

“Thou Shalt Know Thy Score: The Ten Commandments of Teaching Your Piece Through Score Study”

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Too often we study our scores for performance purposes rather than delving into the mess of discovering how we'll actually teach a piece. This interactive session will provide ten different score study techniques for taking your score from first glance to first rehearsal to final performance.

Commandment #1: “Thou shalt hold a working understanding of the composition’s form.”

Commandment #2: “Thou shalt bear mastery of all rhythm beat patterns.”

Commandment #3: “Thou shalt comprehend and contextualize all tonal material.”

Commandment #4: “Thou shalt engage the harmonic language of the composer.”

Commandment #5: “Thou shalt chart the harmonic rhythm of each phrase and the work’s phrases as a whole.”

Commandment #6: “Thou shalt use the harmonic rhythm in conjunction with the text’s natural stress points to pre-determine the shape of each phrase.”

Commandment #7: “Thou shalt envision a vocal resonance palette appropriate to the style of the composition before the first rehearsal.”

Commandment #8: “Thou shalt map a curriculum for imparting the vocal skillset required to bring the score to its most beautiful reality.”

Commandment #9: “Thou shalt engage the historical and cultural context from which the work took its genesis.”

Commandment #10: “Thou shalt identify the personal, communal, and societal relevance of the work’s text to yourself, the performers, and future audiences.”

**The slides of this presentation are available at
*thomaslerew.com/10-commandments.***

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