



AIMS COURSE MATERIALS

GERMAN FOR MUSICIANS

Before arrival in Graz, the most important thing you can do is to STUDY GERMAN! Some working knowledge is better than none. The textbook for Levels 1, 2 and 3 will be "German: A Self-Teaching Guide" (2nd Edition-**Revised 2007; ISBN: 978-0-470-16551-5**) by Taylor and Haas. Special material is prepared for Level 4. The textbook will be available in Graz in the AIMS bookstore (\$20); however, the price is \$15-20 when purchased in the U.S. Do not buy a used book. The revised edition will be used. Click on the following link to see the correct version: [German: A Self-Teaching Guide](#).

The recommended dictionary is Langenscheidt: "German-English, English-German Dictionary". Your dictionary should be purchased in the U.S. because pronunciation of the German words is included in the U.S. version. If purchased in Europe, pronunciation of the English words is featured. [Click Here](#) to purchase Langenscheidt Compact Dictionary.

AIMS HANDBOOK

This comprehensive how-to guide will help you get the most out of AIMS in Graz. You can download and print it from this web site to read the sections about preparing for AIMS. [Click Here](#). The Handbook can answer most of your questions about AIMS and Graz. Study it, keep it handy and make the most of your investment in AIMS in Graz.

SINGERS AND PIANISTS

If you have specific arias or Lieder you want to study, bring copies in binders in order to avoid heavy suitcases. Only the Levi translations into German of the Mozart Italian operas are generally used. Other translations of Italian/French repertoire are dated and not in general use. To speed your progress, you should translate the words into English, write them into your music, and understand the dramatic content. The AIMS library of vocal music is adequate and AIMS has access to the Bibliothek of the Grazer Universität für Musik, so new material can be explored. German Lieder should be in the Peters and/or International anthologies. Many people wish they had brought more music to work on.

AUDITION TRAINING SEMINAR (ATS) *for singers and pianists*

The following books are recommended, but not required. They provide practical and helpful information about auditioning.

Auditioning in the 21st Century: An essential handbook for those auditioning and working in the German-speaking theater 'fest' system by William A. Killmeier and Nada Radakovich. This is a useful handbook for singers pursuing a career in the German-speaking countries of Europe. It is a compilation of experiences, anecdotes and hard-learned lessons of the authors and other contributors. Information is presented simply, including tips about helpful websites and how voices-types are being categorized in today's market. It is a necessity for the artist brave enough pursue a career abroad. Available: [Click Here](#) - about \$17.95.

Aria Ready: The Business of Singing by Carol Kirkpatrick. This book is a must have for anyone starting an opera career. It is a comprehensive and practical guide to all of the aspects of building a solid foundation for a career in opera. It tells you what needs to be done, outlines a how-to step-by-step guide and shows you why it is important. <http://www.classicalsinger.com/store/category.php?cid=1> or www.kirkpatrickproductions.com – about \$18-20.

Making Music in Looking Glass Land: A Guide to Survival and Business Skills for the Classical Performer (3rd Edition) by Ellen Highstein, longtime director of Concert Artists' Guild and now head of the summer study programs at Tanglewood, offers a concisely written, comprehensive career guide for the aspiring classical musician. There is much useful advice offered on creating the best publicity materials, making phone contacts, finding venues in which to perform, obtaining management, etc. Available: [Click Here](#) - about \$40.

Marketing Singers (2007) by Mark J. Stoddard. An expert in marketing, Stoddard presents workshops and seminars specifically for singers in the United States. He was a guest lecturer at AIMS in 2005 – 2007. Mark can change your way of thinking about how to present yourself in today's competitive market. Available at: <http://www.classicalsinger.com/store/category.php?cid=1>

Final Words of Wisdom: Study German and Prepare yourself musically!!