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For more information about Arthur Joseph's book, *Sound of the Soul: Discovering the Power of Your Voice*, please call Health Communications at 1-800-851-9100.

For more information about Arthur Joseph and the Vocal Awareness program, please write to The Vocal Awareness Institute, P.O. Box 261021, Encino, CA 91426-1021, email yawareness@aol.com or visit www.vocalawareness.com.

For a free catalog of wisdom teachings for the inner life, call 800-333-9185.

Arthur Samuel Joseph



The Vocal Awareness Method for Releasing Your Natural Voice



The Vocal Awareness System

Sound is the essential vibration that animates everything in the universe. Through sound, we express our most basic sense of being. Our voice is the mirror that reflects who we think we are—and the vehicle we use to project that self-image into the world. To the extent we inhibit this natural flow of self-expression, we are robbed of our magnificent power to manifest as full human beings.

The Vocal Awareness system was created to help you uncover, develop, and revel in your authentic voice. Fundamental to all of the techniques in this unique program is the integration of your mind/body/spirit. The graduated series of exercises

on *Sing Your Heart Out* will lead you beyond the layers of self-consciousness and false messages that keep you from expressing your own music fully and joyfully. Whether you believe you are "tone deaf" (Arthur believes there is no such condition) or sing professionally, the Vocal Awareness system presented in this program will help you sing with more power, authenticity, and enjoyment than you ever thought possible.

The Vocal Awareness Checklist

These 12 principles represent a map of your journey to vocal freedom. Keep this list in view where you can refer to it whenever you do the exercises on Sing Your Heart Out. It will help you stay focused on your technique, motivation, and aspirations as you continue to deepen and broaden your own vocal awareness.

1. Thank you to the source

Offer thanks to God, your parents, your own inspiration, or whatever evokes a genuine sense of gratitude. Visualize yourself surrendering to this source. This will remind you that you're serving something greater than your own ego —especially helpful when you find the work most challenging.

2. Love and let go

To love means to relax and release into the work, while feeling connected with all beings on earth. Letting go means releasing everything that distracts you from your purpose. So to love and let go means to permit yourself the clarity, openness, and freedom to let the work enter and change you.

3. Allow—and enjoy—a silent, loving breath down through your body

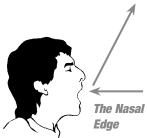
Again, let yourself feel supported in the work. Prepare to enjoy it. This "conscious awareness" focuses you and helps break through fears and old unconscious patterns.

4. Release tongue, jaw, neck, and shoulder tension

It's impossible to sing when these essential parts of your vocal equipment are clenched.

5. See the nasal edge

This point, located at center of your upper lip, is the focal point where your voice emerges from your body. By bringing your attention to it, you will empower it as a site through which your fullest sound can soar.



6. See the arc

Imagine your voice coming up and out of your mouth at a 45-degree angle, like a fountain. Seeing this trajectory will add visual support to your production of sound. Note that what you are seeing is an *arc*/, not an *arch*.

All life requires balance to maximize efficiency. Therefore, while energy soars upward through the arc, visualize emotion releasing downward through your body.



7. Precede the tone with breath

Think of *My Fair Lady:*"hurricanes hardly happen."
The "h" sound opens
your glottis and propels
the sound outward.
The breath gives your
voice extra projection
without straining
your larynx.

8. Support the sound

Rather than merely drawing your stomach in as you vocalize, pull your lower abdominal muscles up and through the sound. This contraction takes place independent of the breath.

9. Take your time

What counts is not speed, but effectiveness.

10. Have a wonderful time

The only reason for doing this work is that it brings pleasure. Resist the urge to turn it into a chore or a yardstick by which to judge yourself.

11. Pay attention/deeper listening

Nothing you notice is insignificant. Use not only your outer ears, but your deep inner senses to pay attention to the Vocal Awareness process.

12. Be your Self

Let the work touch and nurture your true, deeper Self—the being who yearns to realize the innermost purpose of your life

The Yawn-Sigh Exercise

This exercise combines the sounds and energies of yawning and sighing in a single, soaring vocal arc. A yawn-sigh, executed with full focus and awareness, is a free expression of your Self. Never do this exercise mechanically or absent-mindedly. Bring your full, loving attention to it. In a very short time, you will find that it strengthens your vocal muscles and presents you with a whole new range of self-expression. Use the yawn-sigh to warm up before singing or doing any of the other Vocal Awareness exercises.

Begin by standing or sitting erect, with your body relaxed. Allow a silent, loving breath to descend through your entire body. Now bring

your attention to your breathing. Allow six to eight counts for each inhalation, then release the breath. Loosen any tension in your tongue, jaw, neck, and shoulders. After a few breaths, practice adding support to your exhalation by bringing your lower abdominal muscles up and in. Work with each of these elements—counting through each inhalation, loosening muscular tension, and bringing in support from your stomach

—individually and in combination.

Now use your hand to gently pull your jaw downward. Using your other hand, place two fingers under your tongue. Let your tongue rest on your fingers. Allow yourself to relax in this position. Now create the yawn-sigh sound,

as demonstrated on Disc 1. Start with the syllable "hah," as in "hat."

Repeat the yawn-sigh with each of the basic vowel sounds. Hear them as emotional expressions rather than as mere sounds. Experiment with variations on the basic vowels, and with combining more than one vowel sound in a single yawn-sigh. Pay careful attention to every detail of your experience. If you feel any irritation, tickling, scratching, etc., your voice is probably telling you that something is wrong. Likely culprits are a too-tight jaw, neck, or shoulders, or breath that is too fast or shallow. Pay attention. Relax, and try again more gently. Forcing your voice will only inhibit its natural freedom and invite injury.

Do all your vocal workouts in front of a mirror. This will help you to reinforce the conscious awareness and train you to "see,"

with your mind's eye, what's going on when you leave the mirror. Stay objective. Remember: *no judgment*. Always keep your Vocal Awareness Checklist in view.

The Nasal Edge

The nasal edge is the "sweet spot" where your voice is strongest and most resonant. As you practice the yawn-sigh, direct the sound out from this point. To find it, place one finger under your nose, with the tip just above your upper lip. Raise your hand so that it's at approximately a

45-degree angle from your face. Do the "hah" yawn-sigh, visualizing the sound following



the angle of your finger and hand. Now place your fingernail on the very edge of your top lip (don't lift your head). Imagine that this is a ledge, and your voice a ski jumper who will soar in a graceful arc off the edge of your lip and into the universe. Remove your hand and, holding this image in your mind's eye, do the yawn-sigh again.

The Tongue Pull Exercise

Take a handkerchief, washcloth, or other piece of fabric between your thumb and fingers to grasp the end of your tongue. (Don't use tissue or paper toweling—these will stick to your tongue.) Standing in front of a mirror, gently pull your tongue down and out of your mouth. It should be relaxed and soft, well out of your mouth. Keep your hand on your jaw and your head level. You may feel your tongue resist at first. If so, focus on bringing more relax-

ation into that area and keep pulling gently but firmly downward. The fabric will keep your fingers from slipping off your tongue.

Now, while continuing to hold your tongue, do a yawn-sigh with the sound "hee." Notice the sensation of stretching. This exercise opens yet another level of freedom in your experience of the flow of your voice.



Scale ExercisesThe Staccato Pattern Scale

Staccato means "short and sharp" in Italian, the universal language of music. Follow the piano accompaniment, vocalizing short, sharp expressions of the sounds "what," "hi," "haw," "hi," "haw." Remain faithful to your Vocal Awareness Checklist and to the mouth and tongue positions you have learned through doing the yawn-sigh exercises. Experiment with these staccato vocalizations by changing the vowels (don't change the shape of your mouth, though); speeding up or slowing down; and holding your ending note longer.

The Sun Is Shining Brightly

Try visualizing a radiantly shining sun while doing this exercise. When vocalizing an "uh" sound, as in "sun" or "what" (from the previous exercise), make it more of an "ah" or "awe" sound. Sing the words "the sun is shining brightly" along with the piano accompaniment provided, going higher up and lower down on the scale as indicated. Don't force yourself to sing higher or lower than feels comfortable. As you continue practicing these exercises, you will find that your vocal muscles grow stronger and your vocal range increases.

Five-Finger Diatonic Scale

Beginning with the sound "hee," follow the piano accompaniment on Session 2. Again, experiment by changing vowels, holding notes longer, and so on. Try doing this exercise using some of the tools you practiced with on the yawn-sigh exercise: pulling your tongue out over your finger, for example.

Work with these exercises regularly, gently expanding your range as your muscles strengthen. Any time you experience discomfort, such as tickling, scratching, or strain, stop vocalizing. Review your Vocal Awareness Checklist to make sure you're giving your voice as much support as possible. Avoid pushing your voice beyond its natural register.

Enjoy the process of growing stronger and more flexible. With regular practice, you will attain greater vocal dexterity and range than you ever imagined possible.

The Songs

The songs that follow have been selected for their range of emotion and sensitivity. Each one will touch a different area of your heart, helping to free the voice buried in that part of your being. As you allow yourself to enter into these songs—especially those that make you feel vulnerable —you will learn to open to and transcend the fear that keeps our hearts (and voices) shut down. Singing them will help you to feel more comfortable touching and being touched by others.

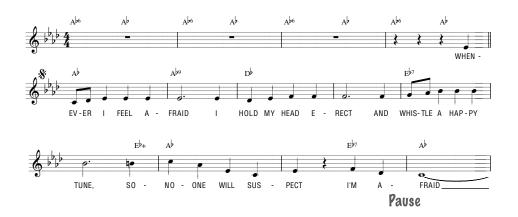
The handwritten notations added to the first song are an example of how you can personalize all the songs to meet your own, unique vocal needs. As you become familiar with each song, notice those places where you may tend to run out of breath or tighten your shoulders in anticipation of a challenging note. At those points, remind yourself to relax and support your voice by writing in pointers from the Vocal Awareness Checklist or other simple reminders that have personal meaning to you. If you find yourself routinely forgetting some key point, such as the arc or how to use your stomach muscles, you may find it helpful to make a note about that particular technique halfway through each song. Use a pencil, so that you can erase and rewrite your reminder notes as your voice develops and your needs change.

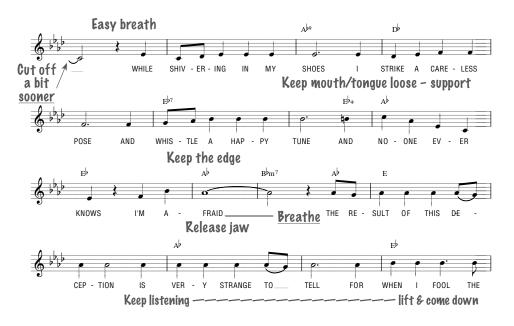
I Whistle a Happy Tune

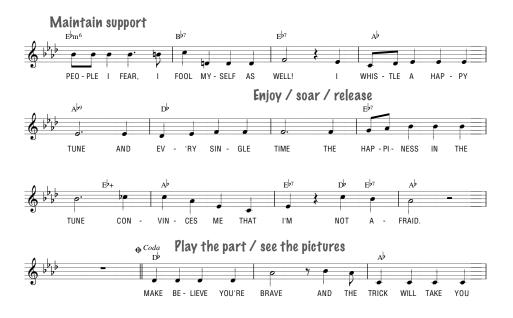
Moderato

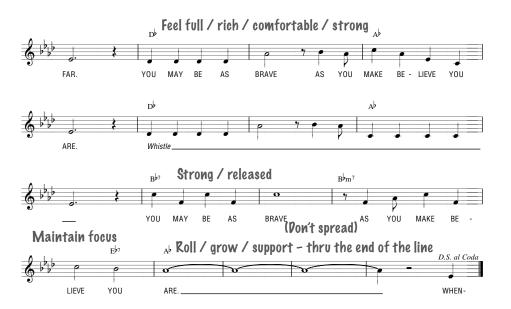
Words by Oscar Hammerstein II Music by Richard Rodgers

Thank you to the source
Love & let go Breathe lovingly
See the pictures Have fun





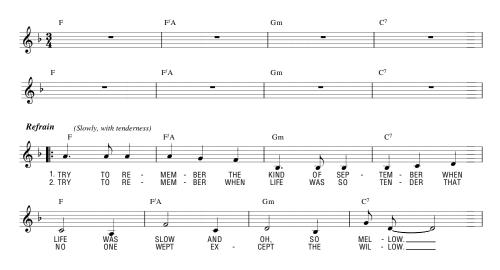


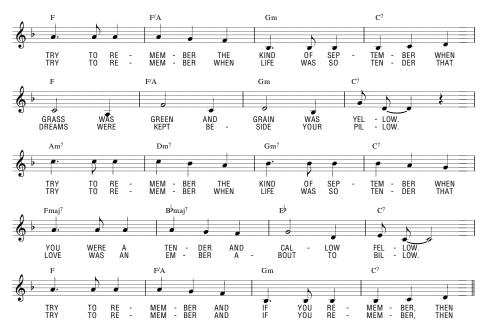


Try to Remember

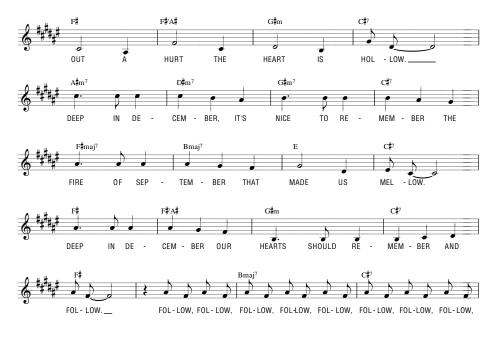
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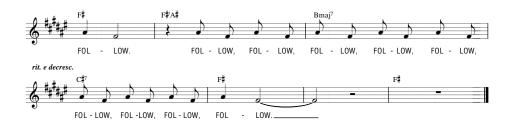
Lyrics by Tom Jones Music by Harvey Schmidt











My Lord, What a Mornin'

Slowly Traditional Spiritual Εþ B♭7 Εþ Εþ Αþ Εþ A♭maj⁷ Εþ Εþ B₂ Gm MY LORD WHAT LORD WHAT MORN - IN MORN - IN Εþ Αþ Cm $A^{
u}m$ Εþ B♭7 A B B A LORD WHEN THE MY WHAT A MORN - IN STARS BE - GIN T0 FALL. Αþ Εþ Εþ Εþ A 6 Εþ B >7 Gm

MY

LORD

WHAT

MORN - IN'

LORD

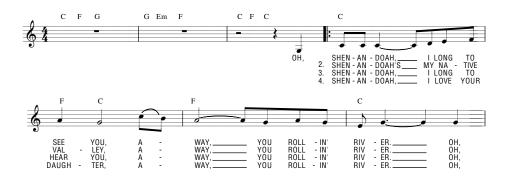
WHAT A

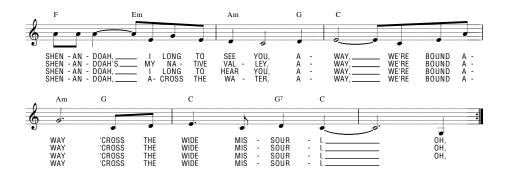
MORN



Shenandoah

Moderately Traditional

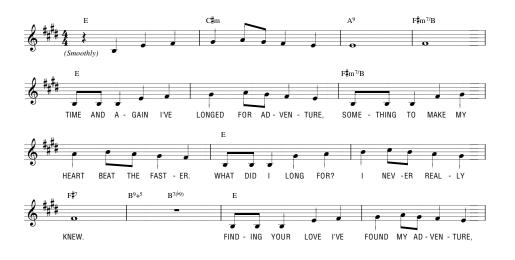




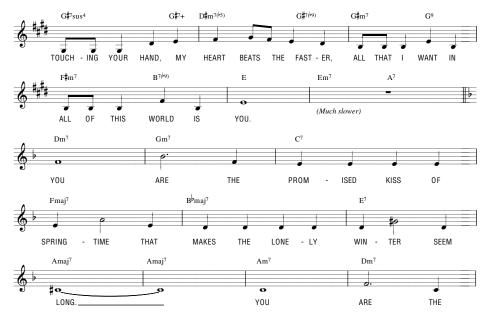
All the Things You Are

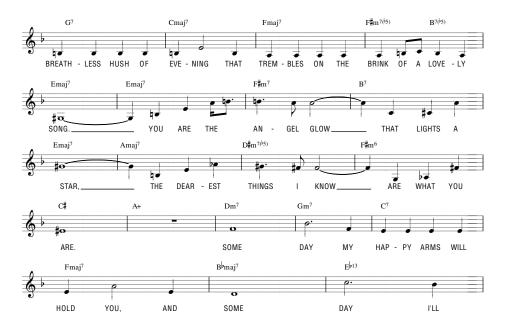
Moderately and somewhat freely

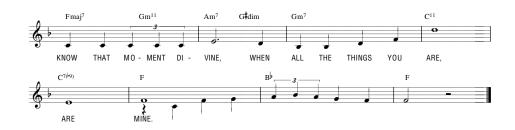
Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II Music by Jerome Kern



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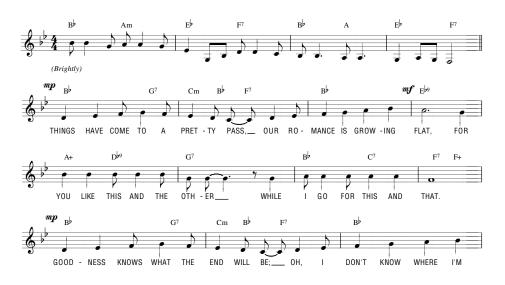




Let's Call the Whole Thing Off

Allegretto

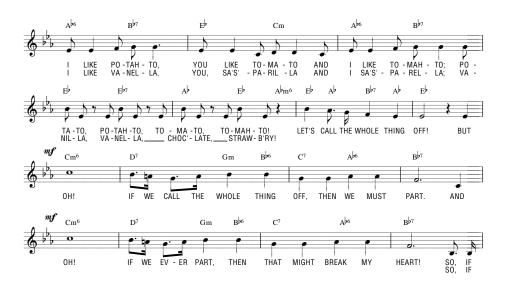
Lyrics by Ira Gershwin Music by George Gershwin

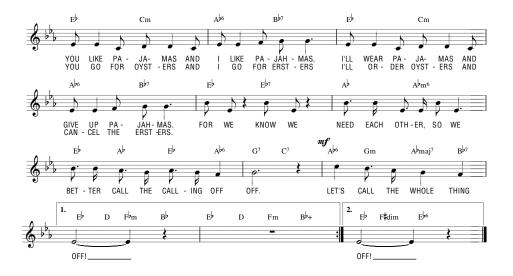


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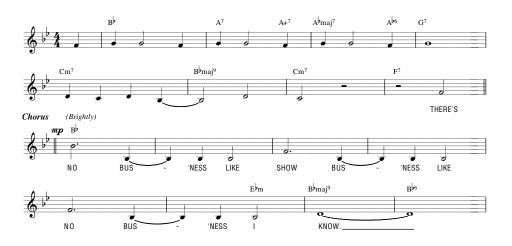


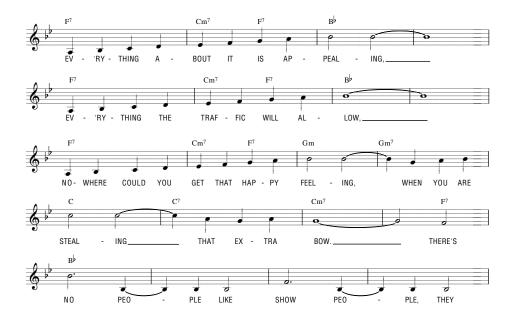


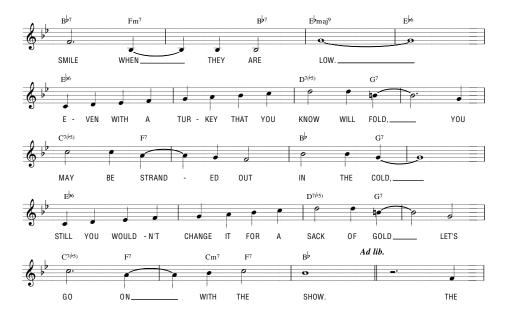
There's No Business Like Show Business

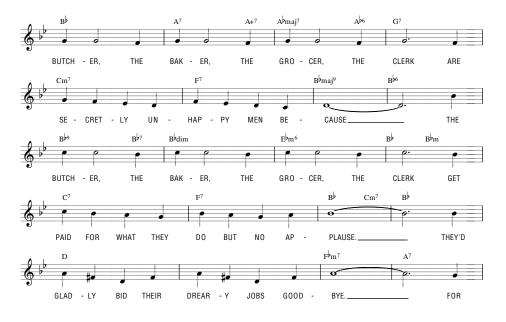
Brightly

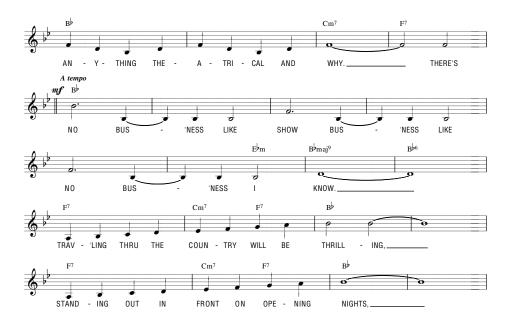
Lyrics & Music by Irving Berlin

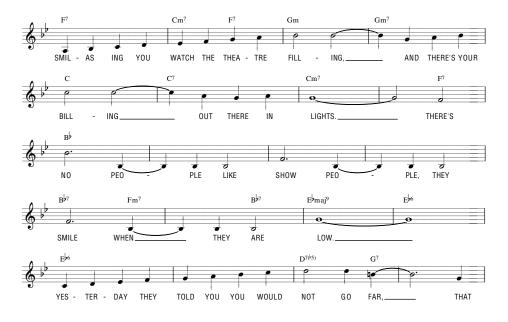


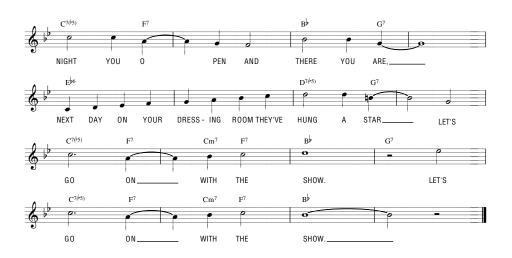






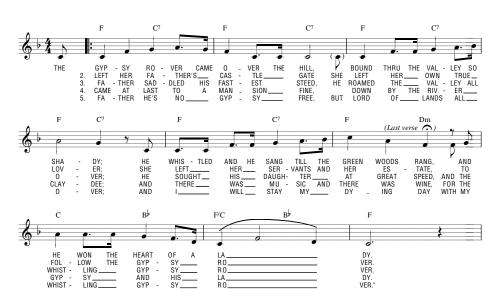


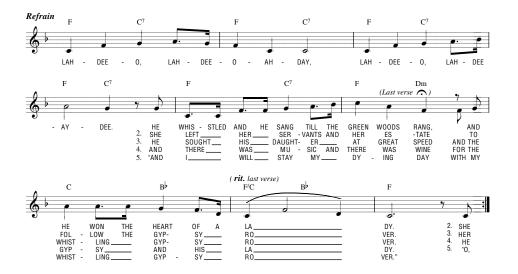




Gypsy Rover

Moderately Traditional Irish

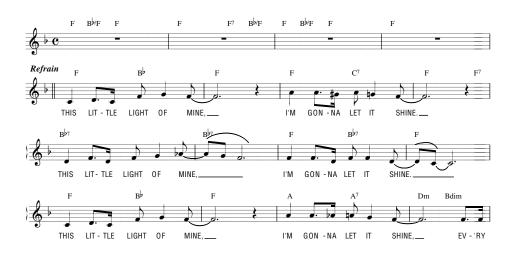


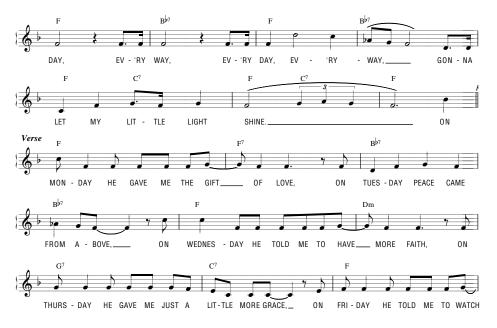


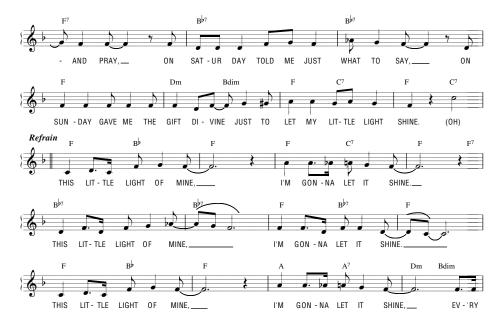
This Little Light of Mine

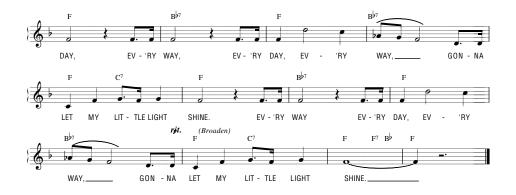
Moderately

Traditional, United States



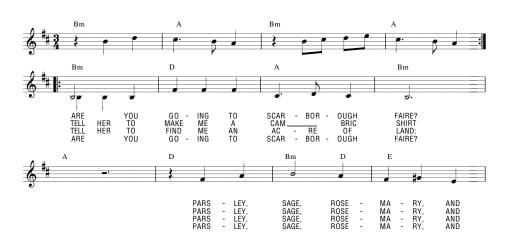


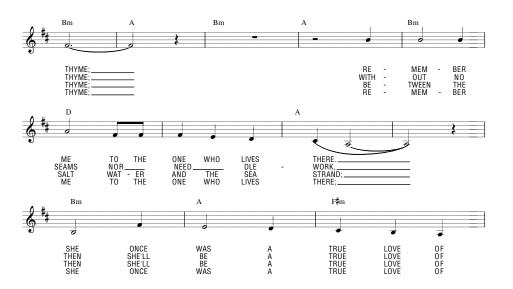


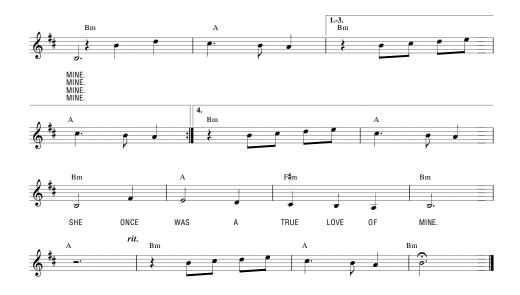


Scarborough Fair

Traditional







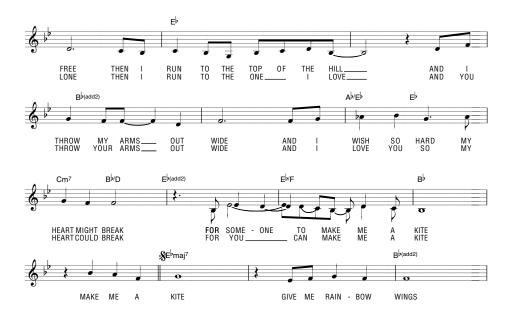
Make Me a Kite

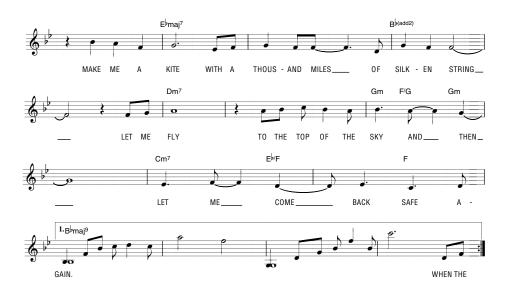
Flowing, in 2

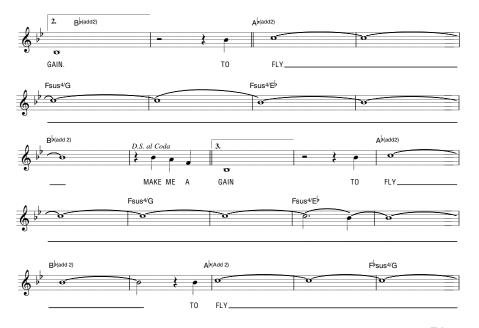
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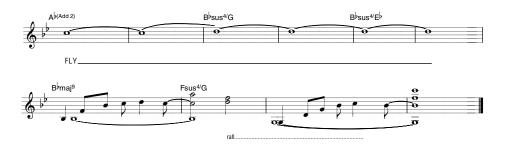


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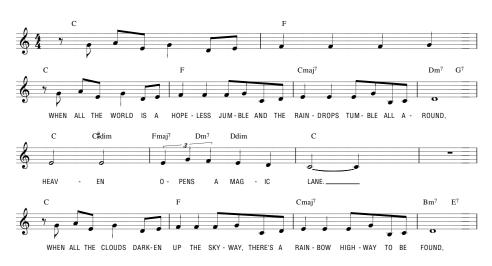




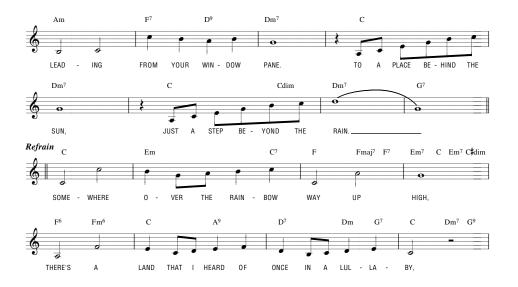
Over the Rainbow

Moderately

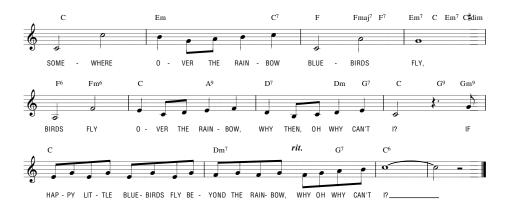
Lyrics by E.Y. Harburg Music by Harold Arlen



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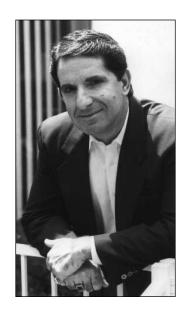






Notes

Notes



ARTHUR SAMUEL JOSEPH, M.A.

... is recognized as one of America's leading authorities on the human voice and its training. For more than four decades, he has studied the physical, emotional, and psychological aspects of the voice. His Vocal Awareness system for integrating the Self through vocal training has helped thousands of performers, singers, broadcast professionals, corporate leaders, politicians, and others discover the power and magic of their natural voices.

A former professor at USC, he currently conducts seminars for City University of New York Graduate Extension Program, Naropa University, Esalen Institute, Omega Institute, and Kripalu Institute. Arthur has worked with stars including Angelina Jolie and Arnold Schwarzenegger as well as corporations such as Toyota Motor Company and Universal Studios Hollywood. Mr. Joseph also offers a multimedia online vocal training course at www.vocalpowercourse.com.

