

Sharon Carty



In this podcast **Mezzo-Soprano Sharon Carty**, joins us to discuss her role as a professional opera singer. Sharon has a firmly established reputation as a respected interpreter of both early and contemporary works.

In this podcast, she shares her past and present influences and encourages us to listen to our inner voice. Already a physical education teacher, Sharon found herself following that voice and changing career path to become a professional opera singer.



[Click to play episode](#)

Podcast | Reflection Questions

You may find some of the following reflection questions useful. The questions and activities below are a small sample of ways that this podcast, featuring Sharon Carty, could be incorporated into your classroom practice. You will need to consider the unique context and both age and stage of your students when planning how best to use this podcast and adapt this resource accordingly.



Before Listening

- Sharon, our guest this week, is an opera singer. Share what you know about this artform.
- What other professionals are involved in or might feature in an opera?



During Listening

- Sharon speaks about her training to become a professional opera singer. Was there anything about her training which surprised you? Consider some singers who you listen to. What are the main differences between these singers and a professional opera singer?
- Sharon says that in opera '*teamwork is so important*'. Think about some teams you have been or are involved in. How do you support one another in a team? Discuss some of the opportunities and challenges of being involved in a team.
- Sharon made a decision to change career from being a physical education teacher to becoming an opera singer. Why did she make the decision to change? What influenced her decision? Who do you seek advice from when making decisions?



After Listening

- Research is an important element of Sharon's role. Discuss how she researches. Compare this with how you conduct research.
- Research a singer, song or piece of music you are interested in. Present your findings to others.

Podcast available on Junior Cycle Talks podcast channel

