# Unit Sound The art of sharing space

<u>Objectives</u>	
	Identify the elements: vocal, musical, and artistic, of a unified performance
	Illuminate common synchronization problems and their solutions
Vo	cal Unity
	Match posture
	Breath
	Resonating space
	Words/Vowels
	Tone quality and color
<u>Musical Unity</u>	
	Pitch: section agreement, place in chord, P-tuning
	Balance/Dynamic
	Tempo/Rhythm

## **Artistic**

- □ Visual: choreography, face
- ☐ Internal dynamics, word inflections
- Emotional intention

#### **Unit Sound**

This means that every singer is responsible for every nuance, every vowel formation, every emotion and projection of that emotion, every rise and fall of phrase, every move complete with energy, the satiny smooth delivery of lyrics, right notes, and correct pitch, and the mental and physical preparation to be and do her best.

To maintain this unit, we must, each one of us, be responsible singers, singing as one body, one body that moves together, one body that feels emotion together, one body that projects its image and its goals with unanimity, a strong, united voice.

Anything less may not be satisfying.

Put the "you" in Unit!

Lorú Lyford

## **Unit Sound**

#### **Primary Vowels**

Ee (see) - pull tone from top of head

Eh (said) - hand down in front of face, remember to keep jaw loose

Ah (heart) - lift hand in front of mouth/face

Oh (go) - lasso the mouth with finger

Oo (moon) - pull tone from the lips

## Secondary Vowels

a (short, i.e. cat)

ih (sit)

uh (love)

ur (urge, girl)

ouh (should)

#### Diphthongs

Reminder: Determine length of primary and secondary

ah + ee (high)

eh + ee (say)

oh + ee (joy)

ah + oo (now)

oh + oo (so)

## Glides ("Prethongs")

ee + oo (you)

oo + ee (we)

oo + ah (why)

Strive for even balance of resonance in ALL vowel sounds! –

sounds for all diphthongs and glides

## Other Tools for your Unit Sound Toolbox

- Bubbling
- □ Humming
- □ Physical sharing of space