

STEPS TO LEARNING MUSIC

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Steps to learning music:

"prima le parole, e poi la musica"

1) text

3) pitch

2) text + rhythm

4) pitch + rhythm

5) text + rhythm + pitch

Repeat entire sequence as needed

Further steps toward complete preparation:

Translations: word-for-word, prose, dramatic, subtext

Research: historical background, cultural context, pre-existing performances, style/tradition, etc.

Character Study – being true to the character, while staying true to yourself

Basic questions of character development:

- Who am I?
- What do I want?
- What's in my way?
- How do I get past what's in my way to get what I want?

Things to take into consideration when developing a character:

- Yourself, and what you understand
- The composer and the librettist
- Historical and cultural context
- Style of the drama
- Relationships with other characters
- Receptivity of the character