

Report and comments by the local teacher and students.

Maria Mannermaa's comments:

- E-learning tools are familiar to me. I have used a variety of network applications in meetings in my work. I have also organized lectures and seminars involving the use of online tools and web conference tools. Using this technology in teaching singing was a new experience for me. I was enthusiastic to try new methods and the technology.
- Meeting with the teacher in advance was a very good thing. If the appointment is the first public event, it maybe a mere presentation.
- Sometimes just the right questions can help singers find their targets in developing. E-learning tools for this are an appropriate and effective instrument for working.
- I would see the future of e-learning tools such an excellent opportunity for for example international mentoring.
- Take note of singing in web-based instruction:
 - The picture and voice are not always simultaneous. The simultaneous operation of both end of network may not be possible.
 - Delay can get used to if both notice the situation.
 - Teaching is more comfortable to follow, if the camera and the screen are close to each other. Even if they are about half a meter above each other, the singing or speaking to the camera and watching the screen the same time is difficult.
 - It is also very important that the teacher looks to the camera while teaching. Seeing the face is really important in teaching singing. Therefore, the teacher's camera and the screen must be closely spaced.
 - Various technical aids (for example the spectrogram) are helpful if the sound quality is poor. In some teaching situations the sound quality has to be good. In some cases the excellent sound quality is not necessary, but of course it always would be welcome.

I was happy to this experiment. I would like to continue this kind of working and I would be very happy to have an international mentor to contact every now and then over the network. I think that e-learning tools are ecological, because it can reduce travelling. For example, if you want to go to a master class, but it is not certain whether teacher is right for you, it would be great if you could meet the teacher and try your chemistry over the network. E-learning can not replace classroom training or person-to person contact, but it can be helpful in some conditions. If your teacher is abroad and you know each other, I think that if you have the suitable equipment it is possible to "keep the learning cycle alive" in spite of distance.