

INS 449

Eastman Sings!

Pedagogy Meets Performance

August 2–7/Sunday–Friday, 9 a.m.–9 p.m.

Rooms: ESM 305, A 804

Robert McIver, director

Faculty: Katherine Ciesinski, Kathryn Cowdrick, Russell Miller, Robert Swensen

Eastman Sings! is designed to meet the pedagogical and performing needs of voice teachers from all walks of singing life. College teachers, private teachers, vocal coaches, high school teachers, and church musicians will benefit from the comprehensive subject matter as well as the performance opportunities in master classes. Each member of the Eastman Sings! faculty brings highly successful and well-honed specialties to the program. Their collaborative spirit, combined with the important subjects of the weeklong institute, will synthesize into an invaluable learning experience. In addition to fabulous course offerings, the program will include an insightful round table discussion with faculty and participants, and will culminate with a participants' recital in the lovely Ciminelli Lounge.

Sessions include:

The Virtuosity Factor – Katherine Ciesinski

All voice types need to develop the capacity to move the voice rapidly and with flexibility. Existing methods/materials as well as learning strategies for success in hands-on practice will be explored.

Putting It All Together – master class – Katherine Ciesinski

Application of acquired knowledge is a hallmark of mastery. Most students require guidance to incorporate technical skills into singing with musical accuracy and expressivity. This essential process will be addressed with a variety of repertoire and skill levels.

Performance Pedagogy – Kathryn Cowdrick

These two sessions will explore how pedagogy and performance issues go hand in hand in order to help singers/teachers address the challenges they encounter throughout their singing lives. Topics include structure/function, vocal health, performance anxiety, creating subtexts, and the joys and challenges we encounter as the voice matures.

Vocalization: Why and How? – Robert McIver

Most vocal students vocalize, but do they truly know what they are trying to accomplish? This session will be devoted to the rationale of vocalization, systematic vocalizes, and the benefits of a healthy daily regimen.

Aggiustamento (vowel modification) and the Impact of Registration – Robert McIver

This session will deal with vowel modification and the positive technical impact of understanding vowel function as it relates to registration.

Finding a Balance in Performance – master class – Robert McIver

This master class will focus on the delicate balance required between technique and presentation in performance. Participants may sing any classical repertoire in any language.

Resources for Repertoire – Russell Miller

One of the most consistent challenges for voice teachers is identifying and then locating new (and old) songs and arias that are appropriate to various levels of

vocal development, especially for younger students. In these sessions we will look beyond the most standard familiar anthologies and consider newly published scores and collections, books, articles and internet sites that deal with vocal repertoire. The emphasis will be on songs in American English but other standard languages will be addressed as well.

Partnerships with Pianists – Russell Miller

As one leading teacher of accompanying used to tell her students: “Remember, dear, we can ruin anyone!” These sessions seek to address the positive side of that threat: pianists can contribute to and share the singer’s success on numerous levels. We will consider specific language, rehearsal techniques and relevant information about piano technique that allows for more effective communication with pianist partners, as well as the impact that the positive engagement of the voice teacher can have in encouraging young pianists to become excited about the skills and even the career potentials of vocal collaborative playing.

Training the Male Voice – Robert Swensen

This session will provide an in-depth look at the evolution of the classical approach to operatic, concert, and recital repertoire. A history of performance practices will be accompanied by historical and present day video. Specific technical approaches will be discussed and demonstrated.

Text and Technique in Song – master class – Robert Swensen

This master class will explore the impact of textual considerations on technique and vice versa. Participants may choose any selections from classical vocal repertoire.

Orientation: Sunday, August 2 at 7 p.m. in Ciminelli Lounge, Student Living Center

Participants’ Recital: Friday, August 7 at 7 p.m. in Ciminelli Lounge

Professional Development Hours: 45

Tuition:

\$1,050/1 credit            CRN

\$510/noncredit CRN