Practical Vocal Acoustics
Pedagogic Applications for Teachers and Singers

by

Kenneth W. Bozeman

Voice teachers have been addressing vocal acoustics in some manner for as long as there has been voice instruction. Now with sophisticated yet inexpensive sound analysis technology widely available, more voice teachers see its potential value for the studio and want to understand the acoustics of vocal registration in order to apply these principals to their own as well as their students’ singing. This book is a scientific yet accessible approach to the study and practical application of vocal acoustics. It will be an invaluable addition to any singer’s library and as a vocal pedagogy text.

Practical Vocal Acoustics also includes appendices of clear, simple charts of acoustic events by voice type, guided explorations on the Madde voice synthesizer (a downloadable shareware application), and a DVD of undergraduate students demonstrating all of the acoustic explorations cited in the text.

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DVD included

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Colleagues Respond to *Practical Vocal Acoustics*

After many years of admiring the qualities of Kenneth Bozeman’s students, I read his book on vocal acoustics. He not only explains how the voice is produced, but also how understanding vocal acoustics fosters “the Italian school” of singing. This book is a valuable contribution both for the instructor and the performer.

Dale Duesing, international prize-winning baritone, leading roles at the world’s major opera houses (Metropolitan, San Francisco, Chicago Lyric, Covent Garden, La Scala, Paris Opera), Artist in Residence, Lawrence University

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This is the book I kept looking for—hoping for—during my forty years as a voice teacher. It’s a most helpful, substantive connection between vocal science and studio teaching. I think it’s a milestone.

John Koopman, professor emeritus (voice), Lawrence University; internationally published opera journalist (Opera News, Opernwelt, Opéra Internationale)

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Kenneth Bozeman has put into clear language the most important insights from acoustic research regarding the passaggi that singing teachers and their students struggle with. The reader gets not only a factual description of such maneuvers, but also the sounds that go with them.

Donald Gray Miller, PhD, voice researcher with Harm Schutte at Rijksuniversiteit at Groningen, Netherlands, frequent presenter at Voice Foundation, NATS, and Pan European Voice conferences, author of Resonance in Singing, originator of VoceVista (leading voice analysis program)

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Singers and teachers no longer need to fear formants! Kenneth Bozeman’s Practical Vocal Acoustics demystifies complex concepts of resonance and registration, systematically exploring the acoustic underpinnings of voice pedagogy in a uniquely accessible manner. Bozeman writes in a way you can understand, empowering you to be the best possible teacher and singer.

Scott McCoy, D.M.A., Director of the Helen Swank Voice Teaching and Research Lab at The Ohio State University, author of Your Voice, An Inside View, past president of National Association of Teachers of Singing

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Kenneth Bozeman has succeeded in condensing state of the art voice science into a well-digestible and concise tutorial. With its solid scientific background, Practical Vocal Acoustics helps to establish a modern approach in teaching how to sing: less myth and more facts.

Christian T. Herbst, PhD, contributing author to the Oxford Handbook of Singing, editorial board member of Logopedics, Phoniatrics and Vocology, and the Journal of Voice.

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Kenneth Bozeman’s book Practical Vocal Acoustics bridges the gap between concept and aural experience. The use of synthesis exercises makes the transition from theory to reality possible for all of us. Thank you Professor Bozeman for this wonderful addition to the voice pedagogy/voice science crossover literature.

Stephen F. Austin, PhD, Associate Professor of Music, University of North Texas, frequent presenter at the Voice Foundation, NATS, and Pan European Voice conferences, a regular columnist in Journal of Singing, also published in Journal of Voice and Australian Voice

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In this article, I have attempted to cover the major areas of vocal skill building, and have included at least one practical exercise for developing each of these skills. These exercises should be transposed according to the singer's voice type and range, as well as the specific area of the individual. Practical Vocal Acoustics also includes appendices of clear, simple charts of acoustic events by voice type, guided explorations on the Madde voice synthesizer (a free downloadable shareware application), as well as a DVD of undergraduate students demonstrating all of the acoustic explorations cited in the text. KENNETH BOZEMAN, tenor, holds performance degrees from Baylor University and the University of Arizona, and is chair of the voice department at the Practical Vocal Acoustics represents an attempt to distill from the science of vocal acoustics those factors that are essential for teachers at the beginning of the twenty-first century to understand, that are most likely to be productive for improving our pedagogic efficiency, and to present them in language that is generally accessible. It also aspires to contribute to more productive, mutually respectful and beneficial conversation between the pedagogic and scientific communities. About Kinesthetic Voice pedagogy.