

ELEMENTS TO CONSIDER FOR STAGING A SONG

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MUSIC

- Style, era, and original use of the song
- Proper tempo & tempo changes
- Story line
- Lyrics
- Character(s)
- Rhythms (Dotted/swing/backbeats, syncopation, etc.)
- Moving parts (echoes, swipes, division of voices, solos, repeats, etc.)
- Dynamics
- Musical interpretation
- Rests, breaths
- Dynamics
- Vocal line (legato/staccato, smooth/horizontal vs. vertical movement)
- Song form
- Key changes, modulations

NON-MUSICAL POSSIBILITIES IN STAGING CHOICES AND/OR DIRECTION

- Sets
- Platforms
- Risers
- Moveable boxes, variable heights and spacing
- Space available, depth and width of stage, curtains, overhead fly equipment
- Variation in symmetry – straight lines, staggered lines, triangles, circles, clumps, Diagonals, scattered, isolated, different poses
- Lighting
- Available mics
- Riser groupings
- Steps from behind risers
- Chairs, stools
- Tables
- Hat rack
- Hay bales
- Easel(s)
- Small tree(s) or bushes
- Hand held flowers, suitcases, handbags, etc.
- Signs, banners, flags, etc.
- Others

THE PERFORMER'S MOST USEFUL TOOLS: EYES, FACES, BODY FLEXIBILITY AND ENERGY THAT REFLECT THE SONG'S MANY FACETS OF THOUGHT AND EMOTION.