# VMC Masterclass Reflection Workbook

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Welcome to the VMC Masterclass Reflection Workbook program!

Through the utilization of the *Vocal Masterclassics* database and search tools, a regular and extensive viewing/listening regimen is now a reality for every vocal student – whether in large metropolitan areas or the remotest rural settings. What a privilege that students can literally "sit at the feet of the masters" every week – gaining invaluable insights into repertoire and vocal technique, the multi-faceted challenges of high-level performance and musicianship, and the habits and thought patterns of successful professionals!

To take full advantage of this resource, we have laid out a 28-week regimen that utilizes the ten *Vocal Masterclassics* database drop-down menu search tools. A powerful aspect of this program is that you can literally begin at ANY LEVEL OF VOICE STUDY and even at ANY WEEK OF THE SEMESTER – as each week is its own separate component providing its own unique benefits. In addition, **the program has been designed to be used year-after-year** as students apply the assignments to new repertoire and next-level vocal challenges.

<u>The viewing recommendation per week is just one half-hour. Each reflection form should then take no longer than 10 minutes to complete.</u> In other words, this is NOT an exercise in "busy work"! This IS a program, however, designed to provide students with a consistent, profitable diet of professional singer perspectives as they prepare their semester repertoire and seek to cultivate a professional mindset.

Program Details and Instructions for Students:

- Open the form corresponding to the particular week of your semester and read your assignment.
- Using the <u>www.vocalmasterclassics.com</u> ten search tools, discover which masterclasses match the assignment criteria and choose what you will watch.
- View <u>at least</u> one half-hour masterclass segment or combined segments per week. Faithful adherence to this schedule is key to consistent growth! (You may watch more than the required half-hour, but should not watch less!)
- After viewing your chosen masterclass(es), spend no more than 10 minutes thoughtfully answering the reflection questions on the form.
- To assure maximum educational coverage, you are encouraged to choose a different master-artist for each week of viewing within a given semester.

*Special Note to Instructors: You may wish to take the optional step of developing an "Instructor-Approved VMC Master-Artists List" so you may more intentionally steer your students toward master-artists you feel would be most beneficial for them to view. To create such a list, simply go to the master-artist name drop-down menu, where all of the artists are listed alphabetically.*

- The reflection forms are in fillable PDF format, allowing you to type your reflections directly on the form to either save them for electronic submission, archive them in a computer file, or print a hard copy.
- At the request of your instructor, you may then bring your reflections to your weekly lessons/studio classes, or electronically submit them to your instructor, thus providing the opportunity for on-going discussion/feedback and/or credit to be awarded.

**VERY IMPORTANT**: Since different computers use differing versions of Adobe, we recommend the following to avoid losing your work or submitting a blank PDF form to your instructor, as well as to retain a non-completed version of the forms for use in subsequent years:

- Open the form corresponding to the correct week of your semester. Once you have the form in front of you, to fully open it, click "Open Document" near the upper right corner.
- BEFORE YOU BEGIN FILLING OUT THE FORM, save the form to a file on your computer using the "Save As" feature under the "File" menu, giving the document a new name for your reference.
- Open the file from the location where you saved it.
- Fill out the form with your reflections.
- Choose the "Save" feature under the "File" menu to save your work. Your completed PDF form is now properly saved under the name you gave it – and the original document is still blank for future use.
- To email the form, we suggest you now simply attach it to an email. Of course, you may also the print the form to create/submit a hard copy.

Again, welcome to the masterclass reflection program. It is my hope that your new regimen will bring many rich rewards as you probe the insights of the great singers who have journeyed before you!

Dr. Keith Brautigam, Founder, *Vocal Masterclassics*