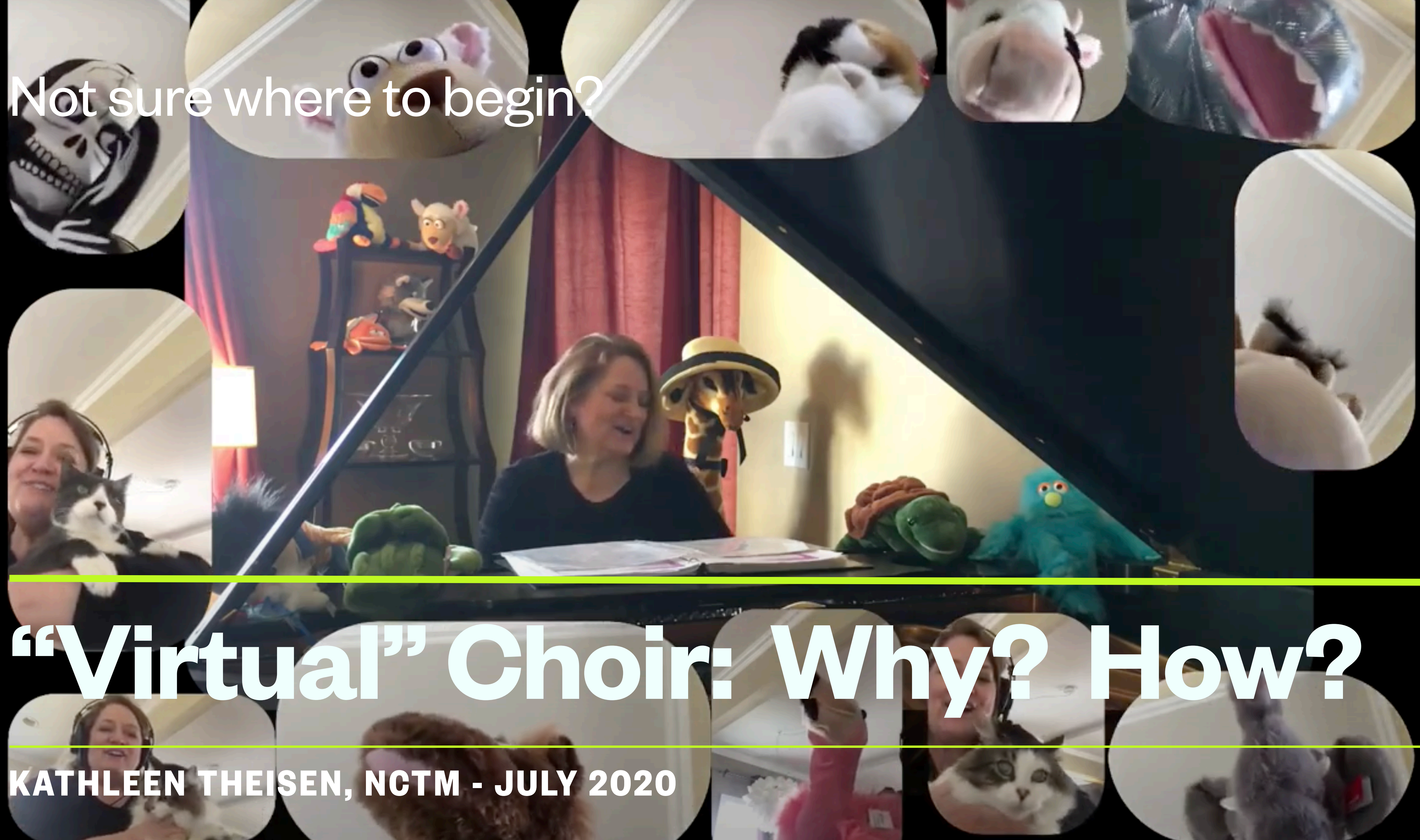


Not sure where to begin?

“Virtual” Choir: Why? How?

KATHLEEN THEISEN, NCTM - JULY 2020



Virtual Choir: Why? How?

Learning targets:

- Learn which apps or software work best
- Learn ‘best practices’ for the singers to record themselves
- Learn shortcuts to creating a multi-tracked project
- See how to create and edit an actual multi-tracked video project

Virtual Choir: Why? How?

A virtual choir is not really a ‘virtual choir.’

It’s a multi-track recording.

You will have to become an audio engineer!

Virtual Choir: Why? How?

VIDEO SOFTWARE:

- **WeVideo**
- **ScreenFlow**
- **Camtasia**
- **FinalCut**
- **iMovie**
- **Acappella (iPad app)**

Virtual Choir: Why? How?

AUDIO SOFTWARE:

- **Garage Band**
- **Audacity**
- **BandLab**

Virtual Choir: Why? How?

BASIC GUIDELINES for RECORDING A GUIDE TRACK:

- **Record your main accompaniment instrument (usually piano, organ, guitar)**
- **Record a conducting track**
- **Record each voice part**
- **Export as a 'guide track' for each voice part**

Virtual Choir: Why? How?

WHAT DOES THE CHOIR DO?

- **Listen to the guide track with headphones and record yourself on another device**
- **Send recording to the director or editor (text, email, DropBox, GoogleDrive, WeTransfer)**
- **Don't JUDGE yourself!**

Virtual Choir: Why? How?

WHAT DOES THE EDITOR DO?

- **Combine all voice parts with the master track**
- **Delete the guide track parts no longer needed**
- **Separate audio and video to balance (if needed)**
- **Add lyrics, photos, text, copyright info**

Virtual Choir: Why? How?

HOW LONG DOES THIS TAKE?

For a 3 minute piece:

- **3-10 hours making guide tracks**

plus

- **3-15 hours editing & mixing parts together**

Virtual Choir: Why? How?

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Virtual Choir: Why? How?

SHORTCUTS?

- **Get a helper (teenager!)**
- **Do audio-only mix and put a pic of your choir**
- **Do audio-only mix and make a VIDEO of your choir over Zoom but cut all the audio out of that video**
- **Ask singers to drop final consonants**
- **Conducting video - talk (give directions) all the way through it**
- **Make sure your singers sing PERFECTLY**

Virtual Choir: Why? How?

QUESTIONS?

Kathleen Theisen, NCTM

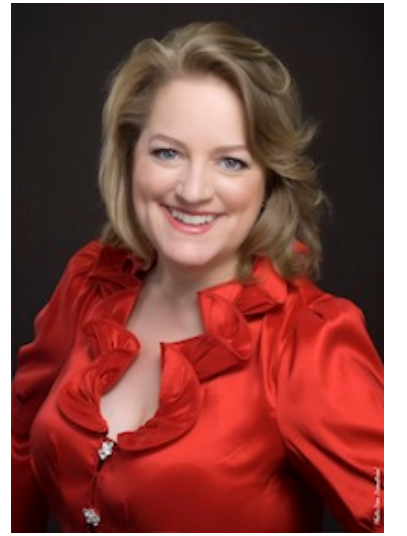
Nationally Certified Teacher of Music

Pianist, Soprano, Organist, Conductor, Composer

kathleentheisen@gmail.com



Virtual Choir: Why? How?



Links to videos shown in this session & related videos:

- *Royle School Songs*, led by Ms. Theisen with a little help from her friends: <https://youtu.be/7-2nDHA4wE0>
- *Loving Shepherd* by J.S. Bach (from SJMP.com) guide track created by Kathleen for FCC Choir: <https://youtu.be/wmhjbCC0L90>
- *Loving Shepherd* 'completed' recording with FCC Choir: <https://youtu.be/puG13oTxJNw>
- *O Sacred Head Now Wounded*, public domain hymn, recorded by Kathleen for FCC <https://www.facebook.com/628593726/videos/10157316669363727/>
- *Falling Leaves* by Denise Gagné from MusicPlayOnline.com, performed by Kathleen: <https://youtu.be/i1uP3fSRY10>
- *Prayer to the Trinity* (from SJMP.com) guide track (with all voice parts) created by Kathleen for FCC choir: <https://youtu.be/BOT2gsiWOYw>
- *The Church's One Foundation*, public domain hymn, with videos and multi-tracking, recorded for FCC: <https://youtu.be/QqkluRsya64>
- *Send Me (Benediction)* by Rachel Aarons (SJMP.com), multi-tracked with the FCC Choir: <https://youtu.be/9dFI5Ord6f8>
- WeVideo recording of DHS Pop Strings: <https://www.wevideo.com/view/1736951688>
- Acapella recording of DHS Summer Strings: <https://youtu.be/Jh2iz6ggwJE>
- My "Virtual" 2nd Grade Music Concert in Spring 2020... edited in ScreenFlow9 using rehearsal videos and green screen videos of the kids <https://youtu.be/7dTPDpRslp0>