

Mirror, mirror on the screen

Digital Technology and Voice Training

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Aix-en-Provence
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Assumptions

- * Digital technology offers helpful tools for creative teaching
- * Voice analysis software can make our teaching more effective.
- * How can we marry a singing lesson and the computer?
- * Teachers need methodology for its use.

Questions

- * How much does the teacher need to know?
- * How much does the student need to know?
- * What kind of equipment is essential? What is a good addition? What is luxury?
- * What features does helpful software have? Which programmes serve different purposes best?

Themes

1. Don't derail the lesson! - Visual Feedback
2. Find the missing link – Voice Analysis
3. The long-term view - Document vocal development

1. Don't derail the lesson!

Visual Feedback

- * Any object used in a lesson – including technology - must serve the larger purpose of the lesson:
your student has come to sing!
- * It's a mirror - no more, no less.
- * Gives teacher and student the same information

1. Methodology

How can I use it?

- * Parrot method - Demonstration and imitation
- * Visual ear training – intonation
- * Concentrate energy
- * Awaken interest in making different sounds
- * Practising – repeating the effect

1. Equipment and Software

- * Laptop, iPhone, Studio computer,
- * Microphone
- * For example
 - * Sing and See?
 - * Sygyt?
 - * Voce Vista?
 - * Praat?
 - * Other?

2. Finding the missing link

Voice analysis – voice portraits

- * For the teacher: defining and understanding a problem
- * For the student: developing the idea of his/her own sound
- * Concrete assistance in defining the parameters of students' voice
- * Defining the need to consult a specialist
- * Information is not always for the student

2. Methodology

Teacher must be able to

- * handle the software efficiently
- * read the spectrogram reliably

Takes time: Make a date apart from lesson time.

Learn to identify the specific characteristics of a voice.

2. Equipment and Software

- * initially basic equipment
- * Possibly an additional microphone
- * More may be better but it may also be luxury
- * EGG at an advanced level of analysis and technical knowledge
- * Suitable software:
 - * Sing and See?
 - * Sygyt?
 - * Voce Vista?
 - * Diva?
 - * Other?

3. The Long-term View: Documentation

- * Objectifies vocal development
- * Comparison documents vocal change at appropriate intervals
- * Catch possible questions or problems
- * Can be simple or very scientific

3. Methodology

- * Record and store examples at intervals
- * Help the student evaluate changes in vocal development
- * Teacher consultation for questions that arise
- * Requires knowledgeable handling
- * Student questionnaires can enhance its usefulness

3. Equipment

- * Studio documentation
 - * Can be done with the same equipment and programmes as above
- * Professional documentation requires more
 - * Quality equipment
 - * Reliable microphone
 - * Assure constant distance from mouth to microphone
 - * Can include use of the EGG

3. Software

- * Sing and See?
- * Sygyt?
- * Voce Vista?
- * Diva?
- * PRAAT
- * Other?

In order to learn,

Students need to

- * be involved
- * explore
- * have things explained
- * apply their knowledge
- * evaluate the results

Today's students

*.....don't ask IF there is software,
they ask where it is,
what it can do
and how they can get it!*

Using GPS?

or still navigating by the stars?

and over to you.....

Coffee break

