

# ACTIVE LISTENING PROJECTS

*Project 1 was called "Nerding Out". This is:*

## Project 2: "Nerding In"

- How does Active Listening help the actor to achieve vocal replication?
- What can be learned about one's own vocal instrument through vocal replication and transformation?
- How can the skills of vocal replication and transformation translate to Musical Theatre singing?

1. Choose a popular singer from the list at the bottom of this assignment. Each person on the list is known for their unique singing voice (and happens to be born before 1995). Then, choose a song recorded by this vocalist that meets the following criteria:

- Not from the genre of musical theatre.
- Is recorded in-studio (not a recording of a live performance).
- Is less than 4 minutes long.

**Finally, add your chosen song to our class Playlist.**

2. Perform live your best **EXACT REPLICA** of the singer's vocal performance.

You must utilize several active listening sessions (your ears will do MUCH of the work!), plus your knowledge of music theory, vocal technique, musicianship and musicality, analysis, our tenets, etc....

- Consider all of the big details, as well as the nuanced characteristics. This is including (but not limited to):
  - tone quality/timbre
  - resonance, placement, space, tension
  - style
  - diction, dialect
  - phrasing, dynamics, expression
  - breath placement and management
  - vibrato vs. straight tone, vibrato oscillation speed
- You will perform along with the actual recording you are replicating.
- You will perform with a microphone + PA speaker, so that we hear the singer and you in tandem.
- This performance is all about sound; visual performance will not be graded. However, keep in mind that physicality may help to better replicate the sound.

You will be graded on your preparation, memorization, and quality/detail of replication.

**You are tasked to listen to the full playlist to familiarize yourself with the submitted songs of your peers. Then, you will present on [due date].**

## SINGER LIST

- *Frank Sinatra*
- *Louis Armstrong*
- *Barry Gibb*
- *James Taylor*
- *Morten Harket*
- *Dave Matthews*
- *Stephen Tyler*
- *Burt Bacharach*
- *Rufus Wainwright*
- *Randy Newman*
- *Nat King Cole*
- *John Fogerty*
- *Joe Cocker*
- *Ceelo Green*
- *Ray LaMontagne*
- *Scott Weiland*
- *Elvis Presley*
- *Johnny Cash*
- *Garth Brooks*
- *Anohni Hegarty (formerly of Antony and The Johnsons)*
- *Joni Mitchell*
- *Norah Jones*
- *Doris Day*
- *Melissa Etheridge*
- *Bjork*
- *Karen Carpenter*
- *Jolie Holland*
- *Amy Winehouse*
- *Dolly Parton*
- *Dusty Springfield*
- *Alanis Morissette*
- *Florence Welch*
- *Annie Lennox*
- *Nelly Furtado*
- *Rachael Price*
- *Macy Gray*
- *Joanna Newsom*
- *Patsy Cline*
- *Erykah Badu*
- *Cyndi Lauper*
- *Stevie Nicks*