

Styles of singing required for solos in 2017

This year our selected soloists will need to have the confidence and presence to stand on the arena stage at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre and sing to a much larger audience!!

Sea of Flags

- A strong confident head voice with clarity in diction, for all beginning and end consonants.
- Good breath support for the longer phrases, a legato style of singing.
- Confident to sing across the break from a low E^b to the high E^b.
- Energy in eyes and faces – standing with a strong body and significant stage presence.

Migaloo

- A true choral warm tone would suit this solo, a voice that is light and flexible.
- Again, diction and every consonant being extremely important to sing the story
- Sing with a north/south mouth - vertical shape for beautiful choral vowels.
- Legato singing with excellent phrasing / breath control and support.
- Confident and clear in the upper register / head voice to sing over top of the choir parts.

Into a Fantasy

- A light “sparkly” voice in the middle range with a sense of fun and wonder.
- A good sense of rhythm and agility in the voice for the semiquaver patterns.
- The second part of the solo from B62 – 70 takes the voice down to the low A, which needs to be placed carefully, and sung lightly.

One Voice –Solo 1, Solo 2, & Solo 3 (descant)

- Here we require 3 individual voices that will work together and complement each other, whilst holding their own part against the other 2.
- Solo 1 sings the melody, beginning at Verse 1, and sopranos join them – a bright, soaring head voice is required.
- They also begin Verse 5 before the choir sings.
- Solo 2 sings the harmony, beginning at Verse 2, and altos join them – a warm ‘chocolately’ rich voice would suit.
- Solo 3 sings the descant beginning at Verse 3, above the melody – a clear, light flexible head voice is a must for this solo, especially in the Interlude.
- The 3 soloists then sing the Interlude, and all finish the song together with the choir.
- All would preferably have a warm choral tone, clear diction, and accurately pitch their notes against the others, hopefully to create some ‘spine-tingling’ rich harmonies.

Live Louder – Solo 1 & Solo 2

- Here we need 2 strong voices that can confidently start on the low G to begin each phrase, then move on to sing the chorus which is mid to high range/ head voice.
- An ability to sing smoothly across the ‘chest /head voice’ break is important.
- These 2 students will work together as a ‘solo team’ and lead the entire song so must have stage presence and lots of sparkling energy.
- These 2 soloists need to be ‘super cool’ and sing with attitude and move – “get up and dance like you dance when there’s no-one around!!”

The Nutcracker & The Mouse King (commissioned work) -

These soloists must have:

- ♪ Very clear diction to communicate with the audience / clarity of text
- ♪ Vocal and rhythmic accuracy and some voice flexibility
- ♪ A voice to match the different genre / musical 'feel' of each song.
- ♪ The ability to take on and immerse themselves in the story and characterisation
- ♪ For spoken parts - deliberate and measured performance, with clear articulation and a story telling quality.

The Characters are

- Narrator – speaking only
- Lieutenant Squeak – speaking only
- Thomas – speaking only
- Drosselmeyer – speaking, whistling and singing
- Martha – speaking and singing
- Nutcracker – speaking and singing &
- Nick – speaking and singing, will be the same person as Nutcracker - just clothed differently...
- Mouse King - speaking and singing

Appearance in each song -

1. The Night Before....

No solos

2. Tick Tock

Narrator, Martha, Thomas, Professor Drosselmeyer – All speaking

3. A Soldier's Life

Drosselmeyer – whistling

4. Not like the Movies

Nutcracker singing

Martha singing

5. Mouse World

Narrator, Mouse King, Thomas, Lieutenant Squeak speaking before the song

Mouse King, Thomas speaking in the song

Mouse King singing

6. The Battle

Narrator speaking before the song

Nutcracker singing

Martha singing and speaking

& Nutcracker speaks again

7. Finale

Narrator, Thomas, Martha & Nick speaking before the song

Nick (Nutcracker) singing

Martha singing

Drosselmeyer whistling

Thomas shouting