

Tip of the week! 28 april 2020

This weeks tip is about HarmoniSing

The most important thing is to "open" your ears. When I start working with my students on the harmonies of a song the first step is just to listen to the original recording. Even if you've heard it a hundred times, try to listen to it from a different perspective. As a singer we are focused on the melody and the lyrics most of the time. So this time listen if you hear any harmonies in the back, probably a bit softer starting from the second chorus or prechorus. A few examples of artists you can listen to: Adele, Ilse DeLange, Jackson 5, D'Angelo.

You will find that in a while you will hear backingvocals in every single song!

So if you wanna make your own harmonies, you can just try to sing a melody above the original line and also one below the original line. This will probably feel a bit weird, record yourself and listen to it with your ears wide open ;) If you're happy with the new line try singing it while playing the original song or use a karaoke of the song.

If you know a little bit about chords and you know the exact chords of the song it's a bit easier. A chord is, simply put, made out of the tonic (this also is the name of the chord), the third, the fifth and sometimes a seventh. All these notes you can use to make a new melody. Most of the time you can just sing a third above the original note. If you sing Do - re - mi , the "mi" is the third. By adding a seventh you add a bit of jazzfeeling.

If you're not sure about the chord-thing... most of the songs you can find the chord progressions online.

Have fun!