



What will I

SING?

Choosing a song

When you first hear a song you hear it as part of the audience. You respond to it as part of the audience. So you love it. Should you sing it?

It takes time to really learn a song, get a chart together, figure out an approach and arrangement, teach it to the others in your group, and try it out with an audience.

Here are some things to consider when choosing a song for your program.

1. Does this song suit your image, your stage personality, your age? Do you feel authentic and comfortable speaking the lyrics?
2. Can you imagine a set of circumstances that go with this song?
3. Does it spark strong feelings in you?
4. Can you accomplish the tune technically? Is it within your range and abilities?
5. Does it say something you want to say to your audience?
6. Is the song suitable for the place, audience, and size of the band? Is it suitable for the other players in your group?
7. Does it fit with the other material you're presenting?
8. Are you original? Can you make this song unique or are you copying the artist you heard do this song?
9. Will the song still feel relevant to you in 6 months?

*When you make music
you are acting as a philosopher.*

*You can either do that
consciously
or you can do it unconsciously,
but you're doing it.*

-----John Cage