

# SINGING

Reasons for persuading everyone to learne to sing:  
briefly set down by William Byrd (1542-1623)

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First it is a knowledge easely taught, and quickly learned where there is a good Master, and an apt Scoller.

2. The exercise of singing is delightful to Nature & good to preserve the health of Man.

3. It doth strengthen all the parts of the brest, and doth open the pipes.

4. It is a singular good remedie for a stuttering & stammering in the speech.

5. It is the best means to procure a perfect pronounciation & to make a good Orator.

6. It is the onely way to know where Nature has bestowed the benefit of a good voyce: which gift is so rare, as there is not one among a thousand, that hath it: and in many, that excellent gift is lost, because they want Art to expresse Nature.

7. There is not any Musicke of Instruments whatsoever, comparable to that which is made of the voyces of Men, where the voyces are good, and the same well sorted and ordered.

8. The better the voyce is, the meeter it is to honour and serve God there-with: and the voyce of man is chiefly to be employed to that ende.

omnis spiritus laudet Dominum.

Since singing is so good a thing  
I wish all men would learne to sing.

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