

## Do you hear what I hear? Vocal Flaws as Features in Commercial Music

Presented by Barbara Wilson Arboleda and Noel Smith

As music evolves, so does the range of sounds and techniques used in singing. Teaching contemporary music singers requires us to develop both psychic and acoustic appreciation for the unique, at times unbalanced, sounds these singers need.

There is no such thing as a “wrong” sound in contemporary music singing. Fry, phonation breaks, whispered qualities, and sudden register transitions are all key ingredients in many styles of contemporary music vocalization. In this session, you’ll have the opportunity to listen to samples of singing from an array of contemporary music styles, hone your ear for these sounds, and identify key features that will allow you to guide your students in a way that is authentic to their creative vision.



**Barbara Wilson Arboleda** is a voice-specialized speech-language pathologist, singing voice teacher and past President of the Boston Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing.

Barbara graduated from the MGH Institute of Health Professions at Massachusetts General Hospital completing her specialty rotation in voice disorders at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, where she also worked as the Clinical Coordinator of the Voice & Speech Laboratory from 2013 to 2019. Currently, Barbara sees patients at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston.

Barbara's methods are informed by a variety of influences including, the science of attention and motor skill acquisition, exercise physiology, the work of Robert Edwin, Somatic Voicework: the LoVetri Method, the work of Melissa Cross, the work of Mary Klimek, and Estill Voice Training. She is committed to the development of an integrated voice pedagogy that honors both the art and the science of teaching and she has a special interest in the impact of stress and anxiety on the voice.



**Noel Smith** specializes in musical theater, and Commercial Music and has over 45 students performing on Broadway, or Broadway tours in NY, and has a singer on The Voice this season. She works with professional singer/actors, child singer/actors maintaining vocal health through 8 shows a week, and prepares high school students for entry into the top undergraduate and graduate musical theater and pop programs across the country. She is a mentor to seasoned Broadway Professionals.

Noel is currently NATS New England Region Governor, NATS Commercial Music Coordinator and Artistic Director / Vocal Producer for Vox Futura, New England's Premier Recording Choir.

As an international recording artist, Noel has sung in Hollywood major motion pictures, international video games and tv shows. Her latest being the Amazon Hit TV series Electric Dreams. She is a member of the Recording Academy, ASCAP, The Voice Foundation and NATS.