Italian Lyric Diction

Designed for choral music educators and private voice teachers, the purpose of this 2020 Summer Voice Institute course is to facilitate correct pronunciation, articulation, and vocalization of Italian Lyric Diction in order to promote singing with accurate, clear diction that will enable intelligible and meaningful communication of the text.

The course will open with a review of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) symbols employed in Italian Diction and will proceed through the rules for pronunciation for the consonants and vowels, and rules for syllabification. The course will include written practice sections and practical application of the information to selections from the University Interscholastic League Prescribed Music Lists for the solo singer and choral ensembles.

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DEBORAH WILLIAMSON, named a 2016-2017 Baylor University Outstanding Professor for Teaching, is a tenured Professor of Voice, and has served on the Voice faculty at The American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria. She has taught English, Italian, and French Lyric Diction at the university level for more than twenty years; and is the author of A Course in French Lyric Diction, published by GIA Publications in 2020. She holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Voice from the University of North Texas; the Artist Diploma in Opera and the Master of Music in Voice from the University of Cincinnati, College/Conservatory of Music; and the Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Baylor University. Dr. Williamson has performed as a lyric soprano in operatic and musical theater productions and concerts in Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Belgium, Hungary, Croatia, and throughout the United States. She has served as Chair for the National Student Auditions of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS), two terms as Governor of the Texoma Region of NATS, and is the Founder and Coordinator of the Baylor Summer Voice Institute.

Testimonials for the Summer Voice Institute Diction courses:
“I absolutely cannot believe how much material was covered. The sequencing made all the difference. Never at any point did I feel bored; but also, I never felt bogged down. Perfect.”