

Singing in Style

A GUIDE TO VOCAL PERFORMANCE PRACTICES

"An indispensable guide for singers, pianists and teachers. Written from a singer's viewpoint, *Singing in Style* raises a host of important issues, addressing them with clarity and insight."—Brian Zeger, Artistic Director of Vocal Arts, Juilliard School

"This is just the kind of book I wish I'd had access to when I was a student, but I am still ever so grateful to benefit from it now. It is thorough, thoughtful, inclusive, and a real joy to read. I know I'll be referring to *Singing In Style* frequently in the years to come . . . not to mention recommending it to countless others."—Dawn Upshaw, soprano

"*Singing in Style* opens the door for singers to a better understanding of how to put more thought into their performances of the past four hundred years of song. In some cases, Elliott raises useful questions herself; then she gives us tools and resources for finding the answers. I wish such a book had been available when I was a student."—Drew Minter, countertenor

"Well-researched information on performance practice of every major century in one volume. I thoroughly enjoyed reading this wonderful book."—Phyllis Bryn-Julson, Peabody Conservatory of Music, Johns Hopkins University

"A very important addition to the field. I recommend it to students and teachers." —Paul Sperry, Manhattan School of Music

Singing in Style: A Guide to Vocal Performance Practices is an introduction to the issues of historical performance practice and style in vocal repertoire from the early Baroque to the present. A handbook for singers, coaches, accompanists, conductors, and lovers of singing and song, it gathers together information from historical treatises (both instrumental and vocal), personal accounts from composers, performers, historians, and critics, and current scholarly commentary on topics such as ornamentation, vibrato, rubato, portamento, articulation, tempo, working with period instruments, and language concerns, among others.

Each chapter of *Singing in Style* presents a specific historical period and introduces some background information about the singers and composers, the vocal repertoire, and the stylistic conventions of that time. Specific repertoire examples are discussed as well, to show how to use the music itself as a context for making stylistic choices. Each chapter also has an extensive reference list arranged by topic, so the interested reader can pursue a particular subject in more depth. The last chapter of the book deals with singers and living composers working together to create new vocal styles. It shows how singers who interact with composers and make choices about stylistic issues today can gain a deeper understanding of the same process of creating a vocal style of the past.

Singing in Style has been widely used as a University text in the US, UK and Australia. If you are interested in using this book for a college or conservatory course you may be teaching, you can request an exam copy from Yale University Press.