

**VELVET HILLS COACHING NOTES-LEAD**  
**BETTY CLIPMAN**  
**MARCH 6-7, 2015**

**MAIN OBJECTIVES TO WORK ON:**

1. Resonance and LOTS of air
2. Lifting ends of phrases
3. Sing vowel to vowel
4. Sing the dynamic plan
5. Stay in tempo
6. Sing with our best voice all the time so it becomes the default voice
7. Decrescendos are about being more soft
8. Stay on the balls of your feet
9. Don't allow the vowels to decay-support the end of the word or phrase and put the last consonant on the beginning of the next word
10. Sing from the core-don't park on any word or letter
11. Make the pitch pipe sound flat.
12. Use faces more. Think of the saying "I Can Hear Your Face".

THESE OBJECTIVES ARE OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ACCOMPLISH AS  
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS AND AS THE WHOLE CHORUS

MAKE SOMEONE HAPPY is more resonant than WONDERFUL DAY. Work to make them equally resonant.

Held vowels: support and don't change the vowel!!

Measure (M) 3: "the crowd" needs lots of air.

Every time the word "Make" and "Fame" sing with meh and feh. They are basically the same word- they use the same vowel.

M 6: "more" needs a pure OH vowel, cut off with the "r".

M 11: each time when you sing the long word "one" stay on the vowel and put the "n" on the next word.

M 17: leads have a screw note on "one". Start softer to support the bass.

M 18: "smile" needs to be together

M 20: "lights" sing softer so can "light" up the face, use vocal inflection.

M 22: "ev" needs to be open, leads sing little lighter

M 23: “thing” needs to be tuned higher

M 26: keep “I” vowels open.

M33: “Love” needs more support. It is a screw note. Fill air into it.

M 37 & 38: “Once you’ve found them”: build each word.

M 41-44: Decrescendo and keep energized. Make it intimate and delicate.

M 45-46: Starting with bell chord add crescendo into new key.

M 46: Be sure to take a quick breath before “Fame”.

M 58 & 59: Leads no breath. Have presence on “Once”- you have the pickup.

M 66 & 67: Take out the breath between “answer” and ‘Make”. Really watch Kathy here.

### WONDERFUL DAY

M 12: connect “eye” to “on” in the next measure.

M 16: Hold “day”, extend the phrase.

M 20: “this” needs to be open.

M 26 & 27: ‘even the birdies” sing all nasal.

M 45: “everybody” – hold the “y” and connect to “to”.

M 46, 47 & 48: start at about a mp and build each measure to mf and f.

M 68: “today” keep supported, excited and build sound into the new song.

M 69 on: sing more vowel sounds.

M 105: start soft and crescendo to the end.

M 113: hold “day” longer.

One focus of this song was to keep a resonant sound while doing choreography. The sound always seemed to be sacrificed when movement was added. This song needs to be sung with the resonance that is used on Make Someone Happy.

### PLACE IN THE CHOIR

This song also needs to be sung with resonance. Each solo part needs to be supported. The other 3 parts need to soften up with excitement.

There are incorrect notes in the lead section of the Interlude.

### AIN'T NO MOUNTAIN

M 40: hold "babe" longer.

Leads sing your solos with more resonance.