

SAVI

Meet your musical theater “coach in a box!” SAVI Cards are a “savvy” way to transform a performance that’s just “meh” into one that’s freaking awesome. They’re a featured component of the SAVI System of Singing Acting, designed to make your work more:

SPECIFIC, filled with brave, bold choices.
AUTHENTIC, with a deep sense of personal truth.

VARIED, with new choices for each phrase in the “journey of the song.”

INTENSE, larger than life, with abundant strength, stamina and control.

According to The SAVI System, your foremost responsibility as a singing actor is to “create behavior” – in other words, to use your voice, eyes, face and body to tell the story. Using SAVI Cards will help you create expressive behavior and coordinate it with a musical score.

GET TO KNOW YOUR SAVI CARDS

Whether you’re a teacher, a coach or a student, you’ll find all sorts of ways to use your SAVI Cards, in the practice room, in a voice lesson, in a class or in a rehearsal. Each of the eight categories of SAVI Cards has its own special superpower:

ACTION VERBS prompt you to “do” something to your imaginary scene partner. The “reality of doing” is fundamental to believable behavior onstage.

ADVERBS describe how you do something, using your face, voice and body to truthfully express that quality.

EMOTIONS remind you of the full range of feelings you are capable of experiencing and prompt you to express them with your face, voice and body.

SUBTEXT how would you behave if these words were your unspoken thoughts?

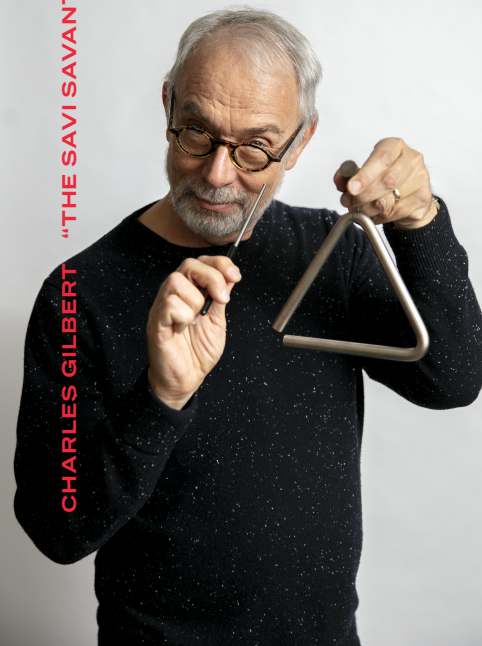
PICTURES present faces and gestures to imitate and inspire you while you sing.

ADJUSTMENTS propose a change in how you’re using your voice, face or body.

MUSIC AND VOICE cards prompt you to change your vocal sound and musical interpretation.

CUSTOM CARDS give you a chance to create your own prompts, using words, phrases or pictures that have strong personal meaning.

CHARLES GILBERT “THE SAVI SAVANT”



Ready to begin using SAVI Cards to practice and prepare songs for performance? Start by warming up:

Pick your favorite “vocalise” or song and a few cards from one of the categories above. As you repeat your music (and vary the key, if that’s possible), use the cards you selected to prompt different behavior choices.

- Use picture cards to activate your facial warm-up.
- Use subtext cards to practice conveying subtext with your eyes.
- Use music and voice cards to switch up your music-making.

PRACTICING WITH SAVI CARDS

CHANGE THINGS UP. Use the cards to inspire a variety of behavior choices, one for each phrase of the song or vocal exercise you’re working on. Choose three or four

different cards and sing while going through each of them in turn.

CREATE CONTRAST. Find two cards that seem very different. Alternate between those contrasting behaviors as you sing consecutive phrases.

GET SPECIFIC. Choose two cards at random. Go back and forth between those two behavior choices in the phrases of your song, making them as clear as possible.

GO TO EXTREMES. Choose a single card. Develop dynamic control by using that card in consecutive phrases while adjusting the intensity of your face, voice and body choices.

CHANGE YOUR GAZE WITH THE PHRASE. Shifting your focus when a new thought begins is natural human behavior, but hard to do when you’re singing. Practice moving your eyes as each phrase begins and maintain a steady gaze until it ends,

coordinating your focus shifts with new behavior choices from the cards.

Work alone or in a group, with a pianist or a cappella – the possibilities are endless! Visit **savisingingactor.com** for downloadable practice tracks and additional resources.

When you practice with SAVI Cards, you’re:

- Developing the habit of creating behavior while you sing.
- Expanding the range of behavior options available to you.
- Strengthening the connection between what you feel inside and what you show outside. (It’s a two-way street!)
- Building the skills you need to craft a complete performance.

Questions? Comments? Looking for more SAVI awesomeness? Visit the FAQ and Online Store at savisingingactor.com. Your feedback helps us make The SAVI System even better!

The SAVI logo features the word "SAVI" in a large, white, sans-serif font. The letter "A" is stylized as a triangle. Below the logo, the text "Practice Better, Perform Better." is written in a white, sans-serif font.

**Practice Better,
Perform Better.**

Design: P'unk Avenue. Photography: Chris Loupos.
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