

Hello, everyone:

This past Thursday we enjoyed a visit from Broadway music director Andy Einhorn!

Andy began with theater classes, where he developed a love for music shaping and production. As a vocal major in college, he found himself playing lots of piano for other voice majors and decided to focus on piano and accompaniment instead. Andy moved from Houston to New York City in 2005 and has since built a successful career as a music director and conductor.

As a music director, Andy takes the existing music for a musical and its traditional practices (if the show is part of the Broadway canon) and shapes the music for the current circumstances, including any adaptations needed for the performance space or key changes to better accommodate singer's voices. Andy sees the role of music director as that of a coach: music directors know how to lead and bring the best out of the cast performers.

Andy shared a November 2020 performance with longtime friend and collaborator Audra McDonald. The performance of "Before the Parade Passes By" from *Hello, Dolly!* was for the New York City Center Gala and represents having a second chance at life, a conscious repertoire choice given the ongoing pandemic and isolation from others. Andy has worked with Audra McDonald for 16 years and spoke extensively about how performing with her has "never been the same thing twice." Together they have performed at the Sydney Opera House and recorded with the NY Phil.

Other clips Andy shared included "Deconstructing Climb Every Mountain" where he explained how the musical accompaniment in the song actually climbs, "You I Like" from a musical review of Jerry Herman that Andy wrote/produced, and an NBC "upfront" of Andy conducting the NBC Olympic Orchestra. It was so great to have Andy join us!

At long last, next week Jordan Morrison will be joining us to present the steelpans. In case you missed Susan's earlier email, there is a virtual concert **THIS SUNDAY, February 28th from**

6-7PM. Angela Hill, a musician with bilateral cochlear implants, is hosting and playing in a Facebook Live Concert (link below) in honor of Black History Month. She will play the piano and another musician will play the cello. A flyer is attached with more information. We hope you can attend! <https://www.facebook.com/pbjmarcomm>

Have a great weekend!

Chrysa & Julianne