

EVPWEEK #4, LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA, FEBRUARY 21 – 26, 2011
DIGITAL RESOURCES TRAINING AND VOCAL PEDAGOGY: BUILDING BRIDGES

Notes on comments by Dr. Marie-Christine Bordeaux, Feb. 26, 2011 (Set up by Norma Enns)

- **Technology means using new objects in traditional ways.** New technologies do not mean new content.
 - Skype offers traditional teaching under changed conditions, but it seems almost the same.
 - What will be new in teaching through the technology? Is the software restrictive? It must not endanger creativity.
- **The real and virtual worlds are not opposites.** In the video with orchestra, the conductor was quite expressive but singer felt restricted by trying to communicate with the images.
- **Pay attention to the influence of the power of social practise.** If millions of people train by you-tube, we must pay attention to it. We cannot be indifferent to it. We should not pay attention because of the power of markets, but because they are free to do this.
- **One of the problems with spectrograms** is that the teacher can use it as proof that he/she is right when a student doesn't believe him/her, the risk being that they are visual artefacts. There must be a transposition between hearing and seeing – they are two different ways of perceiving. "More colour is good" is too simple an observation.
- **Analyse what happens between argumentative, expressive and informative communication.** Teachers have a form of expressive communication by speaking in effective metaphors that represent precise observation. A Skype or a recorded lesson changes communication to the informative. Some things are obvious in face-to-face communication, but not obvious when you are in a poor communication context. Non-verbal communication allows silence. Students need those moments of silence in order to develop their own imagination, their own version of the text. When teaching by Skype or telephone, those moments are uneasy; since the spoken word assumes the role of reassuring that the communication is still functioning. A medium that can be very useful, can also exercise a negative influence on a very important aspect of teaching: the imagination and with it, the ability of the student to develop his inner experience.
- **Finding creativity** – It will be challenging to work not only on the use of technology but also on ways of finding creativity. "2Living labs" is a network within the European Community which originated in created 2006 in Lyon. Representatives of different disciplines come with a project and meet with people from other disciplines with the aim of exploring uses of new things in a free space together. A teacher in another area or an engineer will have a very different perspective on what you are doing. This can be very constructive exchange. For example, the last YouTube presentation was interesting because it dealt with questions of affect.
- **Working with media** must include and challenge the resource of our imagination and the continuing exploration of metaphoric communication.