

## **Larry Ajer's Coaching/Evaluation Quotes:**

### **Entertainment:**

“Can you sing, make good music, and be both physically and vocally expressive at the same time? Not only can you, but you must. Anything less is to restrict the art form to a purely vocal exercise. It is no such thing. Once our founding fathers put this music on stage, it became a total entertainment event and must be treated as such.”

“Once consistency is achieved, artistry has a chance.”

### **Artistry:**

- A. Commitment to artistry requires the absence of conflict, total compulsion, and absolute intensity.
- B. Fear is destructive: nervousness is the simple awareness of the size and scope of the event in which we are about to participate.

### **The Face:**

- A. Have a face.
- B. Have a pleasant expression.
- C. Maintain facial mobility, always.

### **Breathing:**

There are three types of breath:

- A. Singer's breath, start of a song.
- B. Thought breath—major change of mood.
- C. Hook breath, propels action. This breath is the choreography of the ballad.

### **General:**

“Leads always sing on the front edge of the downbeat! The downbeat is not accelerated, it is anticipated, and the song takes on a forward motion.”

“Every vowel of half-note value or greater requires a dynamic expression. The absence of dynamics is static and static is boring, flat, and dull.”

“The value of a planned ‘nothing’ can be effective in time and space: sound is to silence as light is to dark, and motion is to calm.”

“By way of expression of voice and body, up tunes are sung as if we are trying to hold the attention of a five-year-old. The larger-than-life result is effective from the stage.”

“Practice makes permanent. Perfect practice makes perfect.”

“Luck occurs when preparation meets opportunity.”

“The will to win is equal among all contestants. The winner is willing to prepare to win.”

“Every moment on stage must either develop character or propel action. Every moment!”

