

ELEMENTS of a GOOD SHOW PACKAGE

Song Selection and Order

Adapted from Lloyd Steinkamp's "Earning the Standing Ovation"

The development of the show package is important in providing the variety of emotions necessary to maximize the impact of the performance. Although there will be many "variations" on the theme...here is a general guideline for developing song selection and song order:

OPENER

It's always good to open with an "Opener" (sorry couldn't resist that). Further, the opener should be a very positive, upbeat, song. For "rapport" with the audience, it's also desired that the opener is "FAMILIAR". Examples: Zip-pe-de-doo-dah, Happy Days Are Here Again

EASY SWING BEAT

Remember "contrast" is what makes our emotional experience so memorable. The Easy Swing song will bring the audience from the rousing opener to a happy toe-tappin' mode. Of course, it should be "FAMILIAR". Examples: I Don't Know Why, 5'2"

BARBERSHOP BALLAD

This is a good place at this point to exhibit the ballad style that is so classic in our art form. Now...the audience is eased down into allowing you to take them anywhere. As always...it is helpful if the tune is "FAMILIAR". Examples: Sweet Adeline, Old Kentucky Home

NOVELTY TUNE (Also could be sole/Broadway Show/Modern)

After taking the audience to a place where all is tender...or tear-jerking...it is a great spot to now transport them into laughter. The comedy novelty song would be great here. Examples: Used to Call Her Baby, 5'2"

GOSPEL TUNE

The Barbershop Style works so well with closely related styles such as Gospel. There is nothing to lift an audience more than a song with a good ole gospel beat. Examples: Good News, Daddy Sang Bass (It's even better if it's "FAMILIAR"!

CLOSER

We want to leave 'em wanting more and we want to leave them in high spirits. It could be with a rouser...or...it could be with something patriotic...or...it could even be with something that is a genuine message from the heart. Examples: God Bless America, Irish Blessing, Sailin' On The Henry Clay. You guessed it...better if "FAMILIAR":

This six (6) song set provides a basic variety and will (with introductions, etc.) be about eighteen (18) minutes in length. You, of course may lengthen it with similar "variety" being sprinkled throughout.