

## Rehearsal Notes 4.5.16

We had a solid rehearsal last evening and I believe we firmed up some insecure spots.

Thank you Zieglers and Kim for the rehearsal!

I am concerned with your health! I hope everyone will get plenty of rest and the necessary medical attention to get through this allergy season!

### Rehearsal Order:

We will work in program order for the most part these last three rehearsals. We will probably work the Requiem out of order on the evenings when Benjamin can be with us.

1. **Requiem**-I am still concerned with bright vowels and heavy 'r's. Try this: cup one hand behind an ear, looking at yourself in a mirror, and sing a phrase (or a single note) with the word Kyrie. Really listen. Do you hear "Key-ree-ay"? You should hear "kih-rih-eh" with a flipped 'r'. Now try "requiem." Do you hear "Ray-Kwee-em"? You should hear "reh-kwih-ehm". Sing "miserere". Do you hear "mee-say-ray-ray"? You should hear 'mih-seh-reh-reh'. Now one more: 'vanitatum'. Do you hear 'van-ee-ta-tewm'? You should hear 'vah-nih-tah-toom". You should see a rounded mouth with a north-south opening. If the opening is east-west you are too bright. Keep the lips relaxed.
2. **Sing Me to Heaven**-This piece will start the second half of the concert. It needs to be energized so that it will stay in tune. Listen across the choir to help with tuning.
3. **I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes**-much improvement here! Continue to feel all seven pulses in a measure (the quarter note pulse). Legato singing means smoothly connected singing.
4. **Hark I Hear the Harps Eternal**-We need to stay on top of the tempo and sing with a confident and fervent energy.
5. **And I Saw a New Heaven**-Much improvement here too. Let's continue to work on legato singing. Go over the entrances that give you trouble. Loved the 'new Jerusalem' part last night!
6. **The Ground**-Vowels!!! Keep them round and tall!
7. **How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings**-Review phrasing and dynamics. The man who did this particular translation and arrangement of the Brahms Requiem was my college choral conductor. Dr. Lara Hoggard directed the Carolina Choir (UNC-CH) from the mid-sixties to mid-seventies. You hear his voice every time I make a correction or musical suggestion.
8. **Deep River**-We end our concert by crossing over Jordan. This piece needs a rich, shimmery quality (think sunlight on the river).