

REHEARSAL NOTES for September 12 & 19, 2011

Welcome back, everybody! We've had two productive rehearsals with this season's wonderful music. Thanks to Beth, Jeremy and Alan for choosing such lovely pieces!

To all you new folks, welcome! I am one of Towne Singers' staff singers, singing 1st Soprano on the right side, in the back row. If I haven't found you yet, please introduce yourself to me. If you are new or returning, I will be sending out weekly Rehearsal Notes to reinforce what Beth has directed, translate when I can for those of you who don't read music (yet!), help with vocal technique, and help you to bring to life what's on the page. I can't list every note she gives so please, make it your job at rehearsal to write down everything she conducts, and to circle problem areas.

**** If you don't know what to mark, please ask me or Kris Wittry** (the tall, dark-haired Tenor in the back).** All the notes will also be posted on the website, www.townesingers.org, in the Resources section, thanks to Chuck Hains.

Find me before or after rehearsals or at break, to answer your questions. Sorry, I cannot talk to you while we are rehearsing, or when Beth is working with another section. Just circle or star it, and we'll talk later. *Do not reply to this email if you want to reach me.* My e-address is shkeevy@gmail.com.

All women, if your section would like me to sing your part with you as we learn it, please wave to me, and I'll move over behind you. Kris can do the same for the men.

Keep hydrated – bring water to rehearsals!

See you next week,
Teresa Parente

Here's what we worked on:

AVE MARIA

- OPEN sound on this one. No vibrato. Think lots of vertical space *inside*.
- Vowels are pronounced like this:
 - a = ah
 - e = eh
 - i = ee
 - o = oh (closer to an “aw”, not the diphthong American “oh-oo”).
 - u = oo
- “r” is slightly rolled. If you cannot, make it closer to a “d”.
The “t” in “gratia” = “tz”, “gratzia”

continued ...

CHRISTMAS FANTASY

- Bracket the repeat at measure 226, close bracket at end of m. 249:

// \\ (Much of musical notation is printed so teeny; make them larger,
\\ // and you won't miss them.)

GO WHERE I SEND THEE

- Counting is especially important here.
- Men, from last bar on pg. 6, jump to pg. 8.
- Women at top pg. 7: Basses have the melody. Mark which beat you come in on.


JINGLE BELL FANTASY

- Circle ms. 13. & 26; they're counted as 3 eighth notes, and 3 quarter notes, respectively.
- M. 23, highlight the SEGNO (squiggle atop the measure number). It's a *SIGN*!


MAGNIFICAT

- We get to sing Bach! Beth will give the phrasings for each section to the Section Leaders to pass on to their respective voice parts. When she says, “group these 16th notes together”, use a SLUR to connect them, either above or below the notes:

A CURVED LINE over DIFFERENT NOTES
is called A SLUR. It means play LEGATO
(smoothly connected)



Slurs often divide the music into PHRASES.
A PHRASE is a musical thought or sentence



- The Soprano 2 part is on the 2nd line throughout.

MEDIEVAL CAROL FANTASY

- Yay – tasteful medley!
- Please mark or highlight where your part is on every page, since it changes.
- Circle meas. 20; each syllable is longer than in other versions.
- ...which brings up a point: I sing *each* of these 16th century carols with a Christmas Caroling company in completely different arrangements and voicings. That means I need to be extra diligent about “reading the ink” - singing what's on the page. So, if you know any of these songs, please sing what you see, not what you know.
- No breath (mark a SLUR) between ms. 44-45.
- Bracket the section from m. 121 to end of m. 128. On all the dings and donges, close to the “nnng” right away.

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PAYAPANG DAIGDIG

- Thank you Freddie Chua for helping us with pronunciation!
- At m. 6, it will be “Tutti”, ALL sing. At m.11, Sopranos sing melody, others sing parts.
- M. 7, no breath between “-pa” and “la-”. Mark a slur. Same thing in m. 9 between “-la” and “sa”.
- M. 8, breathe between “-mik” and “pa-”. Either mark a COMMA, a CHECK, or turn

• “-mik” into an eighth note () with an eighth rest ().

SILVER AND GOLD

- The music is pretty simple on this. Mind all cut-offs we'll sound terrific! For instance, ms. 5 & 6, stay on the vowel in “gohhhd” for 1-2-3, 1-2-OFF; put the “D” where the rest is. Always watch Beth for the cut-offs.

One last thing: if you *know* you'll be singing in this concert, please write your name on your music. See you Monday!

Teresa Parente, Soprano I
shkeevy@gmail.com

www.teresaparente.com
www.sosharmony.com/sos