

OXFORD INTERNATIONAL SONG FESTIVAL



RÜCKERT LIEDER

Wednesday 25 October 2023
7.45pm, Holywell Music Room

Masabane Cecilia Rangwanasha soprano
Simon Lepper piano

Generously supported by
Andrew & Celia Curran

PROGRAMME

Richard Wagner
(1813 – 1883)

from Wesendonck Lieder WWV9

Stehe still!
Schmerzen

Mathilde Wesendonck
(1828 - 1902)

Richard Strauss
(1864 – 1949)

Morgen!, Op. 27 no.4

John Henry Mackay
(1864 - 1933)

Gustav Mahler
(1860 – 1911)

Rückert-Lieder

Friedrich Rückert
(1788 - 1866)

Blicke mir nicht in die Lieder!

Ich atmet' einen linden Duft

Ich bin der Welt abhanden gekommen

Um Mitternacht

Liebst du um Schönheit

~ Interval ~

Traditional

Heimvee

Trad. / Anon.

William Henry Monk
(1823 – 1889)

Lala ho nna (Abide with me)

Henry Francis Lyte
(1793 - 1847)

Trad. arr. E O Excell
(1851 – 1921)

Amazing Grace

John Newton
(1725 - 1807)

May H. Brahe
(1884 – 1956)

Bless this house o Lord we pray

Helen Taylor

Alma Bazel Androzzo
(1912 – 2001)

If I can help somebody

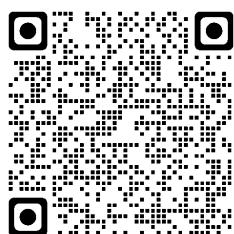
Anon.

Richard Rodgers
(1902 – 1979)

Climb every mountain

Oscar Hammerstein
(1895 - 1960)

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES



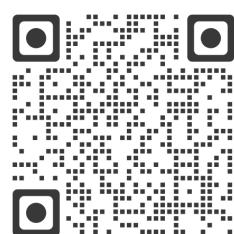
[oxfordsong.org/
events/rückert-lieder](http://oxfordsong.org/events/rueckert-lieder)

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TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

STEHE STILL!

Wagner / Wesendonck

Sausendes, brausendes Rad der Zeit,
Messer du der Ewigkeit;
Leuchtende Sphären im weiten All,
Die ihr umringt den Weltenball;
Urewige Schöpfung, halte doch ein,
Genug des Werdens, laß mich sein!

Halte an dich, zeugende Kraft,
Urgedanke, der ewig schafft!
Hemmet den Atem, stillet den Drang,
Schweiget nur eine Sekunde lang!
Schwellende Pulse, fesselt den Schlag;
Ende, des Wollens ew'ger Tag!
Daß in selig süßem Vergessen
Ich mög' alle Wonne ermessen!

Wenn Auge in Auge wonnig trinken,
Seele ganz in Seele versinken;
Wesen in Wesen sich wiederfindet,
Und alles Hoffens Ende sich kündet,
Die Lippe verstummt
 in staundendem Schweigen,
Keinen Wunsch mehr will das Innre zeugen:
Erkennt der Mensch des Ew'gen Spur,
Und löst dein Rätsel, heil'ge Natur!

STAND STILL!

English Translation © Richard Stokes

Rushing, roaring wheel of time,
You that measure eternity;
Gleaming spheres in the vast universe,
You that surround our earthly sphere;
Eternal creation - cease:
Enough of becoming, let me be!

Hold yourselves back, generative powers,
Primal Thought that always creates!
Stop your breath, still your urge,
Be silent for a single moment!
Swelling pulses, restrain your beating;
Eternal day of the Will - end!
That in blessed, sweet oblivion
I might measure all my bliss!

When eye gazes blissfully into eye,
When soul drowns utterly in soul;
When being finds itself in being,
And the goal of every hope is near,
When lips are mute
 in silent wonder,
When the soul wishes for nothing more:
Then man perceives Eternity's footprint,
And solves your riddle, holy Nature!

SCHMERZEN

Wagner / Wesendonck

Sonne, weinest jeden Abend
Dir die Schönen Augen rot,
Wenn im Meeresspiegel badend
Dich erreicht der frühe Tod;

Doch erstehst in alter Pracht,
Glorie der düstren Welt,
Du am Morgen, neu erwacht,
Wie ein stolzer Siegesheld!

Ach, wie sollte ich da klagen,
Wie, mein Herz, so schwer dich sehn,
Muß die Sonne selbst verzagen,
Muß die Sonne untergehn?

Und gebieret Tod nur Leben,
Geben Schmerzen Wonnen nur:
O wie dank'ich daß gegeben
Solche Schmerzen mir Natur.

AGONIES

English Translation © Richard Stokes

Every evening, sun, you redder
Your lovely eyes with weeping,
When, bathing in the sea,
You die an early death;

Yet you rise in your old splendour,
The glory of the dark world,
When you wake in the morning
As a proud and conquering hero!

Ah, why should I complain,
Why should I see you, my heart, so depressed,
If the sun itself must despair,
If the sun itself must set?

If only death gives birth to life,
If only agony brings bliss:
O how I give thanks to Nature
For giving me such agony.

MORGEN!

Strauss / Mackay

Und morgen wird
die Sonne wieder scheinen
Und auf dem Wege, den ich gehen werde,
Wird uns, die Glücklichen, sie wieder einen
Inmitten dieser sonnenatmenden Erde...

Und zu dem Strand,
dem weiten, wogenblauen,
Werden wir still
und langsam niedersteigen,
Stumm werden wir uns
in die Augen schauen,
Und auf uns sinkt
des Glückes stummes Schweigen...

TOMORROW!

English Translation © Richard Stokes

And tomorrow
the sun will shine again
And on the path that I shall take,
It will unite us, happy ones, again,
Amid this same sun-breathing earth...

And to the shore,
broad, blue-waved,
We shall quietly
and slowly descend,
Speechless we shall gaze
into each other's eyes,
And the speechless silence
of bliss shall fall on us...

Rückert-Lieder

Mahler / Rückert

English Translation © Richard Stokes

BLICKE MIR NICHT IN DIE LIEDER!

Blicke mir nicht in die Lieder!
Meine Augen schlag' ich nieder,
Wie ertappt auf böser Tat.
Selber darf ich nicht getrauen,
Ihrem Wachsen zuzuschauen.
Deine Neugier ist Verrat!

Bienen, wenn sie Zellen bauen,
Lassen auch nicht zu sich schauen,
Schauen selbst auch nicht zu.
Wenn die reichen Honigwaben
Sie zu Tag gefördert haben,
Dann vor allen nasche du!

ICH ATMET' EINEN LINDEN DUFT

Ich atmet' einen linden Duft!
Im Zimmer stand
Ein Zweig der Linde,
Ein Angebinde
Von lieber Hand.
Wie lieblich war der Lindenduft!
Wie lieblich ist der Lindenduft!
Das Lindenreis
Brachst du gelinde;
Ich atme leis
Im Duft der Linde
Der Liebe linden Duft

ICH BIN DER WELT ABHANDEN GEKOMMEN

Ich bin der Welt abhanden gekommen,
Mit der ich sonst viele Zeit verdorben,
Sie hat so lange nichts von mir vernommen,
Sie mag wohl glauben, ich sei gestorben!
Es ist mir auch gar nichts daran gelegen,
Ob sie mich für gestorben hält,
Ich kann auch gar nichts sagen dagegen,
Denn wirklich bin ich gestorben der Welt.
Ich bin gestorben dem Weltgetümmel,
Und ruh' in einem stillen Gebiet!
Ich leb' allein in meinem Himmel,
In meinem Lieben, in meinem Lied!

DO NOT LOOK INTO MY SONGS!

Do not look into my songs!
I lower my gaze,
As if caught in the act.
I dare not even trust myself
To watch them growing.
Your curiosity is treason.

Bees, when they build cells,
Let no one watch either,
And do not even watch themselves.
When the rich honeycombs
Have been brought to daylight,
You shall be the first to taste!

I BREATHED A GENTLE FRAGRANCE!

I breathed a gentle fragrance!
In the room stood
A spray of lime,
A gift
From a dear hand.
How lovely the fragrance of lime was!
How lovely the fragrance of lime is!
The spray of lime
Was gently plucked by you;
Softly I breathe
In the fragrance of lime
The gentle fragrance of love.

I AM LOST TO THE WORLD

I am lost to the world
With which I used to waste much time;
It has for so long known nothing of me,
It may well believe that I am dead.
Nor am I at all concerned
If it should think that I am dead.
Nor can I deny it,
For truly I am dead to the world.
I am dead to the world's tumult
And rest in a quiet realm!
I live alone in my heaven,
In my love, in my song!

UM MITTERNACHT

Um Mitternacht
Hab' ich gewacht
Und aufgeblickt zum Himmel;
Kein Stern vom Sternengewimmel
Hat mir gelacht
Um Mitternacht.

Um Mitternacht
Hab' ich gedacht
Hinaus in dunkle Schranken.
Es hat kein Lichtgedanken
Mir Trost gebracht
Um Mitternacht.

Um Mitternacht
Nahm ich in acht
Die Schläge meines Herzens;
Ein einz'ger Puls des Schmerzes
War angefacht
Um Mitternacht.

Um Mitternacht
Kämpft' ich die Schlacht,
O Menschheit, deiner Leiden;
Nicht konnt' ich sie entscheiden
Mit meiner Macht
Um Mitternacht.

Um Mitternacht
Hab' ich die Macht
In deine Hand gegeben!
Herr! über Tod und Leben
Du hältst die Wacht
Um Mitternacht!

AT MIDNIGHT

At midnight
I kept watch
And looked up to heaven;
Not a star in the galaxy
Smiled on me
At midnight.

At midnight
My thoughts went out
To the dark reaches of space;
No shining thought
Brought me comfort
At midnight.

At midnight
I paid heed
To the beating of my heart;
A single pulse of pain
Was set alight
At midnight.

At midnight
I fought the battle,
O Mankind, of your afflictions;
I could not gain victory
By my own strength
At midnight.

At midnight
I gave my strength
Into Thy hands!
Lord over life and death,
Thou keepest watch
At midnight!

LIEBST DU UM SCHÖNHEIT

Liebst du um Schönheit,
O nicht mich liebe!
Liebe die Sonne,
Sie trägt ein goldnes Haar.
Liebst du um Jugend,
O nicht mich liebe!
Liebe den Frühling,
Der jung ist jedes Jahr.
Liebst du um Schätze,
O nicht mich liebe!
Liebe die Meerfrau,
Sie hat viel Perlen klar.
Liebst du um Liebe,
O ja, mich liebe!
Liebe mich immer,
Dich lieb' ich immerdar.

IF YOU LOVE FOR BEAUTY

If you love for beauty,
O love not me!
Love the sun,
She has golden hair.
If you love for youth,
O love not me!
Love the spring
Which is young each year.
If you love for riches,
O love not me!
Love the mermaid
Who has many shining pearls.
If you love for love,
Ah yes, love me!
Love me always,
I shall love you ever more.

HEIMWEE

Trad. / Anon.

My hart verlang na die stilte
Van die wye wuiwende veld,
Ver van die stadsgeluide
En die klinkende klank van geld.

Ek is moeg vir die rus'lose lewe
Van mense wat kom en gaan,
'k Wil terug na die vrye ruimtes,
Waar 'n siel in woon wat verstaan.

O, 'k sien weer die son op die velde
En die ewige blou lug bo,
En my hart skiet vol van heimwee,
Wat drome bring in my oë.

O, ek sien weer die ylblou berge,
Dààr vèr aan die westerkim,
En 'k wonder nie meer
waarom weemoed
So seer uit my liedere klim;

Klim na die grys lug bo my,
Waar die son in die miste kwyn,
Want o, ek verlang na die velde,
Na die ewige sonneskyn.

HOMESICK

English Translation © Anon.

My heart longs for the silence
Of the wide waving field,
Far from the city noises
And the ringing sound of money.

I am tired of the restless life
Of people who come and go,
I want to go back to the free spaces,
Where a soul lives that understands.

Oh, I see the sun on the fields again
And the eternal blue sky above,
And my heart is full of homesickness,
Which brings dreams to my eyes.

Oh, I see the rare blue mountains again,
Over there to the west,
And I no longer wonder
why melancholy
So hurt, climbs out of my songs;

Climb to the gray sky above me,
Where the sun fades into the mists,
Why oh, I long for the fields,
For the eternal sunshine.

LALA HO NNA

Sepedi Translation © Anon.

Lala ho nna Shoalane e oeles
Merithi ya boshego ke Uena
Ba neng ba nthusa, ba tsamaile
Uena Morena, tlo lala ho nna.

ABIDE WITH ME

Monk / Lyte

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide
The darkness deepens Lord, with me abide
When other helpers fail and comforts flee
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.

AMAZING GRACE

Trad. arr. Excell / Newton

Amazing grace!
How sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught
 my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believe.

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

BLESS THIS HOUSE

Brahe / Taylor

Bless this house, O Lord we pray,
Make it safe by night and day;

Bless these walls so firm and stout,
Keeping want and trouble out;

Bless the roof and chimneys tall,
Let thy peace lie overall;

Bless this door that it may prove,
Ever open to joy and love;

Bless these windows shining bright,
Letting in God's Heavenly light;

Bless the hearth, ablazing there,
With smoke ascending like a prayer;

Bless the people here within,
Keep them pure and free from sin;

Bless us all that we may be,
Fit, O Lord, to dwell with Thee;

Bless us all that one day we may dwell,
O Lord, with Thee.

IF I CAN HELP SOMEBODY

Androzzo / Anon.

If I can help somebody, as I pass along,
If I can cheer somebody, with a word or song,
If I can show somebody, that he's travelling wrong,
Then my living shall not be in vain.
My living shall not be in vain,
Then my living shall not be in vain
If I can help somebody, as I pass along,
Then my living shall not be in vain.
If I can do my duty, as a good man ought,
If I can bring back beauty, to a world up wrought,
If I can spread love's message, as the Master taught,
Then my living shall not be in vain.

CLIMB EVERY MOUNTAIN

Rogers / Hammerstein

M. Abbess : 'These walls were not made to shut our problems Maria,
you have to face them. You have to find the life you were born to live. Look for it...'

Climb every mountain,
Search high and low.
Follow every byway,
Every path you know.
Climb every mountain, Ford every stream.
Follow every rainbow
Till you find your dream.
A dream that will need all the love you can give
Every day of your life for as long as you live.
Climb every mountain,
Ford every stream.
Follow every rainbow
Till you find your dream.
A dream that will need all the love you can give
Every day of your life for as long as you live.
Climb every mountain,
Ford every stream.
Follow every rainbow
Till you find your dream.

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THE WANDERER / AU NATUREL

Toby Spence *tenor*
Isabelle Peters *soprano*
Sholto Kynoch *piano*

I Fagiolini
Robert Hollingworth *director*

28 October 2023 | 7.30pm
Holywell Music Room / University Church of St Mary the Virgin

Two concerts in one evening!

In the Holywell Music Room, Toby Spence, Isabelle Peters and Sholto Kynoch perform songs by Franz Schubert, inspired by the quintessential Romantic artist Caspar David Friedrich, in particular his iconic ‘Wanderer over the Sea of Mist’. Meanwhile in the stunning University Church, enjoy the glorious sound of I Fagiolini as they present a specially devised programme in response to Pieter Brueghel the Younger’s cycle of paintings, ‘The Seasons’.

You'll get to see both concerts, swapping locations during the interval. At the end of the evening, all are warmly invited for a celebratory drink in the University Church, to mark the end of this year's Festival.