

NOW we're cookin'! As we look ahead, ask this of yourself.

- During warm-ups, let's be more attentive to building a foundation for what you want to do well in the next two hours. -- Your stance, bright disposition, and positive expression influence the character of your singing. Yes, give yourself permission to start with some unrefined sounds; you're just beginning. But, then be especially attentive to your intonation. If you **insert** enthusiasm, your spirit will feel better, too. It's an appealing way to live. :--)
- Look in the mirror, and spontaneously sing the word "JOY!" **Be sure the corners of your mouth are inward.** Sing (joyfully): "dawn", "long", "laud", "song". Notice that, because you sang joyfully, the area above your upper lip is lifted and closer to your nostrils than when you relax your face. "Corners-in" plus that "joyful lift" combine as the quickest ways for a chorus to make a unified sound. Let it be our "Default mouth sensation" for *A German Requiem*. (works for other music, too!)
- Teach yourself to use less pressure, weight and volume on subordinate syllables. Remember, most German words of more than one syllable should be sung this way.
- Help us BALANCE voices in your section. More and more, ask yourself, "Can I hear my neighbor?"
- Sopranos – Keep exploring your ability to make an easy, dove-like, "cooing" sound above the top line of the staff. It will take some patience, but the time you invest will lead to a beautiful result!
"Lightness is the gateway to the upper voice."
- EVERYONE: Help us be together as we start a new phrase – **Develop the habit of looking at me as a new phrase approaches.** I'll do my best to help support you as you begin a new idea. To be successful, I need you to be on the receiving end of my cue.
- Keep your mind in the music when another part is singing. It's easy to lose your place occasionally. In complex sections, don't hesitate to write-in each measure number if it may help you know where you are. COUNT.

Thinking back to Monday's rehearsal:

Mvt. 2 – (Slow sections) Be sure you're measuring the journey by feeling (thinking) (tapping) the sub-pulse (1 & 2 & 3 &). This will also help us as we measure the 3 eighths each time in the word "Gras."

MONDAY, MARCH 24 REHEARSAL: (Everyone in Fellowship Hall)

Remember: Music is organic, never stagnant. Like water, it's always flowing or receding!

- Mvt. 7 – add German (feel the sub-pulse inside the long notes)
- Mvt. 3 – (p. 35) build security w/ mm. 144 – 153 (add German) & (p. 37) mm. 164 – 173 (add German and put the 4 parts together!!!)
- Mvt. 1
- Mvt. 4 + • Mvt. 2 (if time)

MONDAY, MARCH 31 REHEARSAL:

- All of Mvts. 3, 4, 5, 6

Thanks to you additional singers who sent a photo and told me about yourself! If others are so inclined, send me an email at:

Be well, keep studying, and I'll see you Monday!
Peter

REMINDER: Extra Rehearsal – Wednesday, April 23 Grace United Methodist Church
(300 E. Gartner Rd., Naperville)