**Soprano Grapes/Handel Notes 2/5/24**

**GRAPES OF WRATH**

*Opening*

* Our voices are a deluge of rain
* Sing with the heft / voice of experience (p18 “it weighted down the trees”
* This needs to be gorgeous sound meets articulation. (Opera meets musical theater) We need BOTH - 100% beauty and 100% text
* P 17 emphasize cracker, rags, burlap
* P 18, Bar 20, keep “trees” dark
* P 20, note dynamic is mp. Affect is eerie, weird, whispery.
* Fadeout p23, measures 102-103 (“gray”)
* Page 24 measure 101 “the women WATCH” (not wash!)
* P 25, Bars 133 and 135, two “t”s on “next time”

*4. Plenty Rd*

* We are going to enter at bar 35
* Articulate grapeVINES vs grapeFRUIT
* Don’t let go of all the air on the rests. The thought isn’t done! Sing through the full phrase. Don’t let the idea and the instrument collapse. Keep the breath alive.
* p48 articulate the k’s in phrase at measure 107
* p55 measure 160 finish the word “fence” on beat 4
* Family sings bars 162-168. We come in on end of Bar 168, Sop on top. Then family again om PP 56-57, except we sing the “Los Angeleeze”s.
* P 58, Sop sing top line, divide S1/S2 when it splits.
* P 61, Bar 220, If B is too high, pick another note.

General Grapes note: listen to and sing along with a recording (there’s only one, which should be generally available)

**HANDEL Movements 4, 5, 9**

* Entrance on p13 - soprano I’s - lift the eyebrows with a smile and soar “above the riff raff”
* Sop 2’s “need to be fabulous”
* Page 15-16, cut the “bit”s after the long notes a bit short
* “Let the Latin sound fancier" - less American, more Spanish / Italian / Latin pronunciation with a dental “t” rather than aspirate “t”
* Flowing, swinging approach - don’t land hard on every syllable or it loses the flow and will be impossible to maintain this tempo. Keep the big beats emphasized and allow the ones in between to be less pronounced. It’s like you’re bouncing off of the big beats
* Be conscious of what the other parts are doing. Try extra hard to coordinate with the basses
* May be some solo sextions in #9, but practice it all anyway!
* PRACTICE WITH RECORDING!