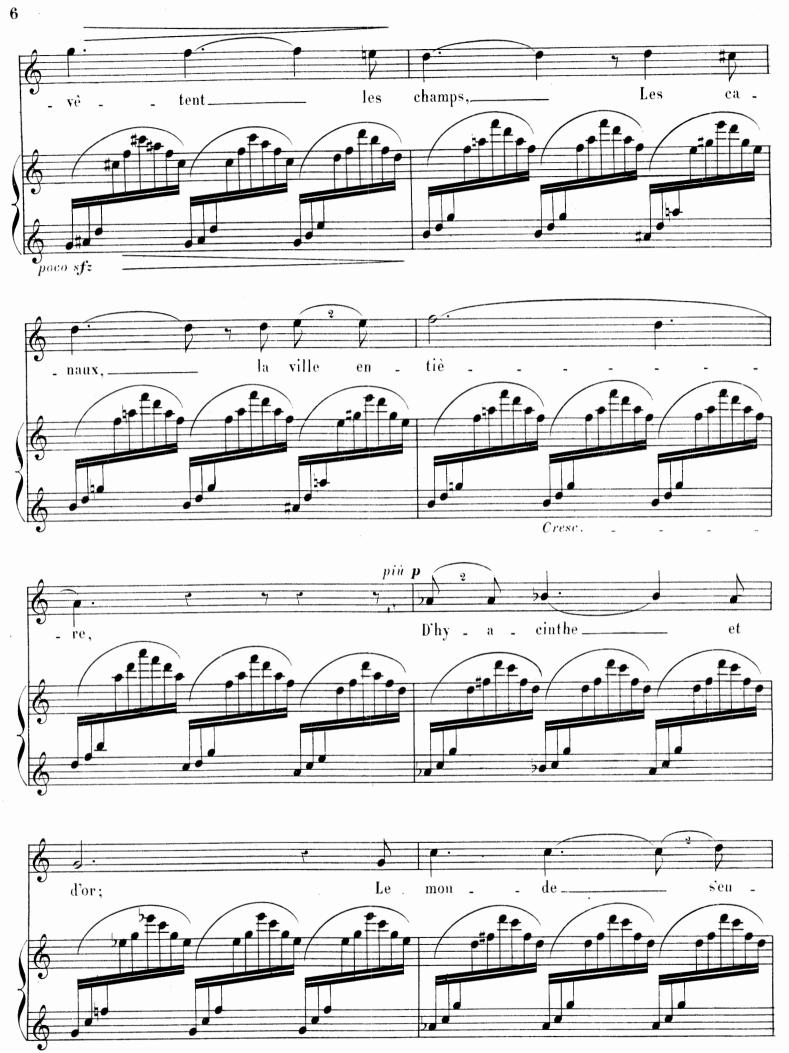




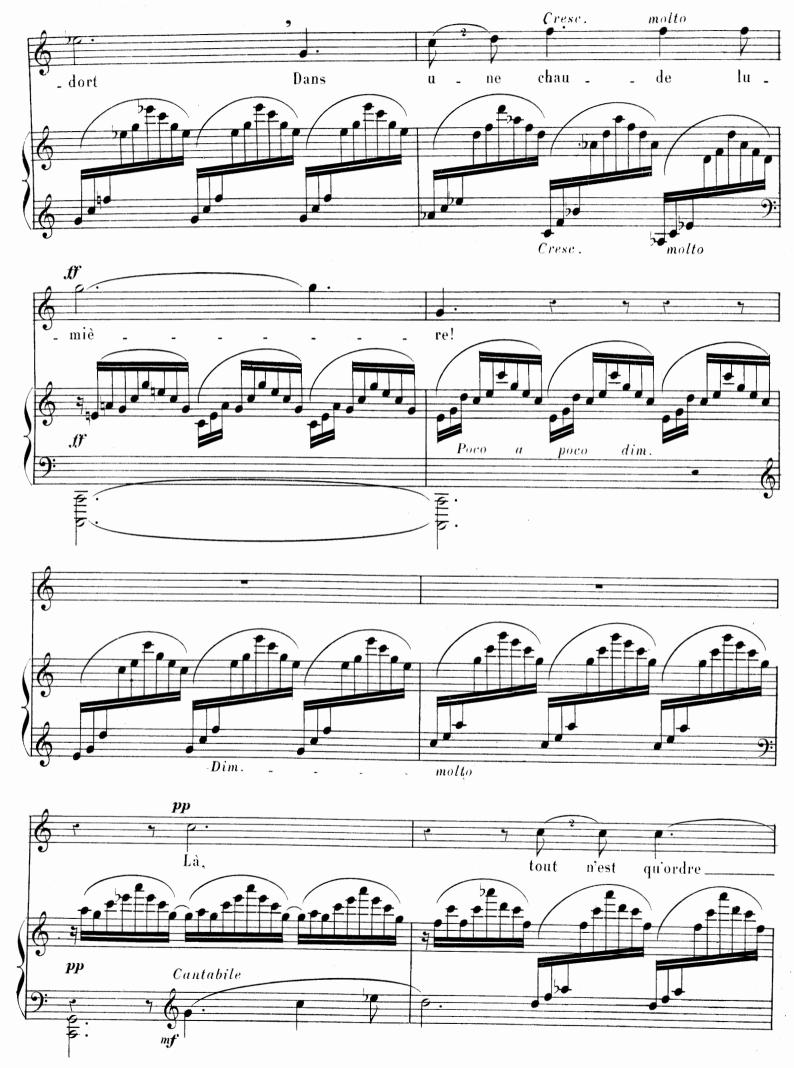
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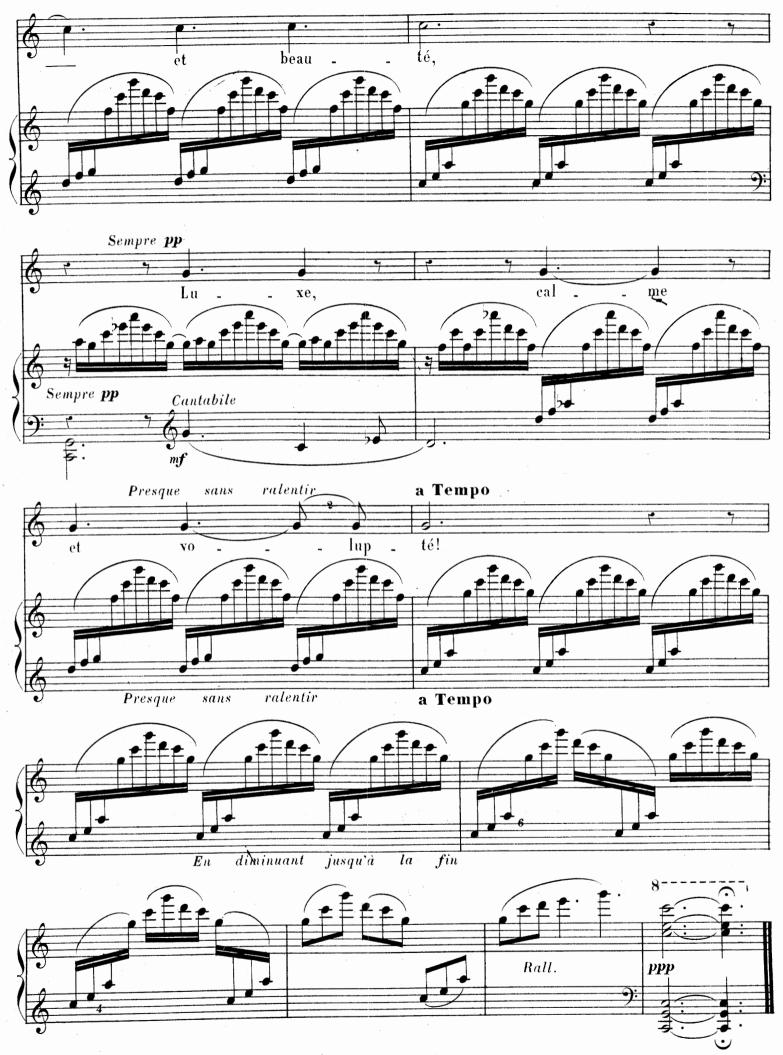
R.L. 5/07670 & Cie



R. L. **5060 & C**^{ie} 178



R. L. 5999 & Cie



R. L. **5060** & C^{ie}

From: "Darling"

The View from Here

by

RYAN SCOTT OLIVER

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from Darling

THE VIEW FROM HERE



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Aurore

1884 poem by Armand Silvestre

Op. 39, no. 1 Dedicated to Madame Henriette Roger-Jourdain. Published by Hamelle, 1885; second collection, no. 12. First performance, Société nationale de musique, December 13, 1884, Marguerite Mauvernay.

Aurore

Des jardins de la nuit s'envolent les étoiles Abeilles d'or qu'attire un invisible miel, Et l'aube, au loin tendant la candeur de ses toiles, Trame de fils d'argent le manteau bleu du ciel.

Du jardin de mon cœur qu'un rêve lent enivre S'envolent mes désirs sur les pas du matin, Comme un essaim léger qu'à l'horizon de cuivre Appelle un chant plaintif, éternel et lointain.

Ils volent à tes pieds, astres chassés des nues, Exilés du ciel d'or où fleurit ta beauté Et, cherchant jusqu'à toi des routes inconnues, Mêlent au jour naissant leur mourante clarté.

Dawn

From the gardens of night the stars are flying away, Golden bees attracted by an invisible honey, And the dawn, extending the whiteness of its cloth in the distance, Weaves with sliver threads the blue cloak of the sky.

From the garden of my heart intoxicated by a slow dream My desires fly away upon the steps of morning, Like a light swarm called in the copper horizon By a plaintive, eternal and faraway song.

They fly to your feet, those stars chased from the clouds, Exiled from the golden sky where your beauty flourishes And, seeking unknown paths toward you, Mingle their dying light with the dawning day.

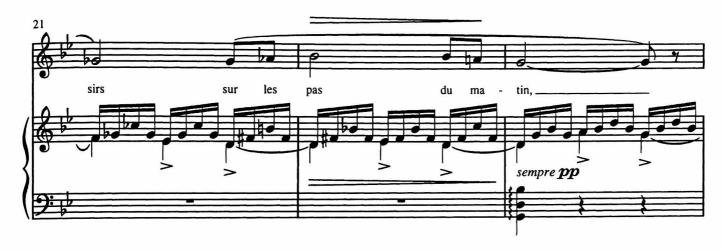


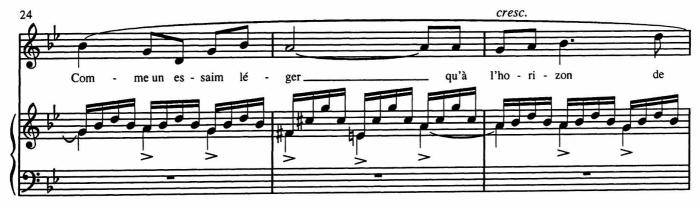


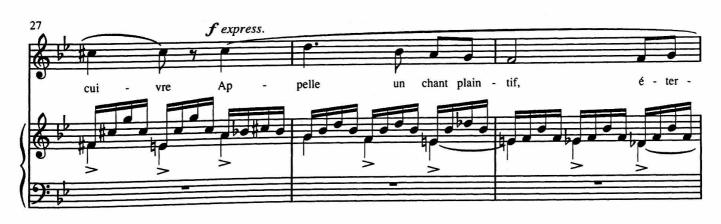


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rê - ve lent en i - vre S'en - vo - lent mes dé -













From: "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder"

Inside Out

by

STEVEN LUTVAK

Lyrics by: ROBERT L. FREEDMAN and STEVEN LUTVAK

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INSIDE OUT

Lyrics by ROBERT L. FREEDMAN and STEVEN LUTVAK

Music by STEVEN LUTVAK



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V. Violon

LOUISE de VILMORIN

FRANCIS POULENC



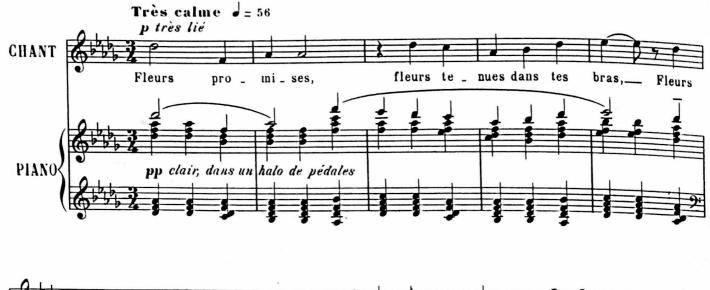




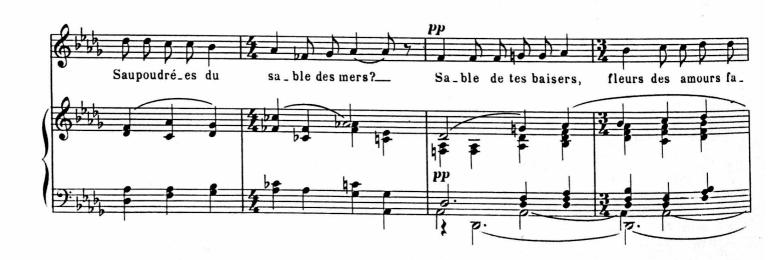
VI. Fleurs

LOUISE de VILMORIN

FRANCIS POULENC









и. с. 12206 в ст

Youkali

by

KURT WEILL

Lyrics by: ROGER FERNAY

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YOUKALI

Lyrics by ROGER FERNAY

Music by KURT WEILL



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Beau soir

Paul Bourget (1852-1935)

Claude Debussy (1862-1918)

Some sources date this song 1877/78; however Rohinsky dates it 1882, and Cobb suggests 1883 as a likely year for its composition. Bourget's poem is found in *Les Aveux II*, first published in 1882; "En voyage", no. VII, in *Dilettantisme*. Published by Vve E. Girod 1891; Fromont, 1919; Jobert, n.d. Arranged for violin and piano by A. Bachmann (Jobert, 1909); for orchestra by H. Mouton (Jobert, 1926); and for cello and piano (Jobert, 1923). Debussy composed "Beau soir" at twenty or twenty-one years of age, and before his journey to Rome in 1884 as winner of the Prix de Rome. It was not published until 1891, the year before the premiere of *Pelléas et Mélisande*. It is difficult to recognize much of Debussy's characteristic musical style in this early mélodie. He does, however, tip his cap to Massenet with supple, graceful vocal phrases. See "Les cloches" for information on Bourget.

Beau soir

Lorsque au soleil couchant les rivières sont roses, Et qu'un tiède frisson court sur les champs de blé, Un conseil d'être heureux semble sortir des choses Et monter vers le cœur troublé.

Un conseil de goûter le charme d'être au monde Cependant qu'on est jeune et que le soir est beau, Car nous nous en allons, comme s'en va cette onde: Elle à la mer, nous au tombeau.

Beautiful evening

When at sunset the rivers are rose-tinted And a warm breeze shivers across the wheat fields, A suggestion to be happy seems to emanate from all things And rises towards the restless heart.

A suggestion to savor the pleasure of being alive While one is young and the evening is beautiful For we shall go, as this wave goes: It to the sea, we to the tomb.









From: "The Bridges of Madison County (Musical)"

Falling Into You

from the Broadway Musical The Bridges of Madison County

by

JASON ROBERT BROWN

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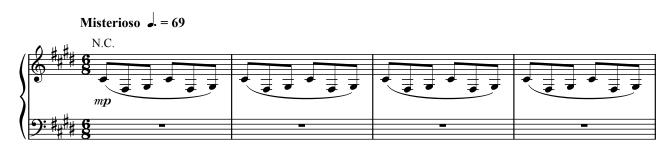
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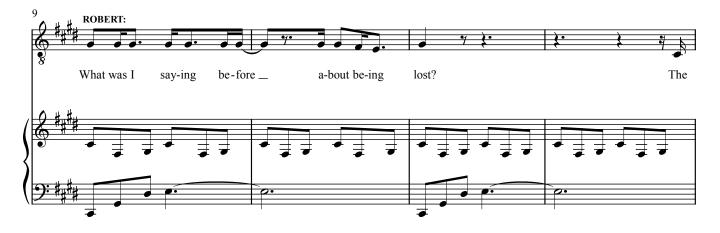
FALLING INTO YOU

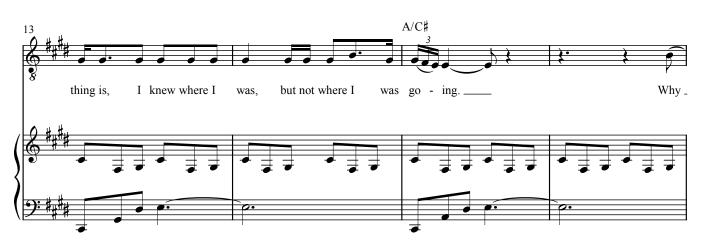
from the Broadway Musical The Bridges of Madison County

Music and Lyrics by JASON ROBERT BROWN









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Mein Herr Marquis

DIE FLEDERMAUS

Johann Strauss











From: "Nice Work if You Can Get It"

By Strauss

by

GEORGE GERSHWIN

Lyrics by: IRA GERSHWIN

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BY STRAUSS

Music and Lyrics by GEORGE GERSHWIN and IRA GERSWIN Tempo di Valse Viennoise Bm765 Am765 E9 D9 Gm765 C9 Α p Bm765 E7 Asus Am with the of Broad - way! . Be way sic Bm765 Asus Am off Ber Oh, with your Irv ing lin!

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Ah! forse è lui... Sempre libera

LA TRAVIATA

Giuseppe Verdi



















The cut is traditional for stand-alone performances of the aria. $245\,$













BEING ALIVE

from Company



* Add small sized top note second time only.

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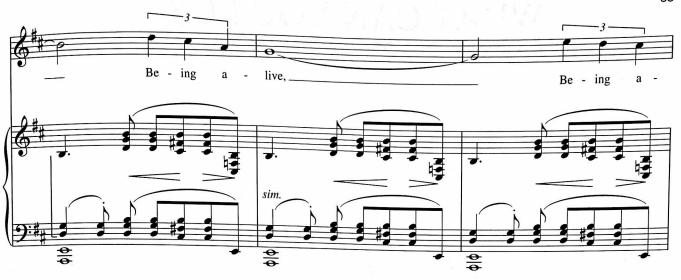


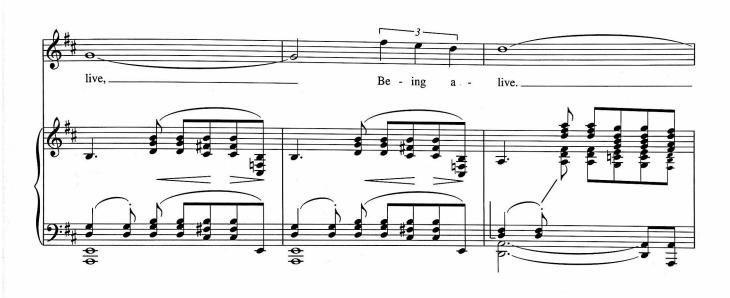


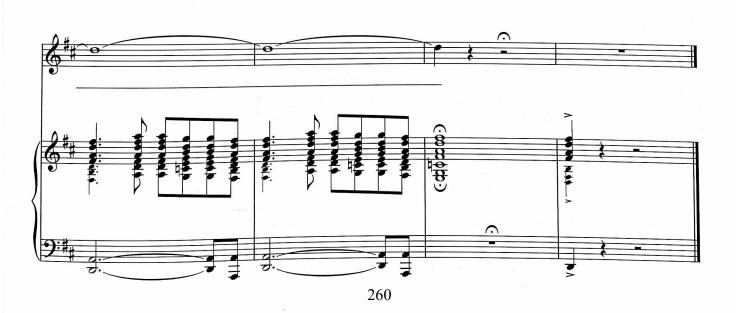








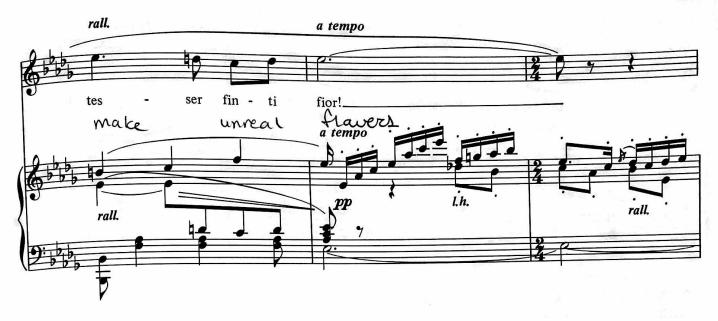


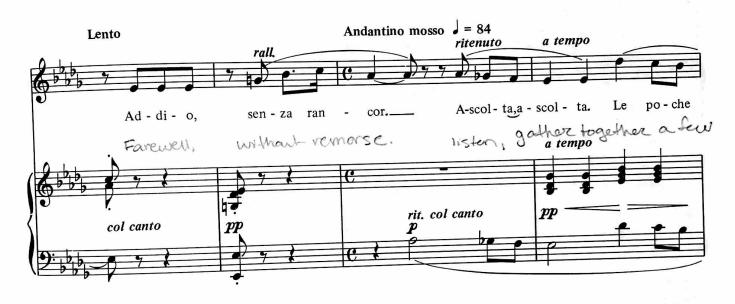


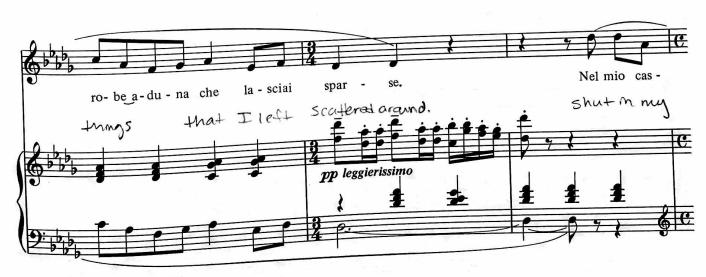
Donde lieta

from LA BOHÈME















From: "Ordinary Days"

I'll Be Here

from Ordinary Days

by

ADAM GWON

Published Under License From

Adam Gwon

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I'll Be Here

from Ordinary Days



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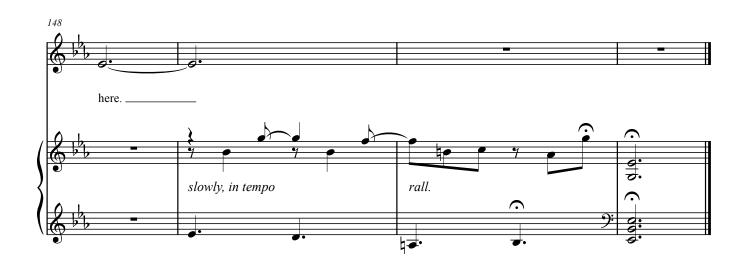


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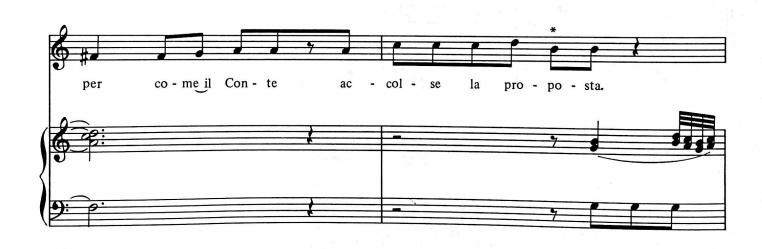




Dove sono i bei momenti

from LE NOZZE DI FIGARO







^{*}Appoggiatura recommended

















STILL HURTING

from The Last Five Years

Music and Lyrics by JASON ROBERT BROWN



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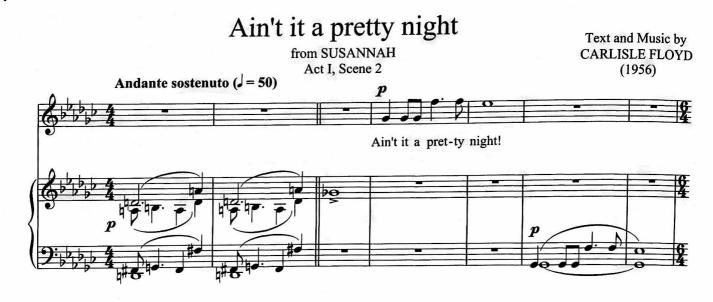


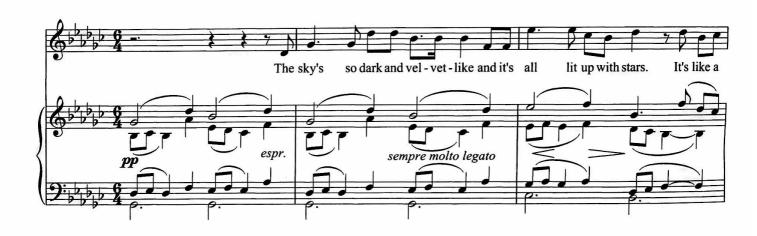




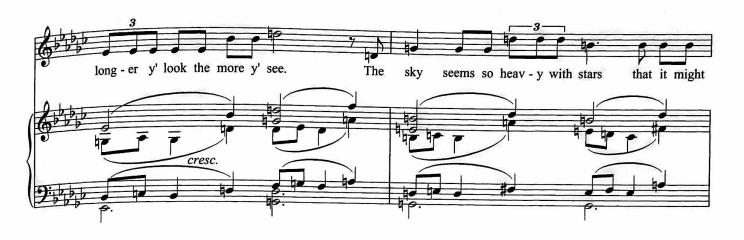


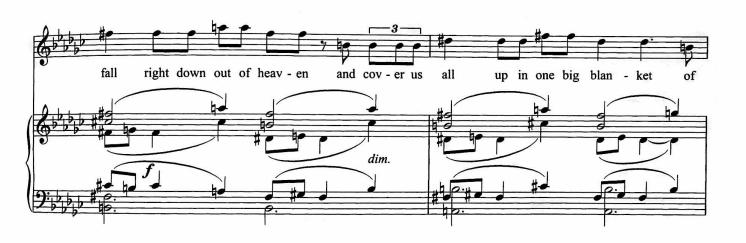


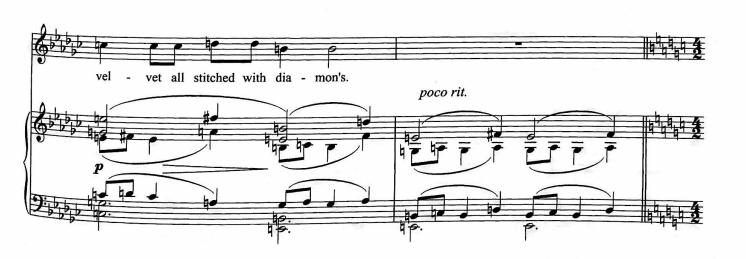






















Climb Ev'ry Mountain

from THE SOUND OF MUSIC



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Gretchen am Spinnrade.

Aus Goethe's,Faust".

Für eine Singstimme mit Begleitung des Pianoforte

Schubert's Werke.

componirt von

Nº 31.

FRANZ SCHUBERT.

Op. 2.

Moritz Reichsgrafen von Fries gewidmet.















Losing My Mind

(from Follies)

by

STEPHEN SONDHEIM

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LOSING MY MIND

from Follies

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim Sempre molto rubato sim. pp#8 $\mathbf{\Omega}$ 8 O O (con Ped. al Fine) **SALLY:** The sun _ comes up, think _ a - bout you. The cof - fee cup, think _ a - bout 20 It's like I'm los-ing my mind. you. want _ you so, _ (L.H.) talk _ to friends, think _ a-bout The morn - ing ends, think _ a-bout you.

PO

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^{*}This edition has been transposed up a major third from the original key of A-flat Major.



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Allerseelen

Hermann von Gilm (1812-1864)

Richard Strauss (1864-1949)

Original key: E-flat major. Allerseelen [All Soul's Day] is November 2, a day when memories of the dead are revived, and here a lover uses the mood of that day to try to relive an old love affair, the spark of which has long since gone out. Gilm, of aristocratic birth, died the year Strauss was born, so the heavy sentiment of the poem is of an earlier era. The song was composed in 1885 and was first published in 1887 by Joseph Aibl Verlag as Op. 10, No. 8. It is the final song in Strauss's *Acht Lieder aus Letzte Blätter* [Eight Songs from Last Leaves]. The vocal line is not doubled in the piano for the most part but rather is supported by Strauss's serenely captivating harmonies.

Allerseelen

Stell' auf den Tisch die duftenden Reseden,
Die letzten roten Astern trag' herbei,
Und lass uns wieder von der Liebe reden,
Wie einst im Mai.
Gib mir die Hand, dass ich sie heimlich drücke,
Und wenn man's sieht, mir ist es einerlei,
Gib mir nur einen deiner süssen Blicke,
Wie einst im Mai.
Es blüht und duftet heut' auf jedem Grabe
Ein Tag im Jahr ist ja den Toten frei,
Komm an mein Herz, dass ich dich wieder habe,
Wie einst im Mai.

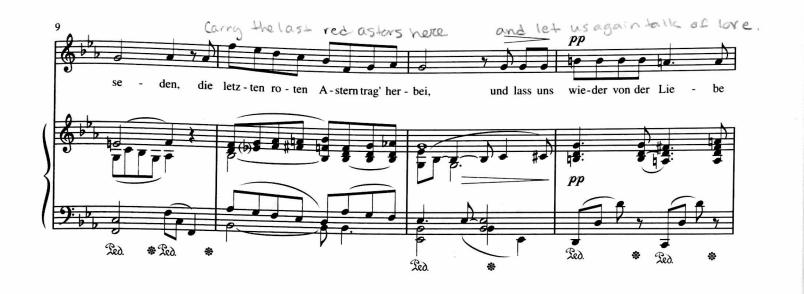
All Souls' Day

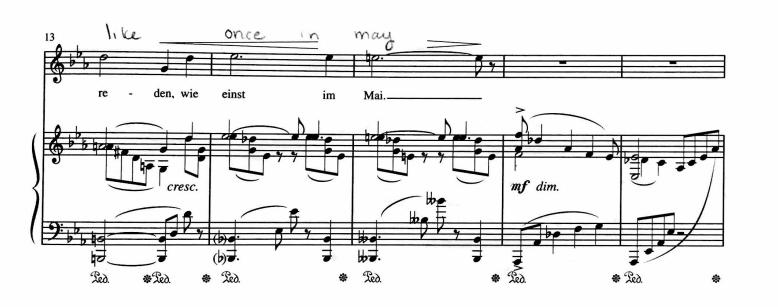
Put on the table the fragrant mignonettes, carry the last red astors here, and let us again talk of love tike once in May.

Give me your hand, that I may secretly press it, and if anyone sees it, it makes no difference to me, give me only one of your sweet glances like once in May.

Today it blossoms and smells sweet on each grave one day in the year indeed the dead are free, come to my heart, that I have you again, like once in May.



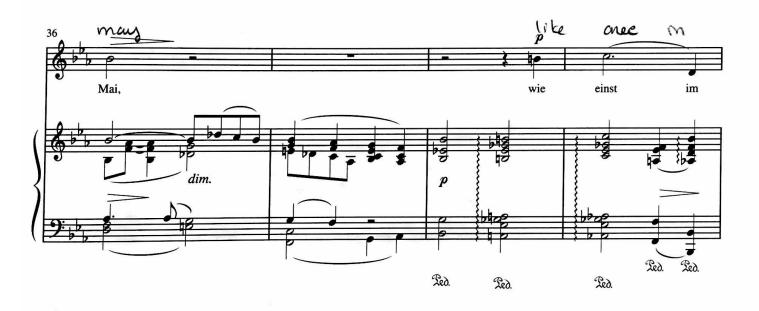


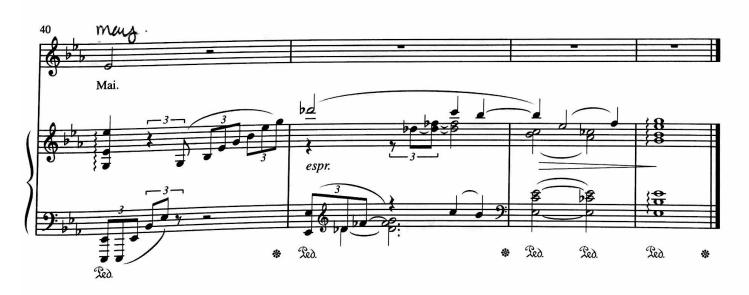












ONCE UPON A DREAM

from JEKYLL & HYDE

Words by STEVE CUDEN AND LESLIE BRICUSSE
Music by FRANK WILDHORN







Der Nußbaum

Julius Mosen (1803-1867) Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

Original key: G major. This song became the third number in the *Myrthen* [Myrtles] set from the year 1840, Schumann's great *Lieder Jahre* [Year of Song]. It was published later in 1840 by Kistner as Op. 25, No. 3, in time to be a wedding gift for Clara Wieck on September 11, the night before her marriage to Schumann. The composer much admired Mosen, a Dresden attorney whose literary works ranged from novellas, plays, and epic poetry to shorter folk-like verses such as this. Here rhymed adjacent words give texture to the poem. Schumann's expansive piano accompaniment with its many interludes not only paints a picture of the tree's waving branches but also leads in mood to the lulling, dreamy conclusion.

Der Nußbaum

Es grünet ein Nußbaum vor dem Haus, Duftig, luftig Breitet er blättrig die Äste aus.

Viel liebliche Blüten stehen d'ran; Linde Winde Kommen, sie herzlich zu umfahn.

Es flüstern je zwei zu zwei gepaart, Neigend, beugend Zierlich zum Kusse die Häuptchen zart.

Sie flüstern von einem Mägdlein, das Dächte die Nächte Und Tagelang, Wußte ach! selber nicht was.

Sie flüstern, wer mag verstehn so gar Leise Weis'? Flüstern von Bräut'gam und nächstem Jahr.

Das Mägdlein horchet, es rauscht im Baum. Sehnend, wähnend Sinkt es lächelnd in Schlaf und Traum. The Nut Tree

A nut tree grows in front of the house. Fragrant and airy it spreads out its leafy branches.

Many lovely blossoms grow on it. Gentle breezes come to caress them lovingly.

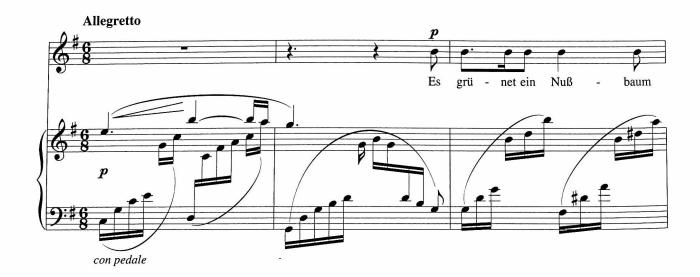
They whisper together in pairs, bowing, bending gracefully their tender little heads for a kiss.

They whisper about a girl who thinks all night and all day of, alas, she herself knows not what.

They whisper. Who is able to discern such a quiet gesture?
They whisper of a bridegroom and of next year.

The girl listens, the tree rustles.

Longing, imagining
she sinks, smiling, into sleep and dreams.





* This is the word in Mosen's poem. Schumann substituted the word Blätter." 322











From: "Urinetown"

Follow Your Heart

from Urinetown

by

MARK HOLLMANN

Lyrics by: GREG KOTIS and MARK HOLLMANN

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FOLLOW YOUR HEART

from URINETOWN

















Das Veilchen

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Original key: G major. K. 476. With this text, Mozart linked his name for the only time with that of the great German poet and author Goethe. Goethe's enormous output is testament to his artistry and intellect. The Weimar Edition of his works runs to 133 volumes of plays, poetry, novels, scientific treatises, a correspondence with the poet Schiller, and the great drama *Faust*, written over a period of some sixty years. Mozart completed this song on June 8, 1785, and it was published in Vienna in 1789. He departs from the strictly strophic design favored in his time to create a flexible setting for each verse, and the sculpted vocal lines along with the sensitivity and interest in the piano accompaniment point to developments that would be solidified in art song of the early nineteenth century.

Das Veilchen

Ein Veilchen auf der Wiese stand, Gebückt in sich und unbekannt; Es war ein herzigs Veilchen. Da kam ein' junge Schäferin Mit leichtem Schritt und munterm Sinn Daher, daher, Die Wiese her und sang.

»Ach, « denkt das Veilchen, »wär' ich nur Die schönste Blume der Natur, Ach, nur ein kleines Weilchen, Bis mich das Liebchen abgepflückt Und an dem Busen matt gedrückt, Ach nur, ach nur Ein Viertelstündchen lang!«

Ach! Aber ach! das Mädchen kam
Und nicht in acht das Veilchen nahm,
Ertrat das arme Veilchen.
Es sank und starb und freut' sich noch:
"Und sterb' ich denn, so sterb' ich doch
Durch sie, durch sie,
Zu ihren Füßen doch."
Das arme Veilchen!
Es war ein herzigs Veilchen.

The Violet

A violet stood in the meadow, cowering and unseen; it was a charming violet. There came a young shepherdess, with a light step and a cheerful heart that way, that way, along the meadow and sang.

"Ah," thinks the violet, "were I only the most beautiful flower in nature, ah, only for a little while, until the sweetheart plucked me and on her bosom pressed me flat, ah only, ah only for a quarter-hour!

Ah! but alas! the girl came and did not take notice of the violet, trampled on the poor violet. It sank and died, yet rejoiced for itself: "And if I die, at least I die, because of her, because of her, right at her feet."

The poor violet!

It was a charming violet.













From: "Hamilton: An American Musical"

Helpless

from the musical Hamilton

by

LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA

Arranged by: ALEX LACAMOIRE and LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA

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HELPLESS

from the musical Hamilton

Arranged by
Alex Lacamoire and Lin-Manuel Miranda

Words and Music by LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA























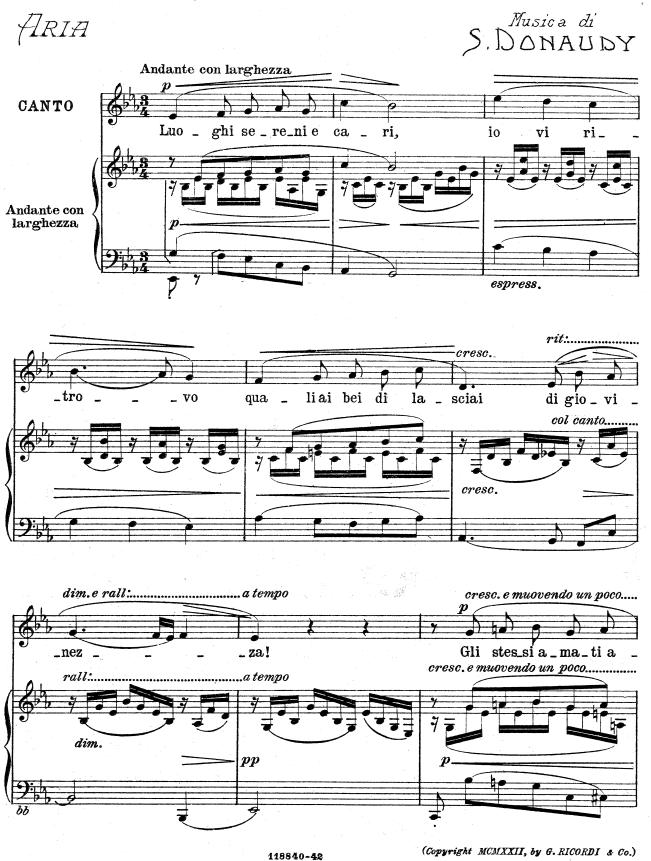








Luoghi sereni e cari...

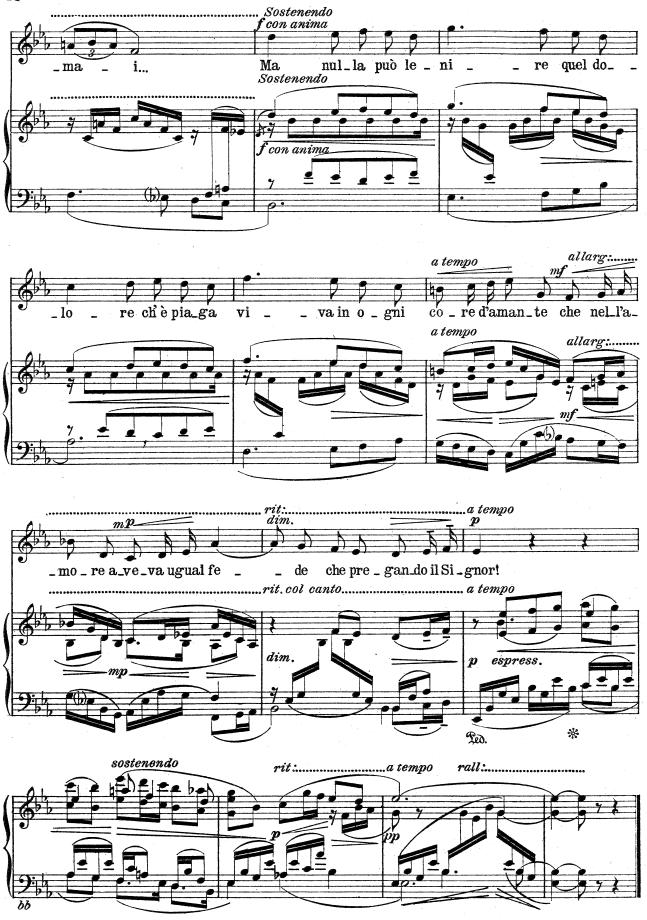






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The Beauty Is

Words and Music by Adam Guettel















Gioachino Rossini

Soirées musicales

per canto e pianoforte • for voice and piano



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MY WHITE KNIGHT



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O falce di luna









WHAT GOOD WOULD THE MOON BE?

From "Street Scene"













5. Per pietà,bell'idol mio





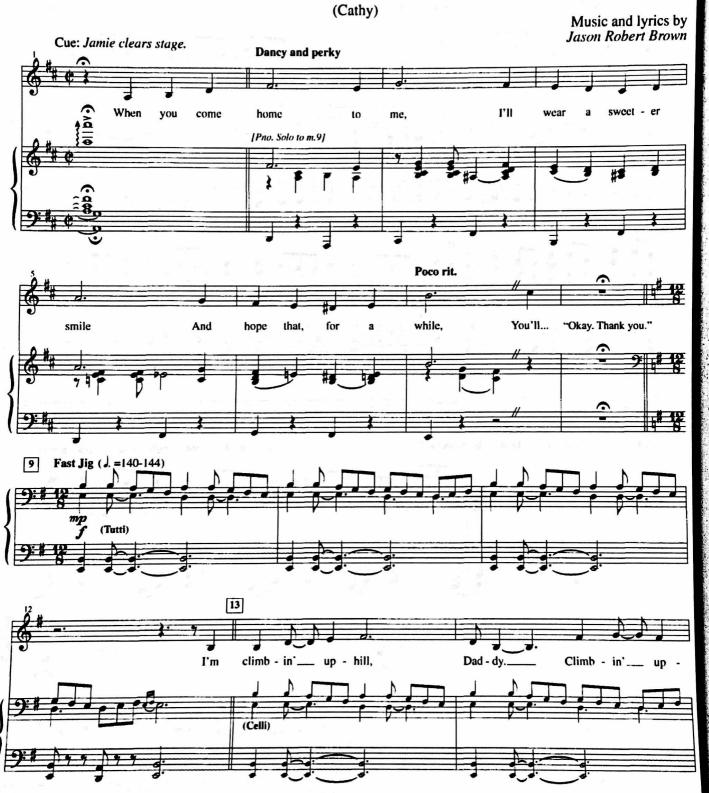




Scene Ten:

10

Audition Sequence



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