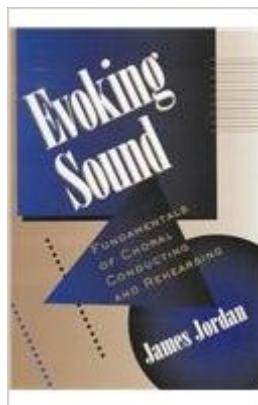


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Evoking Sound: Fundamentals Of Choral Conducting And Rehearsing



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The ability of going beyond patterns and conducting technique is what matters the most for a conductor. Though books dedicated to conducting techniques are mandatory for studying the discipline, a conductor definitely needs to be concerned with the close relationship between choral sound and physical gesture. The most difficult duty for conductors is the ability to express themselves through gestures and other human elements to their best, in such a way that the singers be able to react spontaneously and honestly. For that, it is imperative for both the conductor and the singers that they master the technique of being, reacting, conducting, and singing in a natural way. As a consequence, the physical approach is defining. The way a conductor feels, breathes, reacts, and knows a choral work is reflected in his or her gestures and face. From there, these aspects will be reflected in the way singers respond to a conductor's gestures and suggestions. The closeness of the conductor - choir mental and psychological relationship must be so intense that it has the ability to anticipate any unsuitable performing 'slips.' To write his remarkable book about conducting choral sound, Jordan masterfully combined research with his background inherited from his gifted teachers, as well as with the experience he gained while working with students at Westminster and Chapel Choirs he conducted. Evoking Sound is structured in three parts: 'Building a Relationship of Gesture to Sound,' 'Literature for Study and Self-Evaluation,' and 'A Primer for Rehearsal Technique.' The book also comprises two Appendices, Bibliography, and Suggested List for Further Reading, as well as an Index of Quoted Persons and a Topical Index.

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