

Troubleshooting the Vocals

Balance: Is the volume of the singers relatively equal? When harmony is present, is it too loud or too soft in relation to the melody? Are they singing approximately the same distance from the microphone?

Intonation: Are the singers sharp or flat on certain notes? Are the singers in tune with the melody line present in the winds or strings? Does intonation shift with certain syllables, vowel sounds, or long tones?

Timing: Are all the singers singing the same rhythms?

Attack/Release: Are the singers confidently starting each phrase? Do they release together, or is someone holding a note too long? Do the attacks and releases of the singers match that of the instrumentalists?

Pronunciation/Annunciation: Are your singers articulating and pronouncing the words of the song in the same manner? Be particularly mindful of long tones, vowel sounds, and drawn out notes, as these are most likely to affect other areas such as intonation.