

Conductor's Comment
Progress Report R2
2/6/2024
Paul Wiens, conductor

Our web site is currently changing—for the better—as we try to make it more attractive and functional. A top-drawer site will allow us to better communicate with our members, assist with recruitment, help secure venues, and use QR codes in our programs.

The menus are intuitive and additional info is now available, some restricted. For example, Member Info>Resources>[Restricted](#) gives you access to buttons linked to the Attendance Register, Membership Roster, and Concert Plans.... where viewing privileges are restricted to our membership (by providing email addresses through Sharing in Google Docs). On the other hand, Member Info>Resources>[Resources](#) gives you unrestricted access to buttons linked to a wide array of links, including Rehearsal Plans.

Several pages—Singers>Sopranos, Altos, Tenors, Basses; Personnel>Accompanists; Performance>Recordings—need additional editing. While Roger and I are tasked with improving the Recordings page, and Laura and Gary are asked to submit missing info for the Accompanists page, you are encouraged to complete the submission of photo/bio for the Singers pages before March 1.

Regarding [Concert Plans](#), I have published a Google doc which shows planning by the Artistic Committee. While projected with relative confidence, some details remain TBD and are subject to change. This page is restricted to current members—please do not share it outside of Chamber Singers.

Regarding rehearsal progress on the Panufnik: while you have made significant gains with learning difficult pitches, your intonation is still poor. To the degree that you sing out of tune, our audience will struggle...and they will think that their pain is the result of the dissonant harmony. Conversely, I believe that if we sing in tune, the dissonance will be palatable, even poignantly beautiful. So, please come highly prepared tonight.....and after a short rehearsal in sections, I will move you to the new [Panufnik Mixed Formation](#). Your musicianship may be sorely tested, but if you can handle it, your intonation should significantly improve.

Regarding the Runestad: you have overcome the rhythmic challenges of Spring!! Now we are turning our attention to Autumn and Winter—two movements with lovely harmony. Tonight, we should finally see progress on these movements.

And finally, regarding the Masterclass Wednesday evening, 8-9:30p, I expect the experience to be highly stimulating and beneficial. Roger passed along a comment from Andy Crane at BYU: "Stephen Layton is a delightful and humble man, refreshingly devoid of ego. But he is a genius and is used to working almost exclusively with the best choral singers in the world." I know you will give him your best.