Music is a performance art. One thing reigns true in this; no two performances are exactly the same. That is the beauty and phenomenon of live music. Every singer presents their performances in a unique, carefully constructed way. What makes this art challenging and beautiful is the emotions the artist provokes through dynamics, motions, facial expressions, phrasing, and tone. However, these details would be impossible and meaningless without first mastering the text of the piece being performed. Before truly considering the minute details to aid a singer’s expression, the singer must know everything they are singing (the words, the translations, and the context of the piece) and make a connection to it—whether that connection is genuine or not. Sometimes, a piece will have its own context, such as an aria from an opera, where the story is provided and the singer must act accordingly. In other cases, the singer must formulate a “story” to match the intensity of the text they are singing. If the singer truly understands their repertoire and commits to the story, there is no doubt that expression will unfold naturally. In this presentation, I will discuss the meanings of Franz Joseph Haydn’s “Night is Falling” and George Frideric Handel’s “Bel Piacere,” emphasizing the personal background for both pieces.