

SOLOIST WORKSHOP: March 2012

This is a workshop where solo singers can develop their stage presentation and acting skills, as well as enhance their singing technique and musical preparation. The aim of the workshop is to enable soloists to achieve a higher standard of presentation and greater confidence in public performances.

Date: Sunday 4 March 2012
Time: 10:00 – 13:00 hrs and 14:00 – 17:00 hrs
Place: Pantokeller, Basel
Cost: 75 CHF for Gilbert & Sullivan Society members /
100 CHF for non-members

Registration: Please register by 14 February 2012 by email to workshop@savoyards.ch

Coaches: Barbara Laurie, mezzo soprano and Lisa Wingard, soprano, are professional performers with extensive teaching experience and will be leading the sessions and offering instruction to participants relevant to the following objectives:

OBJECTIVES:

- 1) To explore improvisation skills, audience perception (that is, “what we think we are doing on stage is not always what the audience will read”) and stage presence.
- 2) To enable participants to experience character development through spoken text (that is, the text from each solo to be sung by the individual singers) and physical movement.
- 3) To provide basic knowledge of professional presentation techniques for public performance.
- 4) To develop musical interpretation/phrasing, articulation, breathing techniques and effective sound production.

EXPECTATIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS:

Singers will be selected by the coaches for the soloist workshop based upon their experience & musical ability. Applicants may be required to provide a recording and/or consult directly with the coaches to facilitate prior assessment.

- 1) Each singer must initially (by email) offer an aria/song from which 2 minute sections (excerpts) will be used during the workshop. It is advisable for each singer to have 2 or 3 songs available in the event that the initial one offered does not suit the workshop circumstances.
- 2) Once the song is agreed upon between the singer and the coaches, the singer must prepare this song prior to the workshop – this means having a very good knowledge of the correct text, notes, and rhythms. Each singer must be able to perform the sections of his/her song agreed under Expectation 1 above from memory during the workshop.
- 3) Singers should bring 3 copies of the aria/song to the workshop and may be asked to send copies (by post or electronically) to the coaches in advance. In addition, singers should have a pencil (and a bottle of water, if desired).
- 4) Comfortable clothes and shoes are recommended because plenty of physical movement will be involved in this workshop. Come to the workshop with the energy and concentration that will be needed.