

Voice

FINDING MUSIC FOR VOICE IN THE MUSIC LIBRARY

The Western Libraries Music Library is a fabulous resource for the voice major (and the voice minor). Some vocal repertoire will be found in obvious locations, while other important repertoire is scattered throughout the collection. **Finding printed music for the voice, however, does present some specialized problems, which are addressed below.**

The Music Library's holdings are listed on the **Western Libraries Shared Library Catalogue**, which is accessible from almost anywhere in the world. Each Western student is given a Western Identity (email username + password), through which the University and Western Libraries will communicate with you. Your Western Identity username and password are REQUIRED to access our licensed electronic indexes and database subscriptions. To use Western's e-resources while off-campus, you must AUTHENTICATE each time you visit the Western Libraries' website. Follow this URL for details and instructions:

<https://www.lib.uwo.ca/offcampus//remote.html>

WHERE DO I BEGIN?

Try our **Singers' Resources** page:

<http://www.lib.uwo.ca/programs/vocalperformance/singers.html>

Try our Research Guide for Vocal Performance:

<http://www.lib.uwo.ca/programs/vocalperformance/>

Try this fabulous scholarly resource:

[The New Grove Dictionary of Music](#) - print OR online.

Or, begin with this reference book:

**McTyre, Ruthann Boles. *Library Resources for Singers, Coaches, and Accompanists: An Annotated Bibliography, 1970-1997*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1998.
REF ML 128.V7M45 1998**

An extremely useful starting point for research, which includes indexes, discographies and videographies. Intended for students, teachers, performers, vocal coaches and accompanists, the bibliography covers materials that deal with repertoire, bibliographic guides, plot synopses, translations, guides to diction, pedagogy, and stage resources, as related to opera, musical theatre and solo voice. Compiled by a singer/librarian (need we say more?).

1. Finding a known piece of printed music

Any piece of music for which you know both the composer and the title may be found by choosing the **CATALOGUE** tab on the Western Libraries homepage: www.lib.uwo.ca. Choose the **KEYWORD** search option to combine the composer's name with a unique title, opus number or thematic catalogue number with spaces between your keywords (using a space = the Boolean "AND" operator). This will help to narrow your search and find desired items quickly.

e.g. **mozart zauberflote vocal**

will retrieve the piano-vocal score of the opera.

- a) **If the work you seek is part of a larger work**, such as an opera, oratorio, cantata or song cycle, **you MUST search by the title/name of the larger work**.
- b) Do remember that the library will **catalogue the title of any vocal work, opera, oratorio or song cycle in the original language of the composition!** So, if you find nothing listed under the "popular title," use the original title, as given by the .

e.g. Mozart's opera *The Marriage of Figaro* will be listed as (**Le = "The"**) *Nozze di Figaro*.

As a result, when looking for the aria *Dove sono*, one will have the greatest success using by a **KEYWORD** search, while using quotation marks to keep desired words “in the proper order” and, at the same time, **limiting your search results to PRINTED MUSIC**:

Mozart “dove sono”

Should ALL of the anthologies containing this aria be signed out (yes, this DOES happen), please remember that the aria will also be contained in the piano-vocal score of the complete opera (again, limit your results to **PRINTED MUSIC**):

(mozart nozze vocal) AND NOT excerpts

- c) Don't forget to look in collections of music by your composer (the library finds it cheaper and more convenient to buy ALL of the songs of a composer in one volume than to purchase [and bind] individual songs, etc.). **Explore the M 1620 section**, where the “single-composer” vocal collections are located.

To verify titles/spellings of larger works, and to ascertain the original language of composition, consult the **Works** list for the desired composer in *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians* and/or the indices of the various thematic catalogues which are located in the Music Library's Reference Section at **ML 134**.

The New Grove Dictionary of Opera contains an index of operatic arias and ensembles in the **Appendix** at the end of **Volume 4 (and online, as well)**.

2. Collective Titles

Most songs are short: as a result, the library buys composers' songs in collections and enters them under collective titles. Examples of collective titles are:

[Songs]	ALL of a composer's songs
[Songs. Selections]	SOME of a composer's songs
[Works]	ALL of a composer's works (including the songs)
[Works. Selections]	SOME of a composer's works

To find such collections in the Music Library, e.g. a Peters edition of Schubert songs, use the **KEYWORD** search:

songs schubert peters

To ascertain whether a desired song is in a particular volume, add a “title word” to your search, then check the **CONTENTS NOTE** on the cataloguing record, where all retrieved keywords appear in **RED**.

CDs will *usually* have contents notes in the **Western Libraries Shared Library Catalogue**; collections of printed songs will, as well. Again, the bonus of searching by **KEYWORD** is that **RED** keywords are easier and faster to locate in lengthy contents notes.

Remember that the 'collective title' **[Songs]** implies that **ALL** of a composer's songs will be found in that collection.

3. Browsing the shelf for printed music

The Library of Congress classification system organizes works (musical or otherwise) by genre. For example, sacred songs are NOT shelved near the art songs.

Following are only *some* of the call numbers used in the Western Libraries Music Library for vocal music:

a. Solo songs with piano:

M 1619	Collections (songs by several composers)
M 1620	Collections of songs by ONE composer
M 1621	Single works by one composer
M 1621.3	Single works with additional or obbligato instrument
M 1621.4	Song cycles

b. Sacred songs with piano or organ:

M 2110	Collections (more than one composer)
M 2112	Collections by a single composer
M 2113	Single works with additional or obbligato instrument
M 2113.4	Sacred song cycles

c. Dramatic music = arias from operas & musicals:

M 1500	Full scores of operas (no musicals)
M 1503	Piano-vocal scores: operas & musicals
M 1505	Opera excerpts (full scores)
<u>Excerpts: musical theatre & opera:</u>	
M 1507 to	Anthologies: piano-vocal scores
M 1508	Single titles: piano-vocal scores

d. Arias from cantatas and oratorios:

M 1613	Full scores of secular cantatas
M 1614	Piano-vocal scores of secular cantatas
M 1617	Full scores, works for voice & orchestra
M 2000	Full scores of oratorios
M 2003	Piano-vocal scores of oratorios
M 2020	Full scores of sacred cantatas
M 2023	Piano-vocal scores of sacred cantatas

For a complete explanation of the above call numbers and others, see the book *LC Classification/Class M Music* located near the Reference Desk.

4. Complete Works of Composers = M 3

The complete works of many major composers (e.g. Bach, Beethoven, Haydn, Mozart, Purcell, Rachmaninoff, Schubert, Schumann and many others) are found in the **M 3** classification of the library (which is essentially music scores reference: these sets of scores are non-circulating). These multi-volume sets are frequently indexed in *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians* in each individual composer's **WORKS** list. (*NG-II* frequently cites the exact volume and page number for individual vocal works.)

There is no need to consult the **Western Libraries Shared Library Catalogue** to find a composer's complete works: just go to the **M 3** section, which is arranged alphabetically by composer surname. In cases where a portion of a composer's works have been issued (complete keyboard music, or complete stage music), these will be found at the **END** of the **M 3** section, at **M 3.1**. For additional assistance in finding vocal works in the **M 3** section see the handout *Collected Sets, etc.* or consult Music Library staff.

5. Searching by Subject on the Western Libraries Catalogue

Particular types of vocal music will be easily found using the **SUBJECT** search of the **Western Libraries Shared Library Catalogue**.

A **SUBJECT** search is **NOT** the same as a **KEYWORD** search. *Library of Congress Subject Headings* are assigned by cataloguers; therefore, to retrieve specific types of works (as in a distinctive instrumentation) in our library, you must use the same subject headings that the cataloguers use!

Most vocal music will be found under the specific genre, e.g.:

SONGS (HIGH VOICE WITH PIANO)
SONGS (MEDIUM VOICE WITH PIANO)
SONGS (LOW VOICE WITH PIANO)
SONGS (MEDIUM VOICE WITH CONTINUO)
SONGS (HIGH VOICE WITH FLUTE)
SONGS (LOW VOICE WITH GUITAR)
SONG CYCLES
SOLO CANTATAS, SECULAR

Following are opera-related subject headings for operatic and sacred vocal music:

OPERAS
OPERAS – VOCAL SCORES WITH PIANO
ORATORIOS
ORATORIOS – VOCAL SCORES WITH PIANO
SACRED SONGS HIGH VOICE
SOLO CANTATAS, SACRED
VOCAL MUSIC – CADENZAS
etc.

Accustom yourself to looking for the specific genre and instrumentation when using the **SUBJECT INDEX** on the **Western Libraries Shared Library Catalogue**. For a complete listing of the subject headings employed in the Western Libraries, see *Library of Congress Subject Headings* (5 LARGE, red vols.) located on the Quick Reference shelf near the Reference Desk.

6. Music for voice and piano, PLUS additional instruments

For information on this topic, consult repertoire lists for voice and repertoire lists for various orchestral instruments (see other Music Library handouts for appropriate lists). Particularly useful are the bibliographies listed under *Vocal Chamber Music*, on page 6 of this handout.

7. Music in the Solo Music Reference Collection

This collection (450 titles) has been added to our backlog, and all titles formerly residing (anonymously) in the CBO will be found in the **Western Libraries Shared Library Catalogue**. Want to know what's lurking in our backlog? Do a **KEYWORD** search, and **LIMIT** to printed music:

songs bklg*

RECORDINGS OF VOCAL MUSIC

Approximately two-thirds of the Music Library's sound recordings (including all CDs and recently catalogued vinyl records) are NOT classified using the Library of Congress system; rather, they are numbered consecutively. Therefore, it is essential to use the **Western Libraries Shared Library Catalogue** to find these recordings.

Because musicians are often interested in specific performances, recordings are listed under artists' names, as well as by composer, title and subject. For example, to find ALL of the library's recordings of performances by the mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato, choose an **AUTHOR** search, and type:

DIDONATO, JOYCE

Be sure to check the "contents note" to see which repertoire is contained in an anthology. **Or, if you seek a particular song or aria, choose a KEYWORD search to combine DIDONATO with significant words from the title of the song** (or words from the title of the opera).

Although *most* of the Music Library's sound recordings can be found via the **Western Libraries Shared Library Catalogue**, many others cannot. Most commercially recorded vocal music for which you know the composer and the title may be found via a **KEYWORD** search:

- type single, significant keywords (e.g. the performer's [or composer's] surname)
- include a significant word from the title of the larger work
- include the opus number (numerals only)
- include "sound" or "compact"

Very recent recordings may not yet be ordered. Please check with your Reference Librarian – I am always pleased to receive your suggestions.

DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC RECITALS

In addition to commercially produced recordings, there are hundreds of **Don Wright Faculty of Music Student/Faculty/Guest Artist Recitals**, which were taped during the period from 1965 to the present.

Until 1988 or so, recitals were automatically taped for archival purposes. After that time, the process became much more selective, so one cannot rely upon finding a recording for every Don Wright Faculty of Music performance.

Access to the Don Wright Faculty of Music's recordings archive (1965-1998) is provided by computer-generated

indexes housed in the last row of the Reference Section (nearest the Reference Librarian). Should you find a performance you would like to hear, you must:

make note of the appropriate reference number – from the left-hand column!

E.g., 81-148c

81 = 1981

148 = the 148th recital taped that year

c = the 3rd work on the program

Then, leave a note for **Mr. Mike Godwin** in his mailbox in the Main Office (**T.C.210**) stating:

- your name;
- the tape reference number **e.g. "75-104c"**; and
- ask that he place the recording in the Music Library.

Mr. Godwin will then leave the recording for you at the Music Library's Circulation Desk.

For recordings made after 1998, one must first ascertain the date of a performance by consulting the University of Western Ontario's Faculty of Music **Concerts and Recitals** (collected, bound and housed in Western's Music Library at **ML 42.L66U5**), and then contact Mr. Godwin with that information.

You can make arrangements to purchase copies (of Don Wright Faculty of Music recital tapes **ONLY**) by applying at the Faculty of Music Main Office (T.C. 210).

REPERTOIRE LISTS, CATALOGUES, etc.

For assistance in identifying appropriate repertoire for the voice, the following reference sources are very useful:

Espina, Noni. *Repertoire for the Solo Voice*. 2 vols. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1977. REF ML 128.V7E78 1977

Subtitled "A fully annotated guide to works for the solo voice published in modern editions and covering material from the 13th century to the present," this work is the most comprehensive of the vocal repertoire books. Entries include title, voice type, source of text, range, tessitura, comments on the musical requirements of the songs and the difficulty of the accompaniment. Includes composer index.

Coffin, Berton. *Singer's Repertoire*. 2nd ed. New York: Scarecrow Press, 1960. [5 parts: pt. 5 provides program notes, rather than repertoire suggestions]. REF ML 128.V7C64 1962

Covers repertoire for:

- coloratura, lyric, and dramatic sopranos (pt. 1)
- mezzo soprano and contralto (pt. 2)
- lyric and dramatic tenors (pt. 3)
- baritone and bass (pt. 4)

Coffin organizes repertoire into lists of songs for recital (by nationality), recital "openers" and "closers," songs by type (e.g. atmospheric songs), songs by type of difficulty (e.g. rapid enunciation), arias from larger works, songs cycles etc. Especially useful are the songs for special days and occasions (e.g. Christmas, weddings etc.) and the songs or arias with added instruments. All lists include publisher, tessitura, and range. Also useful for finding vocal duet repertoire.

Kagen, Sergius. *Music for the Voice: A Descriptive List of Concert and Teaching Material*. Rev. ed. Bloomington, Ind.: Indiana University Press, 1968.
REF ML 128.V7 K3 1968

Annotated lists of songs include range, tessitura, voice type, "remarks" concerning difficulty, etc. The work is divided into four main sections: Songs and arias before the nineteenth century; Songs of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; Folk songs; and Operatic excerpts. Includes a composer index.

Manning, Jane. *New Vocal Repertory: An Introduction*. Basingstoke, Hampshire: MacMillan, 1986.
REF ML128.V7 M38 1987

Insightful descriptions of some of the best of contemporary English-language vocal repertory. Technical difficulties and artistic merits discussed. A "must" for singers looking for new recital repertoire.

Kimball, Carol. *Song: A Guide to Style & Literature*. Seattle: Pst Inc., 1996.
MT 110.K54 1996

Discusses components of style, as related to the art song repertoire, and its composers (past and present). Kimball also provides background of individual songs/cycles and suggestions for further reading and listening. Should be in every singer's personal library!

Canadian Music Centre. *Canadian Vocal Music = Musique Vocale Canadienne*. 3rd ed. Toronto: CMC, 1976.
REF ML 128.V7C24 1976

Lists vocal solo and chamber works with instruments.

Hoover, Maya, ed. *Latin American Art Song Repertoire: an Annotated Catalog of Twentieth-century Art Songs for Voice and Piano*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2010.
REF ML128.S3G85 2010

A long-overdue research guide for singers who wish to explore new Latin American art song repertoire. Organized by country, then composer, each entry lists a catalog number, song name, titles of individual songs (each song is numbered) within a cycle, date, name of poet, pitch range, tessitura, notes about the song, and publication information (or names of holding libraries). Also contains appendices (countries and regions; statistics by geographic region; publishers; suggested repertoire by voice type and ability), plus a bibliography, indices of subjects and composers, poets, song cycles, titles and first lines. Highly recommended.

Other useful sources for the voice major include:

Buckley, Wendell D. *Annotated Curriculum Guide: A Bibliography of Published Solo Song Cycles*. Moorhead, Minn.: Concordia College, 1965.
REF ML 128.S65 B83 1965

Reid, Cornelius L. *A Dictionary of Vocal Terminology: An Analysis*. New York: Music House, 1983.
REF ML 102.V6 R4 1983

An extensive technical dictionary covering everything from "Arytenoid Muscles" to "Trachea" and "Anxiety" to "Wobble."

Seaton, Douglass. *The Art Song: A Research and Information Guide*. New York: Garland Publishing, 1987.
REF ML 128.S3 S33 1987

An extensive annotated bibliography (970 items) covering all aspects of the song from the general to the specific.

Morgenstern, Sam and Harold Barlow. *A Dictionary of Opera and Song Themes*. Rev. ed. New York: Crown Publishers, 1976.
REF ML 128.V7 B37 1976

Helps the vocal student identify major arias and songs even if you do not know the composer! First-line and title index.

British Broadcasting Corporation. *Central Music Library. Song Catalogue. 4 vols*. London: BBC, 1966.
REF ML 128.S3 B75 1966

Lists solo songs by composer (vols. 1-2) and title (vols. 3-4). Another very helpful source for finding authorship of songs. Many "standards" are also listed by their popular English-language titles.

Laster, James. *Catalogue of Vocal Solos and Duets Arranged in Biblical Order*. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1984.
REF ML 128.S3L38 2003

Valuable tool for the church soloist. Includes ranges, composer index and title index.

Brusse, Corre Berry. *Sacred Vocal Duets: An Annotated Bibliography*. [Oberlin, Ohio]: National Association of Teachers of Singing, 1987.
REF ML 128.S2B77 1987

Selective listing of duets with sacred texts, suitable for recital or worship services. Provides title of larger work, and contains: index of author, a brief summary of the text, publisher information, vocal ranges and difficulty.

VOCAL CHAMBER MUSIC

In addition to the following sources, please also consult repertoire lists for individual orchestral instruments.

Rangel-Ribeiro, Victor. *Chamber Music: An International Guide to Works and Their Instrumentation*. New York: Facts on File, 1993.
REF ML 128.C4R3 1993

Lists 8,000 works for 3 to 20 musicians, including voice. Nice layout; easy to use. Covers 500 years of chamber music from standard chamber repertoire through 20th century chamber music. Organized in two sections, by date, with Beethoven as the dividing point.

Whaples, Miriam K. *Bach Aria Index*. Ann Arbor, Mich.: Music Library Association, 1971.
REF ML 134.B3W5

Lists solo arias by voice-type and instrumentation. Title index. Invaluable.

Philpott, Lisa Rae. *Arias for Solo Voices with Obligato Instruments by J.S. Bach*.

<http://www.lib.uwo.ca/music/Bach-Arias-Obbligato.html> [Accessed 2016.4.2]

Chart, by voice type, listing the Music Library's holdings of obbligato parts for J.S. Bach arias (oratorio + cantatas).

Winchester, Barbara and Kay Dunlap. *Vocal Chamber Music: A Performer's Guide*. 2nd ed. New York: Routledge, c2008.
REF ML 128.V7D86 2008

Lists works for at least one voice and one instrument up to twelve solo voices and twelve instruments from the period 1650 to 1980. Does not include excerpts from larger works (e.g. Bach cantatas). Index in score order.

Lust, Patricia, comp. *American Vocal Chamber Music, 1945-1980. Music Reference Collection, no. 4*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1985.
REF ML 128.V7L8 1985

Useful annotations include comments on range, tessitura, vocal difficulties and duration. Index by instrumentation.

Klaus, Kenneth. *Chamber Music for Solo Voice and Instruments, 1960-1989: an annotated Guide*. Berkeley, CA: Fallen Leaf Press, 1994.
REF ML 128.S3K55 1994

Organized by voice type: soprano, mezzo-soprano, alto, tenor, baritone and bass, medium voice, countertenor and miscellaneous. Numbered entries list movements and subtitles, source of text, instrumentation, publishing information, difficulty, language, vocal range, and duration. Any unusual features are included in comments. Indexes of composers, literary sources, music publishers and instruments, of which the latter includes "Unusual percussion and curiosities, should you seek music which includes the sound of a balloon. Another excellent reference tool from Fallen Leaf Press.

The following titles are invaluable to identify available vocal music with orchestral accompaniment, along with the specific instrumental resources required for performance. (If you are hoping to enter a concerto competition, these are a great place to help you select works WITHOUT English horn, harp, or tuba!)

Yaffé, John and David Daniels. *Arias, Ensembles & Choruses: An Excerpt Finder for Orchestras*. Toronto: Scarecrow Press, 2012.
REF ML128.V7Y34 2012

We've waited for this one for YEARS! Invaluable, per the recommendation of Canadian Robert Sutherland, Chief Librarian, The Metropolitan Opera, New York.

Daniels, David. *Orchestral music: A Handbook*. 4th ed. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2005.
REF ML 128.O5D3 2005

Classic resource, with shorthand notation to denote

required instruments (e.g. 3 [1.2.pic] 2 2 2 – 4 2 3 1 – str). See Appendix B for lists of works for solo voices; then check by composer's name to ascertain the instruments needed for performance.

Meyer, Dirk. *Chamber Orchestra and Ensemble Repertoire: A Catalog of Modern Music*. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2011.
REF ML 128.O5M49 2011

Uses the same format and shorthand notation as the Daniels (above); see the Appendix - Solo Voices, pages 229-231.

Nardone, Thomas R. *Classical Vocal Music in Print*. Philadelphia: Musicdata, 1976.
REF ML 118.M956 v.4 + supplements (and WWW)

Particularly useful for determining the availability of orchestral parts for vocal works with orchestra. Search the Western Libraries catalogue for "emusicquest" to access the online version.

ML 54.6

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SONG TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

There are many sources to help singers understand the texts that they sing. Do not overlook record jackets and CD booklets for translations of obscure texts. It is worth checking translations with the aid of a dictionary to ensure that emotional emphasis is placed on the correct note or word! And, yes, in extreme desperation, there is Google Translate.

Many books are devoted to translations of texts set by a single composer. Most will be found at **REF ML 54.6**. Some of the more important ones are:

Castel, Nico. / Leyerle Publications.

Numerous volumes containing song texts, with translations and International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA); also translations and IPA of complete opera libretti - see the Music Library's Dictionary Table.

Coffin, Berton. *Word-by-Word Translations of Songs and Arias*. 2 vols. New York: Scarecrow Press, 1966 - .
REF ML 54.6.C63

Vol. 1 = French and German; **Vol. 2** = Italian. Interlinear translations arranged alphabetically by composer. Title and first-line indices.

Fischer-Dieskau, Dietrich. *The Fischer-Dieskau Book of Lieder*. English translations by George Bird and Richard Stokes. London: V. Gollancz, 1976.
REF ML 54.6.F58 1976

The most extensive collection (over 750) of German vocal texts of songs, ballads, and lieder; arranged alphabetically by title. Indices of composers, poets, translations, titles, and first lines. **NO IPA.**

Miller, Philip. *The Ring of Words: An Anthology of Song Texts*. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1973.
REF ML 54.6.M54 1973

Long a must-have in the singer's library, Miller translates songs from German, French, Italian, Russian, Danish, Swedish, and Spanish. Contains many useful comments, as well.

Phillips, Lois. *Lieder Line by Line, and Word for Word*. Rev. ed. Oxford: Clarendon Press; New York: Oxford University Press, 1996.
REF ML 54.6.P55L5 1996

Texts in German with interlinear translation and facing paraphrase in English. Index of titles and first lines.

Prawer, Siegbert S. *The Penguin Book of Lieder*. Harmondsworth, Eng.: Penguin Books, 1964.
REF ML 54.6.P73P4 1965

Translations of German songs arranged by composer; useful introductions. Index of titles and first lines.

Paquin, Marie-Therese. *Ten Cycles of Lieder: Beethoven, Brahms, Mahler, Schubert, Schumann*. Montreal: Presses de l'Université de Montréal, 1977.
REF ML 54.6.D59

Word-for-word and juxtaline translation.

Ambrose, Z. Philip, trans. *The Texts to Johann Sebastian Bach's Church Cantatas*. Neuhausen-Stuttgart: Hanssler Verlag, 1984.
REF ML 54.B3C32 1984

Organized by BWV numbers. Lists of church year order and chronological order of composition. Uses BWV for title and first-line indices. (BWV = Bach Werke Verzeichnis)

Reed, John. *The Schubert Song Companion*. Prose translations by Norma Deane and Celia Lerner. New York: Universe Books, 1985.
REF ML 410.S3R265 1985

In addition to translations includes a list of songs in each key and useful descriptions and backgrounds of each song.

Rohinsky, Marie-Claire. *The Singer's Debussy*. New York: Pelion Press, 1987.
REF ML 54.6.D42R62 1987

Includes original French texts, with pronunciations in IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet), and English translations. Useful introductions to songs.

Unger, Melvin P. *Handbook to Bach's Sacred Cantata Texts: an Interlinear Translation with Reference*

***Guide to Biblical Quotations and Allusions*.** Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 1996.
REF ML 54.2.B1U52 1996

Exhaustive. Enthusiastically endorsed by renowned Bach scholar Helmuth Rilling. Need we say more?!

ML 48-50 = LIBRETTO TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

ML 48-50 is the classification for opera libretti, with **ML 50** reserved for individual titles ('cuttered' by composer's surname). Remember that CD booklets are another good source for libretto translations.

The late **Nico Castel's** publications are highly-regarded, and include full translations of entire opera libretti, with full IPA-transcriptions. **You will find these volumes on the Dictionary Table** - on the side that faces the miniature scores/listening area of the Music Library

DICTION, PHONETICS & IPA

Books concerning diction of different languages and phonetics are shelved in **MT 883**. (Be sure to check the Reference Area, too!) Many are practical, using well-known song texts for examples. Few are as useful as:

Coffin, Berton. *Phonetic Readings of Songs and Arias*. Boulder, CO: Pruett Press, 1964.
REF MT 883.C64

"Authentic pronunciation of 413 Italian, German, and French lyrics from '*The Singer's Repertoire*' in international phonetic alphabet transcription." Please be aware that this is an early version of IPA, which will require some tweaking.

The following CD-ROM may also prove useful:

Jensen, Karen. *Singer's Guide to the IPA: a Multimedia Course on the International Phonetic Alphabet*. Winnipeg: University of Manitoba, 1998.
MT 883.S554 1998 [CD-ROM available at the Music Library Service Desk]

The Music Library's foreign-language dictionaries are non-circulating and were selected specifically for use by singers: each contains IPA pronunciation symbols. All of the most commonly used dictionaries will be found on the Dictionary Table – rather than on the Reference shelves – even though they are all designated as "REFERENCE" and non-circulating. **Please return these dictionaries to the Dictionary Table, after you have**

finished using them.

If you wish to borrow a dictionary, note the basic classification/call number from the Music Library's copy and go to the **Western Libraries Shared Library Catalogue** to request a circulating copy from the D.B. Weldon Library. Our advice? Be sure to choose a recent one, which is more likely to contain IPA!

VOICE TYPES

Please be aware that it is dangerous to "categorize" a young voice and that voices will often change significantly with age. That being said, if you wish to learn more about the German *FACH* system, here are some helpful sources:

Maddison, Dorothy. *Kein' Angst, Baby: A Singer's Guide to German Operatic Auditions in the 1990s*. London: Rheingold, 1991.
MT 892.M33 1991

Fredman, Myer. *The Drama of Opera*. Brighton: Sussex Academic Press, 2003.
ML 1700.F72 2003

Additional information about the characteristics of individual voice categories may be found in **grovemusic online** (a.k.a. *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*).

PERIODICALS FOR SINGERS

The Music Library subscribes to many periodicals of interest to singers. (** denotes some online content.) Included are:

The NATS Journal [National Association of Teachers of Singing]

*The Journal of Singing*** [formerly *The NATS Journal*]

Opera News **

Aria

Early Music **

Prelude (the Voice of the Canadian Opera Company)

Opera Canada **

Choral journals may also be of interest - you will find them under this SUBJECT:

[CHORAL MUSIC - PERIODICALS](#)

For holdings, call numbers and online issues of these and other periodicals, consult the **Western Libraries Shared Library Catalogue** – www.lib.uwo.ca – and remember to search by the **TITLE of the journal** - NOT the title of the article!

PERFORMING PRACTICE – HISTORICAL

Historically informed performance is an ongoing and important consideration for all musicians. The following titles may prove useful to singers:

Cyr, Mary. *Performing Baroque Music*. Portland, Or.: Amadeus Press, 1992.
ML 457.C9 1992

A practical guide to all aspects of Baroque music performance.

Hefling, Stephen E. *Rhythmic Alteration in Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-century Music: Notes Inégales and Overdotting*. New York: Schirmer Books, 1993.
ML437.H43 1993

Hefling examines primary sources and translates the appropriate sections into English. Includes bibliographies of both primary and secondary sources, organized by date. Very useful.

Carter, Stewart (ed.) *A Performer's Guide to Seventeenth-Century Music*. New York: Schirmer Books, c1997.
ML 457.P477 1997

In three sections, with the first section devoted to vocal issues, these essays deal with both solo and choral singing, and are written by established early music scholar-performers.

McGee, Timothy J. *The Sound of Medieval Song: Ornamentation and Vocal Style According to the Treatises*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998. **ML 172.M44 1998**

Twenty years' research into 150 treatises, with examples taken from forty-six of them) to help inform your vocal performance practise for the vocal music of the Middle Ages.

Domenico Corri's Treatises on Singing: A Four-volume Anthology. New York: Garland Pub., 1993-1995.
MT 890.D65 1993 v. 1- 4

Treatises and tutors are extremely-useful sources of performance-practice information. Written by the virtuosi of their day, these are primary sources.

Parrott, Andrew. *Composers' Intentions? Lost Traditions of Musical Performance*. Woodbridge, Suffolk, UK; Rochester, NY: Boydell Press, 2015.
ML 457.P37 2015

Fascinating insight into Parrott's explorations into the musical past, driven by his career as a performer and conductor of early music. Of special interest to singers are the discussions of pitch, transposition, and falsetto.

Toft, Robert. *Heart to Heart: Expressive Singing in England, 1780-1830*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2000.
MT 823.T64 2000

Building upon his previous research, Toft examines the singing of this later period, with emphasis on phrasing, tempo, execution (i.e. ornaments), countenance (engagement with the text) and using a variety of means to convey the passion implied by a text.

_____. ***Tune Thy Musicke to Thy Hart: the Art of Eloquent Singing in England 1597-1622*.** Toronto: University of Toronto Press, c1993.
ML 457.T644 1993.

Toft examines both musical and non-musical treatises of the seventeenth century to inform present-day practice. Emphasis is on pronunciation and techniques to promote eloquent delivery of sung text.

PERFORMING PRACTICE – CONTEMPORARY

Should you plan to perform contemporary music, these two sources will prove useful:

Mabry, Sharon. *Exploring Twentieth-Century Vocal Music: A Practical Guide to Innovations in Performance and Repertoire*. Oxford ; New York: Oxford University Press, 2002.
MT 820.M129 2002

Written by a voice teacher with a passion for performing music by living composers. Discussion of appropriate repertoire, vocal requirements, challenges of contemporary notation and how to achieve specified effects: "What should it sound like and how do I do it?" with useful suggestions to learn a new and unfamiliar score. Includes an index, bibliography and three appendices: sample recital programs, suggested repertoire (with annotations) and sources for music.

Edgerton, Michael Edward. *The 21st-Century Voice: Contemporary and Traditional Extra-Normal Voice*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 2004.
MT 821.E32 2004 (+ accompanying CD - ask at the Circulation Desk - by this same call number).

Interesting on a number of levels: includes performer-specific information (air-flow, resonance, articulation, multiphonics etc.). Appendices include: a chapter on vocal science, a useful glossary of terms, and a 16-page list of compositions using 20th-century vocal techniques.

VOCAL HEALTH

As a singer, your instrument is your body – so please take good care of yourself! Following are some titles which offer practical information on the care and feeding of singers' voices.

Coffin, Berton. *Coffin's Sounds of Singing: Principles and Applications of Vocal Techniques with Chromatic*

***Vowel Chart*.** Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2002.
MT 821.C65 2002

Hines, Jerome. *The Four Voices of Man*. New York: Limelight Editions, c1997.
MT 820.H56 1997

Lieberman, Julie Lyonn. *You Are Your Instrument: the Definitive Musician's Guide to Practice and Performance*. New York: Huiksi Music, 1991.
MT 2.L532 1991

Miller, Richard. *Solutions for Singers: Tools for Performers and Teachers*. Oxford ; New York: Oxford University Press, 2004.
MT 820.M5993 2004

Anything written by Richard Miller is a must-read for singers. See the chapter on "Healthy Singing."

Punt, Norman A. *The Singer's and Actor's Throat: the Vocal Mechanism of the Professional Voice User and its Care in Health and Disease*. London: Heinemann Medical, 1979.
MT 821.P9 1979

Salaman, Esther. *Unlocking Your Voice: Freedom to Sing*. London: Kahn & Averill, 1999.
MT 820.S15 1999

VIDEOS FOR SINGERS

Of course, "operas on video" are the most obvious video choice for singers, but there are a number of other video options available to you at the Music Library, particularly with respect to vocal pedagogy.

N.B. The size of the Music Library's video collection was previously constrained by the Canadian Copyright Act. Recent changes to copyright legislation regarding classroom showings means that we are now playing "catch-up" with video purchases.

How do you find the Music Library's VHS videos? They are all classed together on the shelf (following the "New Books" shelf) at MVD – for browsing purposes.

Or, you can do a **KEYWORD** search:

MOZART - LIMITED to "Videos, etc."

Please note that our **DVDs** are located at the Circulation Desk. You must request them by call number, just as you do for our CD collection.

To find Richard Miller's vocal pedagogy videos, the following **KEYWORD** search will retrieve all of the titles found in the Music Library:

(miller richard) voice oberlin video*

The Music Library's subscription to **OPERA IN VIDEO** will expire on 31 March, 2017. Until then, 185 streamed opera productions are accessible to you, from home, via your Western Identity username and password. Perform a

TITLE search on **OPERA IN VIDEO** in the Western Libraries Catalogue to view the list of 185 streamed operas available for your viewing pleasure (before April 2017).

Do not discount the value of attending or viewing masterclasses with a non-vocal focus! Much can be learned from other musicians' performances. Variations in style, phrasing, tempo and musicianship are all worth considering. Check out the Masterclass Music Foundation series of DVDs: **MDVD 237 - MDVD 267**.

Please also be aware that as a resident of the City of London, Ontario, you are eligible for borrowing privileges at the London Public Library. LPL has a collection of operas on DVD - some 200 titles (including operettas and soap operas) at the present time (2016), thanks to our city's active London Opera Guild. Search the LPL Catalogue using the **KEYWORDS**

OPERAS DVD

to see LPL's entire collection of operas on video.

RELATED HANDOUTS

Collected Sets, Complete Works, etc.

Singers on Compact Disc

Solo Music Reference Collection



REVIEW



- **VERIFY song titles** (and spellings) in the "works lists" as found in *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*
- **VERIFY titles of opera arias** in *The New Grove Dictionary of Opera—v. 4 Appendix*.
- **AVOID using the SUMMON option** at www.lib.uwo.ca if you seek printed or recorded music. This product is appropriate for those times when you require articles and book chapters, but does not do such a great job when you need actual printed/recorded music. If you are embarking upon your essay in the "wee hours" of the morning, you might find SUMMON useful for locating secondary literature.
- **ALWAYS CHOOSE the CATALOGUE SEARCH** option to find the Music Library's

printed and recorded music!

- **VERIFY the spelling of a composer's name** by using an **AUTHOR** search... **then copy/paste the correct spelling into a KEYWORD search!**
- **ALWAYS SEARCH by KEYWORD** to find individual song titles (printed music or CDs) quickly and efficiently. (Searching via a **TITLE** search **WILL NOT** locate individual songs and arias!)
- **If you do not find a desired song or aria title via KEYWORD, be sure to search for the TITLE of the LARGER WORK** [i.e. the title of the opera] in the **Western Libraries Catalogue**.
- **Use the original language when searching for a song** in the **Western Libraries Shared Library Catalogue**.
- **Initial articles** (*A, Le, La, Die, Der, The*, etc.) **should be omitted** when searching for a particular title (e.g. for *Die Schöne Müllerin*, you must look under the word "Schone" – **NOT** under the article "Die" [remember that the German "die" = "the" in English!]).
- **To locate art song repertoire** by historical period, consult *The New Grove Dictionary*. The article on "**Song**" delineates the history of song (from antiquity to the present day) by historical period **AND** provides names of composers actively composing songs during each time period.
- Last, but not least, **if you do not find a desired item, PLEASE ASK FOR HELP!** The Music Library has an outstanding collection of vocal music: if you cannot find something, please **DO NOT** automatically assume that the Music Library does not own a copy! We try hard to be singer-friendly!

Prepared by: **Jane Ann Pearce Baldwin**
Music Reference Librarian
January 1990

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Music Reference Librarian
2016.05.02