

Sins and Grace (SaG) Soprano Notes

Nov 24, 2025

Section leaders note

Please try to limit discussions during rehearsals. It is a distraction to the singers surrounding you and limit the ability for those behind you to hear Ted & Julie. Please be respectful and wait to hold conversations before or after rehearsals.

General notes

- Faure is a gentle requiem about peace, eternal rest, and paradise. So the seven deadly sins commissions balance the Faure with “something spikier.” Heaven vs. Hell.
- The composers all combine classical chops with theatrical sensibility, whether they come from the musical theater or classical world.
- Both the Faure and the new stuff uses a small orchestra fielded by St. Lukes. Strings, french horn, harp, timpani, and the spiffy Alice Tully organ.
- We will likely have co-commissioning partner choruses of high caliber from other parts of the country and world, to share the cost.
- Composing teams and their assignments are on the website:
<https://www.mastervoices.org/events/sins-and-grace/>

Music Notes (Faure)

- We need to sing this beautifully, with impeccable blend and pristine intonation. This demonstrates our versatility, when compared with SSoS. Julie says, “don’t just sing as you always do.”
- Even when we are just “learning notes”, please sing it beautifully to instill the right habits.
- Roll the r’s, no American diphthongs, sound more York than New York.
- Keep flow of air constant like a flute player.
- We are currently using multiple editions. Ted may decide that we should all use the new (Rutter) pages, but printing is expensive. If we stick with multiple editions, Julie will provide a cheat sheet to add consistent measure numbers, etc.

Movement 1 “Introit & Kyrie”

- Bar 5 - float to the C ‘domine’
- Bar 14 on first page—the tie is a real tie. (Dots are for people singing the English words.) I.e., rhythm is half note, half note.
- Put s’s,t’s, x’s at last possible moment.

Movement 5 “Agnus Dei”

- Section A – Keep tempo going. Don’t slow down.
- ‘qui’ is pronounced ‘kwi’
- Bar 20 – lift/breathe after ‘dei’
- Bar 28 – maintain pitch. There is a tendency to go flat.

- Section C – Keep hollow and as soft as possible
- Bar 49-51 – lift after ‘eis’
- Bar 54-57 – no breath until bar 57 ‘-num’
- Bar 58-61 – no breath until bar 61 ‘es’
- Bar 61-65 – no breath until bar 65 ‘-num’
- Bar 66-69 – no breath until bar 69 ‘es’