

Creating your Own Anthology to Use With

Cantabile Voice Class

The *International Music Score Library Project*, known as the IMSLP or the Petrucci Library (imslp.org) is an invaluable source for music in the Public Domain. Coupled with the Choral Public Domain Library (CPDL at cpdl.org), students and singers are able to download from the Internet almost any historic piece of music at no cost.

Cantabile Voice Class was originally tested in the classroom using only selections from the traditional Italian songs and arias of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, sometimes called “the little Italian arias.” All of these songs and arias are in the public domain and available from the IMSLP. However, reasonably priced anthologies are also available, and are helpful because they contain explanations, translations and IPA pronunciations for the Italian.

26 Italian Songs and Arias, edited by John Glen Paton, Alfred Publishing Co.

28 Italian Songs and Arias, based on the Parisotti Editions and edited by Richard Walters, G. Schirmer.

Folk Songs, Spirituals and Hymn Tunes by their nature are singable and quickly learned. Non-copyrighted arrangements can be found easily, or you can write your own. The suggested titles below are in continual use in beginning voice study because they encourage legato singing and clear elongated vowels.

The Water is Wide

Salley Gardens

Shenandoah

Every Night When the Sun Goes In

The Lark in the Clear Air

Early One Morning

All Through the Night

Pretty Saro

Black is the Color

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

Amazing Grace

Balm in Gilead

Deep River

My Lord, What a Morning

Musical Theater and Film Songs in general are NOT in the Public Domain. However, they can be reasonably purchased by the students and brought to class for individual use. (The copyright notices clearly state that the songs are for individual use, so songs should not be passed around.) Musical Theater songs known as “classic” (usually written before 1963), work best with ***Cantabile Voice Class*** because they were intended for a more “classical” sound, but there are notable exceptions. The best choices for beginning singers will encourage legato singing and clear elongated vowels. Some suggestions are listed below.

Almost anything from Rogers and Hammerstein musicals such as:

Cinderella

South Pacific

Oklahoma

The King and I

Try to Remember (*The Fantastics*)

No One is Alone (*Into the Woods*)

Over the Rainbow (*The Wizard of Oz*)

Almost Like Being in Love (*Brigadoon*)

Where is Love? (*Oliver*)

Till There Was You (*The Music Man*)

Good Night, My Someone (*The Music Man*)

Wandr'rin Star (*Paint Your Wagon*)

Moon River (*Breakfast at Tiffany's*)

Sometimes a Day Goes By (*Woman of the Year*)

English, German, French and Spanish Art Songs are available for individual purchase on the Internet, and many are in the Public Domain. Representative examples are below.

English Art Songs

Anon

Willow Song

Love Will Find Out the Way

Dowland:

Fine Knacks for ladies

Come Again, Sweet Love

Campion:

When to Her Lute Corrina Sings

Fair, If You Expect Admiring

Morley:

It Was a Lover and His Lass

Now Is the Month of Maying

Purcell:

Let Us Dance, Let Us Sing

I Attempt From Love's Sickness to

Fly

German Lieder

Schubert:

Heidenröslein

Seligkeit

Schumann:

Der arme Peter I

Marienwürmchen

Volksliedchen

Brahms:

Da unten im Tale

Sonntag

Dein blaues Auge

French Melodies

Fauré:

Ici-bas

Adieu

Le Secret

Debussy:

Beau Soir

Nuit d'étoiles

Martini:

Plaisir d'amour

Chausson:

Spanish Songs

Granados:

El tra la la y el punteado

Amor y odio

Obradors:

Del cabello más sutil

Con amores, la mi madre

de Falla:

El Paño moruno

Nana

Le Charm