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MUSI 596.04: UM Cabaret

David T. Cody

University of Montana, Missoula, david.cody@umontana.edu

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MUSI 362, 597

UM Cabaret

Instructor: David Cody

E-Mail: david.cody@umontana.edu

Phone: (406) 544-2297

Office: Music 106

Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 9-10am

Course Syllabus



UM student Rachel Racon performs with Zootown Cabaret (2015).

Overview

Zootown Cabaret is an ensemble in the School of Music that performs a variety of songs from musical theatre, pop, rock-and-roll, and other styles in a revue format. The group performs in mostly off-campus venues with a stage, lighting, sound, and a live band.

Goals/Outcomes

The Cabaret is offered to give students an outlet to integrate skills they learn in voice lessons, acting, and dance classes in live performances. Inspired by the Cabarets in New York City, our revues use minimal staging, and focus more on performing songs at a very high level and making strong connections with the audience. Students, therefore, have a chance to perfect their communicative performing skills, harmony singing, microphone technique, and build confidence in themselves. Students also have opportunities to participate in masterclasses and workshops with guest artists.

Requirements - What I require from you is:

- A strong desire to learn and improve.
- A willingness to try new things.
- An attitude that promotes learning and communication.
- Prompt attendance at each rehearsal.
- Practice and preparation of your music between rehearsals.

Evaluation

You will be evaluated on your:

- Attendance and preparation to all rehearsals and performances.
- Positive and supportive attitude in the class and towards your peers.

My Commitment

I will provide you with music that challenges you, but also fits you well, giving you the opportunity to shine in the spotlight and gain confidence. Singing can be a highly emotional art form. It takes courage, confidence, and trust to learn how to bear one's soul in live performance. Therefore, I want you to know that I am in your corner. I want you to regard me as a supporter, a mentor, and one who has your best interests at heart.

Materials

You will need to keep your music in a 3-ring binder or folder, which you will bring to each rehearsal.

Supplemental Activities

Sound Recordings and Videos

I encourage you to listen to recordings and videos of your songs, but be careful that it isn't your only method of learning your music and lyrics outside of class.

Masterclasses and workshops

When possible, a guest artist is invited to teach a masterclass or clinic. These will take place during our class time, separate from rehearsals.

Performances

You will need to be available for the performance of our revue, *Queer Cabaret*, January 26, 27, and 28. Because the show is so early in the spring semester, we will rehearse it this semester. I may also schedule one or two short performances outside of our January revue during the fall semester.

Missed Class

Please notify me in advance if you have to miss a rehearsal due to illness or other unforeseen circumstances.

Daily Rehearsal Schedule

Due to the nature of our revue style shows, solo songs comprise the bulk of our programs. Therefore, you may be called to only a portion of our class time. Please do not schedule anything else during our class time. If you are not called for a portion of rehearsal, go to my office or a practice room and work on your Cabaret music.