



## Sample Comments for Classical Categories

STANDARD	Short General Phrase	More Specific Comments	Very Specific Comments
Tone	A rich, colorful voice.	Balanced resonance from top to bottom.  More pressure may not be the answer in order to tune that pitch - you may have to make a space, lip, or vowel change.	Beautiful tone. I would love to hear more clean/clear/unmodified vowels in your lower and middle voice. I want to listen to you and the words. If you modify too much it then becomes about your sound. Your sound must be a vehicle for expression of text. The [u] vowel is overly modified to my ear.
Breathing/Alignment	Take time for breath.  Continue to work for legato where your breath is more continuous.	I see you taking a deep inhalation most of the time, but I wonder if you could take more time with the inhalation.	Take time for relaxed inhalation, almost as if you choreograph the breath into the interlude before it's time to sing. When you take your time, you are better able to prepare the pharynx and release the larynx for a warmer, more opulent tone.
Language/Diction	Final schwas should not be nasal.  Some syllables are indistinct.	Diction is generally clear and idiomatic in inflection, although I would like to hear stronger consonants in the German diction.	There are times in this piece where your articulation/enunciation seems very natural, in spite of the pitches being well outside the range of). I think this is really important. Other times it seems like you are over shaping or over enunciating. I appreciate the attention you are paying to make sure that the audience gets the text, but in these moments, we lose some of the naturalness/sense of honesty because the articulation chops us the sound.
Musicianship	Fine legato singing and expressive phrasing.	Well prepared with stylish, expressive ornaments that show the colors of your delightful voice.	I appreciate that you explore all aspects of your vocal color - from soft, intimate tones to full, dramatic tones. There is wonderful flexibility to your instrument as demonstrated in the Handel aria – a wonderful aria for you.
Artistry/Expression	What are you thinking about during the introduction? Watch overall pacing. More nuance needed in the musical line.	The Mozart recitative was well paced and presented with a clear dramatic intent. The aria demonstrated fine legato lines and expressive phrasing of this aria.	The Mozart recitative was well paced and presented with a clear dramatic intent. The aria demonstrated fine legato lines and expressive phrasing despite the break-neck speed required of this aria. Your performance is energetic. would like to see the physicality match your voice.