

Point Loma Nazarene University

MUA 155-455; section 2

INSTRUCTOR: TINA SAYERS

CMF 211; Spring 2015

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CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Private, applied instruction is a vital part of the development of music majors, as well as an appropriate elective for many non- majors. Each level of study has defined materials and technical masteries to be achieved.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the semester it is expected that the student will have achieved a greater command of the following:

- Classical vocal technique
- Classical vocal repertoire.
- Successful singing in several languages.
- Development of good practice habits and routine.
- The process of preparing music to performance level.

PREREQUISITE:

None for MUA 155. MUA 255, 355, and 455 are taken only by students who have been accepted to advance to one of these levels by the faculty after a jury exam.

UNITS: 1 unit = 1 academic half hour (25 minutes)
 2 units = 1 academic hour (50 minutes).

TEXT & MATERIALS:

- **Book: “*The Inner Voice*” by Renee Fleming**
All Tina’s voice students need to purchase “The Inner Voice” at the beginning of the semester. Reading assignments from this book will be posted in an appendix to this syllabus.
- **Sheet Music, as assigned**
*Students will also be required to purchase vocal literature which will be assigned during the semester. Vocal music can be ordered online through amazon.com, sheetmusicplus.com or in some cases musicnotes.com. You can also look for **free downloads** of public domain compositions at IMSLP.org. Music that has been assigned should be ordered promptly and brought in to the next lesson. Failure to do so will result in a lowering of your grade.*

- 3-ring binders (2)
Student shall use a 3 ring binder in which to keep music copies and any resource materials I give you. Please divide your folder into 2 categories (music and other resources). The second binder will stay with me in my office for use during your lessons/coachings with another pianist. All your assigned music should be copied and out in this binder for me.
- Voice recording device (computer, MP3 recorder, etc)
Each lesson and coaching will be recorded. Listening to your lesson/coaching recordings during the week is an important part of your practice time, and serves as a reminder for how to practice during the week.
- **Music Journal** (can purchase from Tina for \$10.00 or online)
** **New requirement!!!** You will use a music journal during your lessons to write down warm-ups, assignments, and other musical notations. Then, during the week you will write in this journal of how, what and when you practiced as well as written observations about experiences you have in practice, observations from listening, and other “A-ha!” moments during the week. Your journal is the ticket to your lesson; no journal = lesson time spent in the practice room!*

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- **Attend all required events** (see list in appendix)
- **Keep a good music journal and bring to every lesson!**
- **Check your email** & shared google docs regularly for announcements, assignments, and other instructions.
- Become familiar with and refer often to your **studio handbook** to help guide you through the course/departmental requirements.
- **Learn (and memorize!) a minimum number of songs/languages per semester** according to your level of study. The higher the course level, the more difficult the repertoire will be (see *the handbook for course level requirements*).
- **Be prepared for your lesson:** Students studying for one unit of credit are expected to practice a minimum of 5 hours per week. Students studying for two units of credit are expected to practice 10 hours per week. *Students who have not completed the required amount of practice will spend their lesson time in a practice room!* Practice includes the following: Time spent vocalizing, singing repertoire, learning music, working on translations, pronunciation, expression and memorization. It also includes time singing with Ines, or other collaborative pianists. Listening to relevant recordings or live performances also counts toward time spent in practice. Make sure to track practice time in your journal!
- **Attend Studio Classes:** All of my voice students are expected to attend studio class *every week* during the semester. You will also be required to *perform regularly* in studio class. Studio classes are on Wednesdays, 4:00-5:30 PM in either the choir room (Cooper 115), Parlor, or Crill. These are very valuable sessions in which we sing for each other, host guest teachers/artists, and practice performance techniques together. if you have a class conflict, please see me regarding an alternative assignment.
- **Listening Reports:** All voice students must submit 2 listening reports (on vocalists) per semester. These can be live vocal performances during the semester (in which they are not participating) or recordings/videos that are a *minimum of 1 hour in duration*. These must be one page, typed (double spaced) and include your observations about the singer, songs, style of music, etc.
- **Storyboards:** For each foreign language song from your repertoire for this semester, design a storyboard either on paper, on your computer, or some other creative way which describes the plot line by line. Create a visual “scene” for each verse, as if it were slides from a film reel. Make sure you include an English translation for each “scene.” This will be a very important tool for memorizing your music, so take time to do these well.

- **Youtube Report:** All students will be asked to watch an assigned video during the semester. You need to watch the video and then write a one page, typed response which is due at the next lesson. This article can be submitted on paper, or emailed to me.
- **Book Report:** Throughout the semester I will be assigning chapters from *The Inner Voice* that you will responsible to read the week they are assigned (see appendix). At the end of the semester, you will submit a 4 page, typed report about the book and what you learned from reading and discussing it.
- **Auditions:** All of my students are required to audition for a solo at least once per semester. This may include auditions for Messiah, the Art Song Experience, PLOT, or off-campus concerts. Additional auditions will be considered extra credit.

SUMMARY OF SEMESTER ASSIGNMENTS:

Assignment:	Description:	Due date:
MUSIC JOURNAL	A record of weekly assignments, vocalizations and practice log. Also, every week you will write down observations you have resulting from your practice sessions.	Weekly at your lesson. <i>(Remember: your journal is your ticket into your lesson! No journal = lesson spent in practice room!)</i>
Storyboard(s)	Create a storyboard for each of your foreign language songs	Due at MIDTERM exam
MIDTERM- Memorize Assigned Music	All foreign language songs will be sung by memory for mid-term exam in your lesson.	Week of October 27
Attend Studio Classes & Vocal Forums as assigned	Weekly attendance	Every Wednesday @ 4-5:30 <i>(VF Mondays TBA)</i>
2 Listening Reports	1 hour duration/1 page typed response. <i>Must be on a vocalist!</i>	End of semester
Book Report	A report about the book which focuses on your reflections, ideas, and experiences that resulted from the reading. (4 pages, typed, double-spaced)	End of semester (see appendix for assignment reading deadlines).
AUDITIONS	2 solo auditions per semester	<i>(see me for dates)</i>

EVALUATION:

Every music major (for whom voice as their primary instrument) and vocal scholarship recipient is required to perform in a *vocal jury* as their class final. All other voice students will be asked to perform in the non-major voice recital at the last studio class of the semester (mock-jury day) as their final exam.

Excusal/postponement of this requirement will be given on an individual basis, based upon medical or family emergency that would prohibit the completion of your jury, and must be approved by the voice department chair in consultation with the voice faculty. Failure to complete the jury at the time prescribed will result in the grade of F for that jury and therefore the highest possible grade for that semester of vocal study will be a D.

EXTRA REQUIREMENTS FOR MUSIC MAJORS:

- **Departmental Recitals:** All music majors are required to sing once per semester in departmental recitals. However, it is expected that you will sing as many times as possible.
- **Upper Qualifying Exams:** In order for a student to move to the 355 level of study, he/she must complete an upper qualifying exam at the time of juries. This exam will include singing standard repertoire, sight singing, scales and arpeggios. Please see your studio teacher for more details.

GRADING:

Your semester grade will be broken down as follows:

Weekly practice/progress*	40%
Midterm	20%
Listening Reports/Articles Reports	20%
Final exam (jury/non-major recital)	20%

** Your weekly practice grade will be composed of two parts: one for assignments completed during the week (as evidenced in your lesson and practice chart), and the other for vocal progress and how well you've applied yourself during the lesson. You must bring a recording device to your lesson in order to receive a B or above. Please refer to the studio handbook for the grade scale used in the voice area. These grades reflect the following work habits:*

- A** = The student has done more than the teacher assigned
- B** = The student has done exactly what the teacher assigned
- C** = The student has made progress, but has not completed all work
- D** = The student is present, but no work has been completed
- F** = The student fails to attend lesson without giving me advanced notice

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance is very important in private lessons. According to the catalog, the student may be dis-enrolled with a grade of "F" after *two unexcused absences* and **will** be dis-enrolled with a grade of "F" after *three unexcused absences*. This applies for both voice lessons with me as well as any coachings with Barb or Ines.

MAKE-UP LESSONS:

I will not make up lessons for a student's absence, regardless of the reason. However, I will make up any lessons that are missed on my account. Please do not come to your lesson if you have a contagious illness. Use sick time as an opportunity to listen, memorize, and research your music. Student absences will be *excused* for illness *if* a minimum of 12 hours advanced notice is given; emergencies will be excused at my discretion. If no notice is given, you will receive an **F** for that week, so please be sure to communicate!

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS:

All students are expected to meet the standards for this course as set by the instructor. However, students with learning disabilities/vocal health issues who may need accommodations should discuss options with the instructor during the first two weeks of class and provide approved documentation and verification of need.

APPENDIX:

DATES TO NOTE: (= required attendance)*

*Tina's Faculty Recital "Opera 101"	Tuesday, September 8 ; 7:30 PM (Crill)
*Oratorio Master Class:	Saturday, October 17 ; 12:00-3:00 PM (Crill)
*Cabaret Night	Tuesday, October 22 ; 7:30 PM (ARC) <i>(dress rehearsal on Wednesday, Oct 21 4-6 PM)</i>
Midterm (in your lesson):	<i>week of</i> October 26
Storyboards Due (in your lesson):	<i>week of</i> October 26
Messiah Auditions:	Wednesday, Nov 4 ; 4:00-6:00 PM
Art Song Experience Auditions: (Crill)	Monday, November 30 , 2014; 4:00-6:00 PM
*Mock-Jury/Non-Major Recital:	Wednesday, December, 10 ; 4:00 (Crill)
Vocal Juries:	Thursday, December 17 (Crill)

Monday Departmental Recital Dates (4:00 PM in Crill):

(All music majors must sing at least once per semester):

October 5
November 2
November 23
December 7

SCHEDULE OF READING ASSIGNMENTS for FALL 2014:

BOOK: “*The Inner Voice*” by Renee Fleming (ISBN # 0-670-03351-0

Chapter	Topic	Read the week of
1	Family	Sept 7-13
2	Education	Sept 14-20
3	Apprenticeship	Sept 21-27
4	Mentors	Sept 28-Oct 4
5	Success	Oct 5-11
6	Challenge	Oct 12-18
7	Business	Oct 19-25
8	Longevity	Oct 26-Nov 1
9	Image	Nov 2 -8
10	Performance	Nov 9-15
11	Roles	Nov 16-22
12	Backstage	Nov23-29
13	Coda	Nov 30- Dec 6