

Rapunzel                      Cinderella                      Baker's Wife                      Witch

G4      Bb5      #      b

## Unit Two: Assignment 1

### — Female Vocal Chart

Create a vocal chart for the three female characters (listed below) in the musical you chose in the previous unit.

I was confused because there are 4 female characters listed, not 3, so I included them all.

I got all these ranges by looking through the entire score, though the songs that feature them lie more in their tessitura.

I chose the following songs for each character:

Cinderella- No. 13- On the Steps of the Palace and No. 25- No One Is Alone

Rapunzel- No. 5A and No. 10A-3

Witch- No. 19-Witch's Lament, No. 22A- Last Midnight

Baker's Wife- No. 5- Maybe They're Magic, No. 21- Moments In the Woods

### RANGES-

The ranges are listed above. How do they compare? The ranges of Cinderella and the Baker's wife are nearly the same. They are 2 octave ranges.

The range of the Witch starts in a similar place but goes up an octave and a half.

The range of Rapunzel starts higher and goes up about a 10<sup>th</sup>, but is higher than all the other voice types listed here. It is in a Coloratura range.

### TESSITURA-

The 2 featured songs sung by Cinderella have a smaller range than what is needed for the whole show. They are written more in her tessitura. It lines up as the Tessitura of a Mezzo Soprano- D4- A4.

The Baker's wife tessitura lies more in the alto or belter place of A3- E4 in both songs.

Rapunzel's tessitura is like a coloratura- C5- G5. Some of this lies lower and some higher (as is the case with most songs).

The Witch- her tessitura lies more in the area of a mezzo soprano. D4-A4

- What kinds of colors can you identify for each?

The Bakers wife is in a more belty and speech like place with a chesty timbre.

Cinderella, is a little higher, not belty, more pleasant, warm, more resonant

Rapunzel- beautiful, light lyric operatic higher tessitura sound

The Witch- there is a spoken quality, a darker quality, sometimes a harsher quality, with some belt

- What kinds of musical uses does the composer have for each? I don't think I understand this question. Do you mean, how is the music used to serve the drama?

Dramatic uses of the music:

-Rapunzel has this high hypnotic sound that calls to the prince and the repetition of that and the high range and the timbre noted above, all serve this calling that leads the drama forward.

-The Witch- the drama is served with her intense passionate dark quality, lends to the scary aspect of the witch character, but goes into a deeper emotional place

Cinderella's warmth is key to the drama, so it is depicted with warm connected melodic structure and timbre

-The Bakers Wife- her urgency and stress under these circumstances, how hard she is fighting to be heard by her husband is served by the more spoken qualities, lower range, shorter notes, and quicker phrases.

The next two questions are answered above. (The differences in range reflect the dramatic/comedic structure of the show and • Are there differences in the vocal/musical writing between comedic and dramatic characters? If so, what are they?)

I want to add, that they are all dramatic characters, but also have a comedic element, and this is brought out by the differences mentioned above.

- What kinds of general guidelines can you glean from these models?

These are good examples of most of the voice types presented. Some belting, spoken style singing, harsher timbres, warmer timbres, high coloratura.

o Is there a voice that does not fit into one of the types?

I was able to put each into one of the types (as listed above).

- Are there any unconventional uses for female voices you found? If so, what are they? Perhaps the use of Rapunzel singing that high Coloratura riff, is not as common.
- What kinds of other observations can you make about female voice types?

It is helpful to see how the tessitura was mostly used, and the above and lower parts were used much less but still effectively.

These voices show many different timbres, so it's helpful to understand that to make dramatic choices that utilize the vocal timbres that serve the drama the best.