

**Preparing to Perform:****(Umbler-YSU 2007)**

Obtain a pianist immediately, as soon as performances are scheduled and announced. We usually use pianist Prof. Diane Yazvac, on our adjunct faculty staff. She has an office and mailbox.

Make a copy of the piano part before giving pianist your copy, so you can study it while preparing to rehearse and perform with pianist.

Write in under or over the staff small rhythmic piano cues (taken from the piano part) that will help you to anticipate the piano part in all transitions, tricky spots, and rests.

Study any available recordings of your piece over and over and over- note in your part where the performer breathes, and take note of ideas regarding vibrato, style, phrase shapes, articulation, dynamics, etc. Listen to these recordings with piano part in hand also to learn entire score, not just your part.

Know the piano part VERY well before rehearsing with your pianist.

Begin practicing VERY SLOWLY with the metronome on the eighth note, practicing only one or two beats of music at a time, very accurately.

Gradually increase over time.

Pay close attention to intonation by employing The Tuning CD or another kind of drone in your preparation.

As you get closer to the date, rehearse repeatedly with piano- begin at least 4 weeks ahead.

Play for others in the weeks leading up to the performance.

Dress appropriately- look nice for seminar and studio recital performance.

Develop and save good reeds in the weeks prior to a performance.

Rehearse in the hall prior to the performance. Drink lots of fluids, sleep and eat well prior to your performance.

Be sure to continue to practice all aspects of your instrument, not just the piece, in the weeks prior to a performance. Continuing to work scales, intonation studies, etc. is critical to feeling in control in performance.

We must “over-learn” every aspect of a piece of music to have it hold up in performance.

True practicing ultimately can make the “weak links” in our playing some of the stronger aspects of our playing. (ex. Intonation, palm key technique, altissimo, articulation, etc can

all be worked out in the practice room so as to be no longer a problem in the moment of performance for us).

Be certain to make arrangements to record your performances, recital hearings and recitals for your future portfolio.

Save copies of all of your programs for your portfolio

**Degree Recitals:**

Program notes created by the student must be submitted to Dr. Umble at least 2 weeks in advance of the recital.

Recital hearing must be scheduled at least 2 weeks prior to the anticipated recital.

Make arrangements to record your performances.