

FOUR IDEAS FOR CHOIR Toke Brorson Odin, 2015

1. A large group of singers is divided into three groups.

- Group ① sings [o]* and will only start to sing when no one has been singing for the past 5-10 s. Each singer in group ① chooses his/her pitch freely.
 - Group ② sings [p]* as in "darling", but only if someone else in the choir is singing, and only on an already present pitch (or octave equivalent).
 - Group ③ sings [i]*, but only if at least a third of the choir is singing, and only using the predominant pitch in the choir (or octave equivalent).
- After each breath, the individual singer must evaluate whether the rules of his/her group permits starting over again.

The groups stand mixed together at performance.
(* using the international phonetic alphabet)

One singer is chosen from one of the groups.

After a while he/she breaks free from that group and starts to wander around freely. Whenever a singer from the choir gets closer than a fixed length of 1-3 m (depending on the size of the performance room) from the chosen, freely wandering person, he/she changes vowel to something else than that of his/her group, but keeps the pitch. If a singer is not already singing, when approached by the chosen, freely wandering singer, he/she starts to sing, following the vowel- and pitch-rule of the group. When the chosen, freely wandering singer, walks away, the choir singers return to their former roles, singing their group's vowels or silence.

The singing goes on for as long as the choir or choir director wishes.

2. A group of singers is divided into two groups of equal size. Each group stands beneath a directed speaker or wears headphones. Whenever a tone is heard from the speakers/headphones, it is sung by the group. When noise is heard, the singers must hold on to their tone. When nothing is heard, the singers must stop singing. Vowels are chosen so as to resemble the sound in the speakers/headphones.

3. A large group of singers is divided into two groups - one small and one large. The groups stand mixed together at the performance. The choir director makes a sign for all singers to inhale and another sign for the singers to sing, which they do for as long as possible, though not longer than the least capable singer, breath-wise.

In the beginning, each singer chooses his/her pitch and vowel freely, but after the second inhalation, the following rules apply:

The singers of the large group find the pitch and vowel, that he/she found to be prevalent in the whole of the choir, at the last round of singing, and performs this pitch and vowel in the present round.

The singers in the small group find a pitch and a vowel, that was heard during the last round of singing, but not the prevalent pitch and vowel, and performs this pitch and vowel in the present round. Each singer chooses individually.

If unison is found and all singers sing the same vowel, the singing is stopped and can start over again as many times as is wished for.

4. A group of singers decide on a text, which they wish to perform, eg. Thomas King's "Hvilestunden er i vente". One singer - or the choir director - chooses one note in the middle of his/her vocal range, and sings the song with only this note. Each individual singer in the rest of the choir chooses a note anywhere in his/her vocal range, and sings the first line of the song using this note - in the same rhythm as the primary singer/choir director. The following lines are also sung using just one note, but at each change of line, the individual singer of the choir moves closer to the tone of the primary singer/choir director, so that the last line is sung in unison or in octaves.

Hvilestunden er i vente,
solen søttes mer og mer,
denne dag har Gud på rente,
hos mig, og så mange fler!

Sundhed, styrke, liv og øre
lægges hver dag til min sum!
glemmer jeg det, må jeg være,
janske både blind og dum.

Dis, o Gud, ske lov og øre
for din nåde denne dag,
eris du velsignet være,
for jeg, efter dit behag,

fører sundhed med til senge,
og med god samvittighed,
bøg gardinet kan ophænge,
at den sorris, som jeg ved.

Lad enhver i dine arme,
søvn og salig hvile få!
Over mig sig Gud forharme!
sov, mit øje, sov herpå!