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Montreal, October 15th, 2003

Mr. Dennis Heath
Munich, Germany

To whom it may concern,

Four years ago, a big German TV show called "Die Lotto Show" - a sort of contest between three people of a same profession, ranging from fashion designers, pilots or blacksmiths, to opera singers, without naming the rest!- needed a professional opera singer to sing various opera cadenzas for three competing sopranos who had to guess which opera aria they were taken from.

The German TV producer knew me because he had seen my work on TV in a recorded 90 minute special with Maestro Charles Dutoit and the Montreal Symphony Orchestra and liked my approach to opera: I write and sing humorous entertaining shows in which I invent crazy international Diva characters who interact with the audience, the conductor and the musicians while singing the most beautiful arias of the lyric repertoire, the result of this being drawing new fans to the wonderful world of opera (and at times helping depressed people experience once again "la joie de vivre"!).

I have been doing this type of work and touring the world with it for 10 years, in major halls and with major orchestras.

The German TV needed a specialist to chose the cadenzas I was to sing, and Professor Dennis Heath had been chosen for this task.

He was also asked to coach me before the TV show, and that is how we met.

Needless to say, our first encounter was magical.

Professor Heath's personality is so warm, positive, open, caring and giving that he inspires instant trust, which is very important in a teacher-student relationship.

As Diva who's often on the road with jet lag and also has three children to raise, I sometimes feel fatigue which is always a threat to precious vocal chords.

After working one hour with Professor Heath, I felt totally rejuvenated.

My voice was fresh and clear again, and the true deep joy of singing (similar to the one birds must feel...) came back to me.

I didn't want to stop singing!

I went out there on the TV set with self-confidence and offered my cadenzas to the world with total ecstasy!

When I try to explain to myself what happens in the presence of professor Heath's guidance, I think the answer is that he communicates instantly to his students HIS true deep and sincere love for singing and people (particularly singers).

We all know that it takes a lot of time and dedication to reach our musical ideals, but professor Heath has his own special way of making us realize that singing is also and essentially natural, easy and fun.

Needless to say that after this experience I wanted to keep in touch with him.

Everytime I was in Germany, I would make time for a singing lesson with Professor Heath. His beautiful voice is also very inspiring for his students because he practices what he preaches! One thing I really enjoyed after the lessons, is that he took time to watch videos of famous singers with me and analyse their technique, their voices, their musical expression.

Professor Heath knows the human voice inside out. He knows and listens to the great singers, he is a living encyclopedia of repertoire, and he supports his students (he goes to their shows and cares about them), and there is always a sparkle in his eyes when you ask him anything regarding the Art of Singing.

I consider Professor Heath as being a major asset to anyone who shares the passion for singing. I highly recommend his teaching and his vocal technique which is great not only for opera, but for any kind of singing. He has given me great tools to protect my voice and keep it beautiful for many more years to come.

Every night I count my blessings, and meeting Professor Heath is one of them!

Sincerely,
Natalie Choquette
Opera Singer