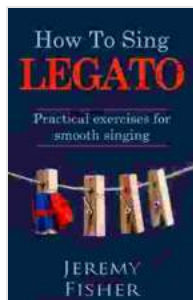


Unveiling the Art of Legato Singing: A Journey to Vocal Excellence



How to Sing Legato: Practical exercises for smooth singing (How to [music] Book 1) by Jeremy Fisher

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

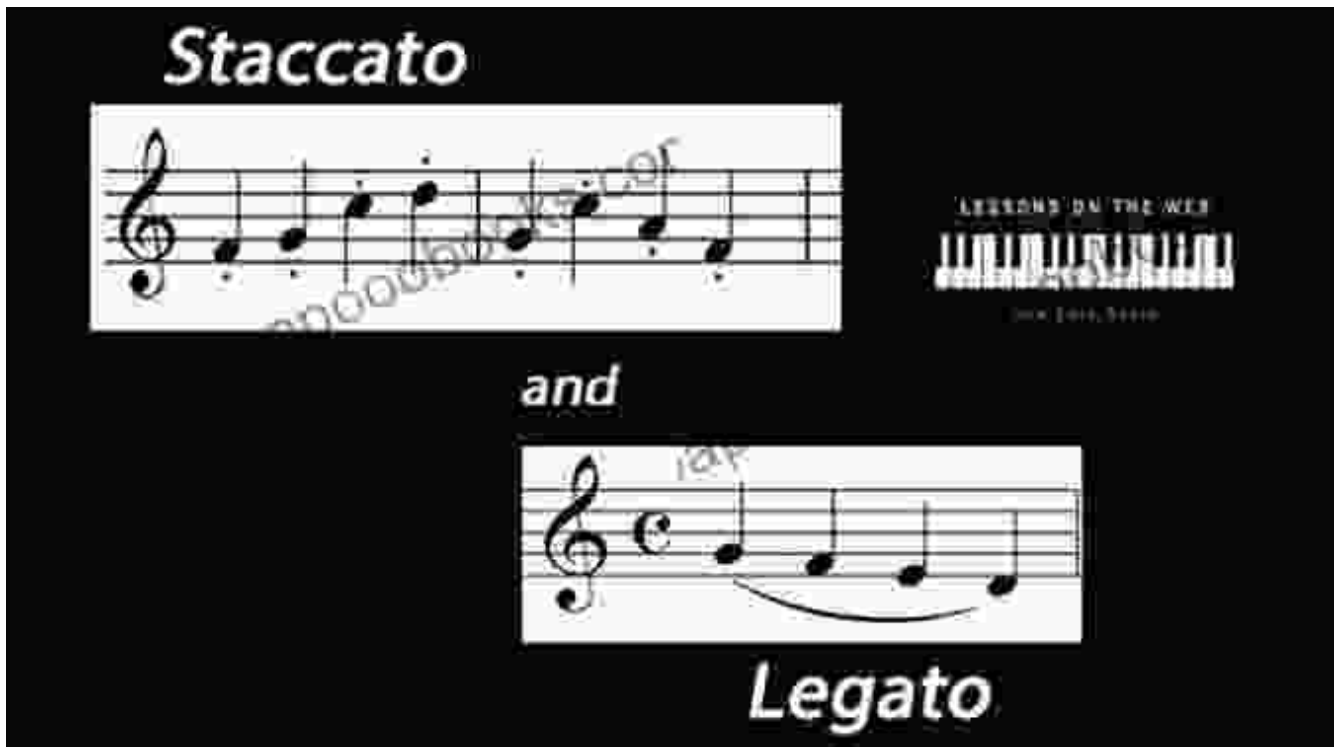
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Welcome, music enthusiasts and aspiring singers, to an extraordinary exploration of legato singing, a technique that holds the key to unlocking the full potential of your voice. In this comprehensive guide, we embark on a journey to unravel the secrets, techniques, and exercises that will transform your singing ability, taking you to new heights of vocal mastery.

What is Legato Singing?

Legato, derived from the Italian word "legare," meaning "to bind," is a vocal technique that emphasizes the smooth and connected transition between notes. Unlike staccato singing where notes are detached, legato involves sustaining the airflow while seamlessly transitioning from one note to the next, creating a fluid and expressive vocal line.



Benefits of Legato Singing

Incorporating legato into your singing repertoire offers a wealth of benefits:

- **Improved Resonance and Vocal Power:** Legato singing promotes efficient use of breath, enhancing resonance and increasing vocal power.
- **Enhanced Vocal Control and Flexibility:** By maintaining a consistent airflow, you gain greater control over your voice, allowing for precise pitch and intonation.
- **Expressive and Musical Performances:** Legato creates a sense of phrasing and connection, adding depth and musicality to your performances.

- **Reduced Vocal Strain and Improved Longevity:** Proper legato technique reduces vocal strain, promoting vocal health and longevity.

The Cornerstone of Legato: Breath Control

Breath control is the foundation upon which legato singing is built. Mastering breath management enables you to sustain notes effortlessly, ensuring a smooth and controlled vocal delivery.

Diaphragmatic Breathing

Legato singing relies heavily on diaphragmatic breathing, the technique of inhaling deeply into your lower abdomen. Engage your diaphragm, allowing it to expand and contract, drawing air into your lungs with maximum efficiency.

Breath Support

As you inhale, activate your abdominal and intercostal muscles to provide support for your diaphragm. This "breath support" stabilizes your core, preventing vocal strain and enabling you to project your voice with power and ease.

Essential Techniques for Legato Singing

Beyond breath control, several additional techniques are crucial for successful legato singing:

Vowel Modification

When transitioning between notes, slightly modify the shape of your mouth to ensure a smooth connection. For instance, when moving from "a" to "e," gradually adjust the vowel sound to avoid an abrupt change.

Consonant Placement

Place consonants precisely and cleanly to avoid disrupting the legato flow. Articulate consonants clearly but briefly, ensuring they do not interfere with the sustained airflow.

Phrasing

Divide your music into meaningful phrases and sections to enhance the musicality of your performance. Use legato within phrases to create a sense of continuity, while using breaks between phrases for emphasis and interpretation.

Exercises to Enhance Legato Technique

Regular practice and exercises are essential for developing a strong legato technique:

Sustained Note Exercises

Sustain a single note for as long as possible, maintaining a consistent airflow and breath support. Gradually increase the length of time you can sustain the note without compromising tone or pitch.

Lip Trills

Practice lip trills to improve vocal flexibility and airflow. Start by slowly trilling your lips, gradually increasing the speed while maintaining a steady and controlled airflow.

Legato Scale Exercises

Sing scales with a legato technique, focusing on smooth transitions between notes. Start with simple scales and gradually progress to more

complex patterns.

The Art of Legato in Practice

To truly master legato singing, it's essential to apply these techniques and exercises in your musical endeavors:

Selecting Suitable Repertoire

Choose songs that lend themselves to legato singing, such as classical arias, romantic ballads, and soulful R&B melodies.

Practice with Accompaniment

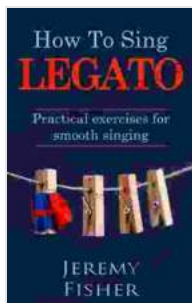
Practice singing legato with accompaniment, whether it's an instrument or a backing track. Interacting with other musical elements helps develop your sense of timing and phrasing.

Vocal Coaching and Feedback

Consider working with a qualified vocal coach who can provide personalized guidance and feedback on your legato technique, helping you refine your skills and reach your vocal potential.

Embarking on the path of legato singing is an empowering journey that will transform your voice and open up new possibilities in your musical expression. By embracing the techniques, exercises, and insights outlined in this guide, you will unlock the secrets to seamless vocal transitions, enhanced breath control, and expressive performances that captivate audiences. Remember, practice and dedication are the keys to mastering this art form. Sing from the depths of your soul, connect with your

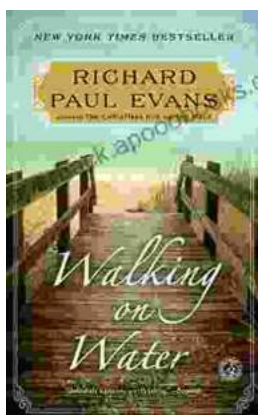
audience, and experience the joy of legato singing as your voice soars to new heights of elegance and artistry.



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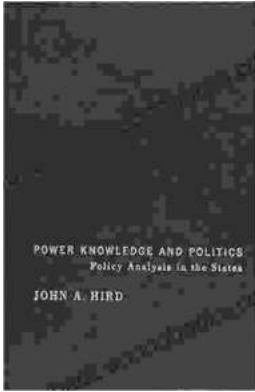
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