

Alto Notes

Sept 28, 2026

- The postponed Ukrainian concert will be in early June—but TBD
- We may have a hired gig on 6/24/27, and another in the fall of 2027.
- It's recommended to watch the rehearsal video with Ted talking about the season. Lot of information! Handel concert will have excerpts from Italian operas and English oratorios. Hard to narrow down the repertoire bc Handel wrote so much
- "Every Valley" is an amazing book about the creation of The Messiah
- Concert will end with Hallelujah chorus, which should be memorized!
- We will perform everything a half-step lower with the Baroque orchestra
- Very interesting Ted talk (pun intended!) about "tunings." It's on the video

Lucky Omens from Semele

- Our Rites=2 syllables for Owww—wer
- Don't sound "British"
- Bless// Our // Rites —3 short and clear notes and words
- Ted wants us altos to sound "cultured, wiser, Queen Elizabeth quality, with bosom!"
- Each section should have their own tone/sound in their register
- Use vibrato, think rounder and darker tone
- Enjoy any "leaps" in the music—fall in love with leaps!
- Backwards looking 8th rests (with flag to the right) are QUARTER rests

He Spake the Word

- Double Chorus—Ted is toying with a few possibilities. May be alphabetical—last names A-L is first chorus and M-Z is 2nd chorus.
- More on that next week.

He Smote all the First Born

- "Tempo giusto" used to mean "sing at the correct tempo", but has come to mean
- "Righteous."
- Jagged, sinuous theme

Questo Il Cielo from the opera Alcino

- Pastorale movement—these are often in a triple meter, and in key of F to favor the horns. Warm, reassuring, nature-loving. Seductive, lovers of life vibe.
- Think Italian. Watch movies. Eat pasta. Pure vowels. No diphthongs. End the syllable in the same place you started it.
- Dental T's, not aspirated with your teeth—should be on the upper palate behind teeth.
- Roll those R's! Except between vowels, when they are flipped.