

Artistic Singing for All Levels

Course Objectives: To identify the elements of artistic singing/performing and explore strategies to develop an artistic product at any level.

What is Artistry?

Webster's defines artistry as:

- artistic quality of effect or workmanship <the *artistry* of his novel>
- artistic ability <the *artistry* of the violinist> <a lawyer's *artistry* in persuading juries>

Artistry can be technical and planned, but no matter the level, the objective is always the same: to communicate with our audiences. As stated in SAI's JCDB (Expression category): "the goal of the performer is to project a sentiment appropriate to the song and to produce an emotional response in the listener."

Elements of an artistic presentation:

Tone Flow/Energized vocal line

Dynamic Flexibility

Vocal Style

Lyric Flow/pacing/inflection

Phrasing

Forward Motion

Embellishments

Tempo/Rhythm

Energy (see below)

Finesse

Emotional Communication

Characterization

Audience rapport

ENERGY:

-Vocal

-Musical

-Lyrical

-Physical

Why separate? Integrate!

Chorus vs. Quartet:

-Role of the director (know when needed!)

-Buy in from all singers

-Importance of lead/how do harmony parts fit?

-Coaching

*To achieve unity, we must first have a specified plan. The plan is not putting our performance in a box, but about presenting a unified whole to our audience. After all, one on one communication is the most profound: one ensemble communicating with one audience is our ultimate goal. Once in agreement, we can then apply all of our skills so that the performance transcends as much technique as possible!

Remember: You are an artist, with the power to change lives!