

Blending Skills

Goal: a weightless, fluidly delivered sound in a *shared space* that rings (aka: unit sound)

Step One: personal skills

strong foundation of vocal skills

breath skills

accurate intervals

vocal freedom/relaxation

fluid movement between registers

vocal flexibility

resonation

correct pronunciation

NOTE: no oversinging...**ever**

adds weight to the sound

increases inaccuracies

limits shared space

destroys any hope of unit

Step Two: section skills

all of the personal skills

vowel match

all of the above in a space shared with singers of that voice part

Step Three: entire ensemble skills

all of the personal skills

all of the section skills

enlarge the shared space to a “limitless” distance

NOTE: the “limit” of this space is one defined by the need for a focused,
not fuzzy or swallowed sound

all of the above in a space shared with singers of all/any voice part

Important tools for creating and exploring a shared space:

unison

kinesthetics

imagination