

”The Effects of Pre-performance Research and Analysis on Vocal Music Performance”

The study aimed at establishing whether vocal performers at various levels carry out research as part of the preparation for performance. Secondly, to analyze and outline the characteristics of selected pieces by various composers, assessing the technical requirements for the performance of the selected soprano pieces. Finally it aimed at providing suggestions and recommendations on how a performer can overcome the challenges in each of the pieces. The study was mounted on the premise that poor analytical skills hamper performance of any music and that to understand the deeper aspects of music, a performer needs to understand its style, tradition and background. This study was undertaken to clearly articulate the importance of in-depth research as a prerequisite for effective performance. One important aspect of pre-performance research was the observation of the selected songs, and the specific technical demands of each. The study sought to discuss pertinent issues associated with interpretation of the selected songs. It also sought to provide suggestions on how a performer can adequately overcome the challenges posed by the technical demands of each song, in order to give an effective performance of the selected pieces, or other pieces using a similar approach.

Keywords

: Music, Pre-performance, Research, Analysis, Vocal music,

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