



## *Table of Contents*

	<b>Preface:</b> Diction, a Gateway to Artistic Singing . . . . .	4
<b>Part I: Introduction</b>		
	<b>Chapter 1:</b> Phonetic Concepts . . . . .	5
	Diction related concepts . . . . .	6
	Orthography related concepts . . . . .	7
	Syllable related concepts . . . . .	8
	Vowel related concepts . . . . .	8
	Diphthong related concepts . . . . .	10
	Consonant related concepts . . . . .	11
	<b>Chapter 2:</b> The German Language . . . . .	13
	Germanic languages and German dialects, . . . . .	14
	German for the stage . . . . .	15
	Loan words . . . . .	16
	<b>Chapter 3:</b> Characteristic Patterns and Sounds in German . . . . .	17
	What makes German sound German? . . . . .	17
	How German words are formed — Grammatical endings . . . . .	19
	How German words are formed — Compound words . . . . .	20
	Syllabication for singers . . . . .	20
	Syllabication of simple words . . . . .	21
	Syllable separation before vowels . . . . .	23
	Do you have to make a glottal stop? . . . . .	23
	Common prefixes and suffixes . . . . .	24
	<b>Chapter 4:</b> Long and Short Vowels . . . . .	27
	What is vowel length? . . . . .	27
	How vowel length works in German . . . . .	28
	Why must singers understand vowel length? . . . . .	29
	Vowel quality, vowel length and syllabic stress . . . . .	30
	Learning to understand vowel length and spelling . . . . .	31
	How spelling indicates vowel length . . . . .	32
	Problem areas related to vowel length . . . . .	33

<b>Part 2: The Sounds of German</b>	34
<b>Chapter 5:</b> Individual Vowel Sounds	35
Bright vowels: [i: ɪ e: ε]	36
Central vowels [ɑ: a ə]	43
Dark vowels: [u: ʊ o: ɔ]	47
Mixed vowels: [y: ʏ ø: œ]	53
French nasalized vowels in German	59
Non-syllabic vowels	60
Further consideration of the schwa [ə]	61
<b>Chapter 6:</b> Individual diphthongs	63
Three German diphthongs	64
About German dictionaries	66
Other vowel sequences	66
<b>Chapter 7:</b> Individual Consonants	67
Nasal consonants [m n ŋ]	70
The lateral consonant [l]	76
The trill consonant [r ɾ]	78
Stop consonants [p b t d k g]	79
Fricative consonants [f v s z ʃ ʒ ç ʝ x h]	88
An affricate [ts]	102
Allophones of R to avoid	103
An alternative pronunciation of ER?	104
Some thoughts about CH sounds	104
<b>Chapter 8:</b> German Diction in Musical Context	105
The role of stress and unstress	107
Practicing words with mixed vowels	108
Rhyming with mixed vowels	109
Adjusting consonants for singing	109
Singing doubled consonants	110
A final checklist	111
In closing	112
<b>Part 3: Supplements</b>	
Alphabetical Key	113
German Folksongs	116
Bibliography	124
Complete IPA chart (for all human languages)	125
Index	126
Phonemes of German	128