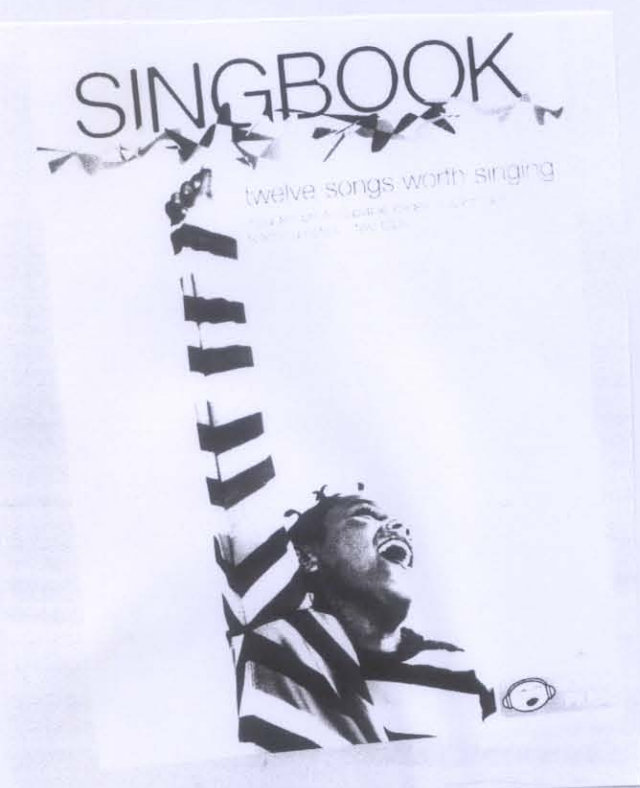


# LINK

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CONNECTING THE MUSIC EDUCATION COMMUNITY

Summer 2005



<b>PRODUCT</b>	<b>SINGBOOK</b>
<b>WHAT</b>	<b>VOCAL RESOURCE WITH CDs</b>
<b>BY</b>	<b>YOUTH MUSIC</b>
<b>FOR</b>	<b>SINGING LEADERS</b>
<b>FROM</b>	<b>FABER MUSIC</b>
<b>PRICE</b>	<b>£19.95 RRP</b>
<b>CONTACT</b>	<b><a href="http://www.youthmusic.org.uk">www.youthmusic.org.uk</a></b>

Youth Music is a key development partner of the Music Manifesto and particularly of Marc Jaffrey's recently announced national vocal strategy. This volume of 12 specially commissioned songs is a major first step in supporting that commitment and reflects the extraordinary diversity of vocal traditions that make up contemporary British culture.

*Singbook* is being heralded as 'a new type of singing manual' because it provides 'advice on good singing practice and context for each song to enable meaning and interpretation to meet music making'. That's a rather sweeping claim – OUP's excellent *Voiceworks* series offers all that and with far more material.

Where *Singbook* does score points is in the online resources it offers. At [www.singbook.org.uk](http://www.singbook.org.uk) you'll find support materials such as MP3 files and in-depth biographies for composers. Frustratingly, as *Link* went to press, the 'Links' area of the site was still being built, meaning all the websites the book mentions have to be bookmarked individually in your browser for a while yet.

I'm not convinced by some of the layout decisions, including colour coding the material rather than stating their appropriate national curriculum stage or level of difficulty in words. But there's a great mix of new material, drawing on everything from Indian to Chinese and western pop models, which should keep young singers enthused.