

Singing for performance

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Date: 21/05/20

Hi! Hope you are doing well today.

Today I'm going to have a look at the song 'Sitting on the dock of the bay' by Otis Redding. If you are sitting or standing comfortably, lets go into some gentle humming exercises to warm up your vocal cords. Try a couple of lip trills in order to get your vocal range going. Now lets sing this!

Sitting on the dock of the bay

Sittin' in the mornin' sun
I'll be sittin' when the evenin' comes
Watchin' the ships roll in
Then I watch 'em roll away again

I'm sittin' on the dock of the bay
Watchin' the tide, roll away
I'm sittin' on the dock of the bay
Wastin' time

I left my home in Georgia
And I headed for the Frisco Bay
'Cause I've got nothin' to live for
Looks like nothin's gonna come my way, so

I'm just come sittin' on the dock of the bay
Watchin' the tide roll away
I'm sittin' on the dock of the bay, wastin' time

Looks like nothin's gonna change
Everything seems to stay the same
I can't do what ten people tell me to do
So I guess I'll remain the same

I'm sittin' here restin' my bones
And this loneliness won't leave me alone
This two thousand miles I roamed
Just to make this dock my home
Now I'm just sittin' on the dock of the bay

Watchin' the tide roll away
Sittin' on the dock of the bay
I'm wastin' time

I like the lyrics in this song because I feel as though Otis Redding could have been in isolation himself whilst writing it! He could have lived in a house on the dock of the bay and all he did all day was watch the ships roll in and roll away again. I love the imagery that this song conjures up. It's serene and almost quite meditative.

Maybe go back and sing this one more time with these ideas in mind. 😊