

National association of teachers of singing

# MD/DC NATS

Proudly Presents

## *The Lost Art of 'Chiaroscuro'*

With Dr. Stephen Austin

The unique timbre of the classically trained singing voice is often characterized by the term 'chiaroscuro', meaning dark-bright, a word borrowed from art criticism. The quality of sound implied in this term is the result of a specific vocal tract adjustment that may be unique in all vocal music to the western tradition of opera and art song. In this session the source of the implicit dark quality of the voice will be described as well as the pedagogical approach to achieving it. The lecture will be followed by a demonstration session on how to train it.



Stephen F. Austin, M.M., Ph.D. is Associate Professor of Voice and Vocal Pedagogy at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas. Dr. Austin is an active author, performer, lecturer, and continues to conduct research in the area of articulatory behavior in classically trained singers.

He has presented recitals, lectures, and workshops across this country and in Australia and The Netherlands. He is regularly featured on the faculty of the Annual Symposium: Care of the Professional Voice, has made presentations to the national conventions of the American Speech and Hearing Association, the Music Teachers National Association and the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS), the Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing and has lectured at the International Physiology and Acoustics of Singing Conference and the Pan European Voice Conference.

Dr. Austin's articles on applied vocal pedagogy have been published in *Australian Voice*, and *The Journal of Singing*. His scientific contributions have been published in the *Journal of Voice*. He is a regular contributing author to *The Journal of Singing* in his popular column, "Provenance", a look at important historical sources and their continuing influence on pedagogical practice. Dr. Austin has students singing leading roles in professional opera houses in Germany and the United States.

Sunday, April 29, 2:00 – 4:00 pm  
UMBC Recital Hall

For directions: <http://www.umbc.edu/newsevents/arts/calendar/>

Free to ALL NATS Members  
\$15 Non-NATS Members

Please RSVP to Chapter President Elysabeth Muscat  
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