


Conducting Choirs

by David P. DeVenney

Tutorials and Extras

Additional Content and Further Information


Video Clips

1. Finding the "bounce" 

A demonstration of the basic pulse that forms the foundation for the gesture. (Vol. 1, p. 5)

2. The "click" beat: a gesture of syncopation 

A demonstration of the "click" beat, a useful gesture for syncopations, quick dynamic changes, sforzandi, and similar musical moments. (Vol. 1, p. 25)

3. The "hitch" gesture 

Demonstrating how to add a brief suspension of motion to the conducting pattern. (Vol. 1, p. 26)

4. Conducting a short recitative from *Messiah* 

(Vol. 3)

Articles of Note

Links to interesting articles, reviews, and other writings relevant to users of this series:

- A good blog by Richard Sparks, professor of music at North Texas State University, who writes on issues of pedagogy, repertoire, and other topics can be found [here](#).
- Two recent posts from Dr. Sparks' blog offer a succinct "checklist" for rehearsing efficiently. You can view them [here](#) as a PDF document.
- A well-regarded blog by orchestral conductor Kenneth Woods, whose postings range widely on many areas of interest to conductors and musicians; it can be found [here](#).
- One of Ken Wood's postings, on choosing a version of the Mozart *Requiem* for performance, is particularly instructive. It may be found [here](#) as a Word document.
(Note: embedded links within this document will not work. To enable them, search Woods' blog at the sight above.)
- I often talk to my students about the importance of silence in their lives -- the absence of distractions to allow them time to think and reflect. In a recent New York Times op-ed piece, called "The Joy of Quiet," Pico Iyer makes a strong case, bolstered by some interesting evidence. You'll find a link [here](#).
- What's a conductor really do? A fascinating article by Justin Davidson, writing in *New York Magazine*, about taking classes with Alan Gilbert (New York Philharmonic) and conducting a Juilliard student orchestra. [More](#)
- "Is Music the Key to Success?" -- a recent article from the *New York Times* on the value of music, practice, and work, and why so many successful people come from music backgrounds. [More](#)

Photo and Video Credits

Berks Youth Chorus, Reading, PA, Dail Richie, Executive Director. Used by permission.

WCU Concert Choir, Mastersingers, and Symphony Orchestra, April 2008. Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, Philadelphia.

Senior Choir, Darien (CT) United Methodist Church, winter, 2010; James G. Kantor, director of music. Used by permission.

Video clip no. 4: Kristin Neel, soprano; Mark Jackson, cello; John Grecia, harpsichord.

Video clip editing by Robert Rust.

Conducting Choirs

by David P. DeVenney

Tutorials and Extras

Additional Content and Further Information

Want Alternate or Additional Music?

Series users may request the following alternative or additional music selections from service@lorenz.com.

Haydn, *Achieved Is the Glorious Work (The Creation)*

audio

score

orchestra parts

Mozart, *Dona nobis pacem (Missa brevis in D minor)*

parts

Instrumental Parts

For those who may wish to use instruments with several of the examples, PDF files may be requested from service@lorenz.com. A list of available parts is found below.

Sing, Sing, Ye Muses (*Mvt. 1 (Blow)*)

strings and continuo

And the Glory of the Lord (*Messiah*)

(Handel)

score

string parts

Scene from *Messiah* (Handel)

string parts

Cantata 150 (Bach)

score

parts

Kyrie ("Little Organ Mass") (Haydn)

score

string parts

Lacrimosa (*Requiem*) (Mozart)

score

wind parts

brass and timpani parts

string parts