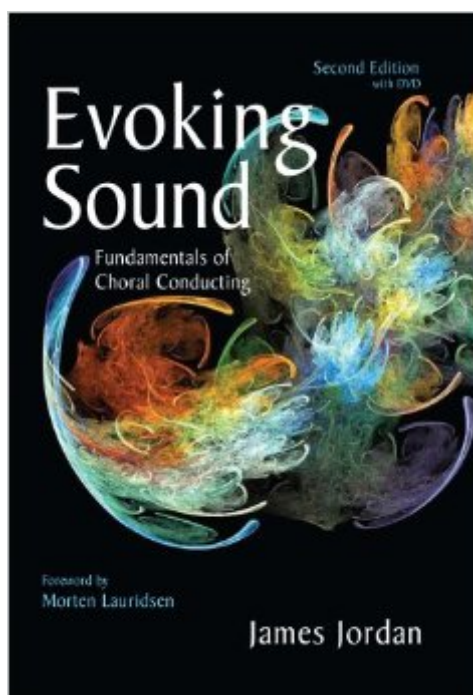


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# Evoking Sound: Fundamentals Of Choral Conducting, 2nd Edition



## Synopsis

"As artists we must constantly strive to achieve that which leads to those magical, ethereal, and completely fulfilling musical experiences that leave us all enriched and transformed. The art to which we have dedicated our lives demands no less. James Jordan knows this and gives us bountiful ways and methodologies, from his own years of experience as an esteemed conductor and educator, to do this through his splendid *Evoking Sound*, an essential book for any conductor's permanent library." Morten Lauridsen from the Foreword

*Evoking Sound* set new standards for its vision of the choral conductor's role when it was published in 1998. Now significantly revised and expanded, James Jordan's groundbreaking book incorporates more than ten years of new conducting insights, pedagogy, and philosophy to create a resource that is not only informative but transformative. Unique to this edition is the inclusion of a revolutionary DVD with Dr. Jordan and Eugene Migliaro Corporon of the University of North Texas. For the first time, a conducting text contains visual examples of patterns that with the help of state-of-the-art animation and multiple camera angles guide you to a deeper understanding of how conducting gesture influences sound.

*Evoking Sound* Second Edition includes:- Expanded material on the applications of the theories of Laban for conductors- Sequential development of technique- Unique new graphic renditions of conducting patterns that show not only the pattern but also velocity of the pattern and possible rotation points- Application of the theories of Hideo Saito- Extended sections on breathing and its important role in conducting- A refined introduction to Alexander Technique and Body Mapping- Use of a baton and guidelines for working with both wind ensembles and orchestras- Expanded discussion of the philosophy of conducting- Focus on the importance of listening and its role in arriving at gesture that supports the singing process and the music

You will come away from *Evoking Sound* with a renewed sense of the totality of the conducting experience and also an understanding of how to better evoke honest and meaningful sounds from your choir.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Every church and highschool has a choir. Every choir has a conductor. Good choral conductors are not born, they are trained. Often that training (especially in the case of a local community church) has been informal at best. That's why this newly revised and expanded second edition of "Evoking Sound: Fundamentals of Choral Conducting" by James Jordan (Senior Conductor, Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey. Conductor of The Westminster Schola Cantorum; and Conductor of the professional choral ensemble, Anam Cara, heard on Innisfree GIA ChoralWorks) is the perfect 500-page instruction manual for anyone aspiring to properly and effectively conduct choral music. Originally published in 1998, this newly expanded edition of "Evoking Sound" is enhanced with the inclusion of an accompanying DVD draws upon the Jordan's last ten years to create an even more effective presentation with animation and diverse camera angles showcasing how conducting gesture influences choral sound. Of special note are the new materials and information relevant to breathing and its effect on conducting; the importance of listening with respect to gesture; and an expanded discussion on the philosophy of conducting. Informed and informative, "Evoking Sound" is thoroughly 'user friendly' and a critically important addition to personal, professional, academic, and community library Music Instruction reference collections in general, and Choral Conducting supplemental reading lists in particular.

A well-written work by esteemed choral author, Dr. James Jordan of Westminster Choir College (Princeton, NJ). As a current graduate student of his, I get to see his philosophies in action nearly every day. This book draws heavily from his influence by Dr. Ed Gordon and Dr. Elaine Brown, with whom he worked in his graduate studies. I really appreciated one of the final chapters that addressed basics for working with instrumentalists and orchestras (written by Robert Rumbelow and James Whitbourn). The information included here was all very practical, concisely presented, and clearly explained. If you enjoy this book, I would also suggest Eugen Herrigel's "Zen in the Art of Archery," which also had considerable influence on Jordan in his musical/choral formation.

No matter your conducting ability or education, there's good useable stuff in this book. There's also a

dvd in the back cover which adds a visual to what you're reading.

It is no secret that this book (with a DVD) is considered quite valuable by a great many choral conductors. It was recommended to me by top choral directors, and their recommendation proved meritorious.

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