

Music of a Silent World

Texts and translations

Lost in the Stars – Kurt Weill, arr. Gene Puerling

My Lord, what a mornin' when the stars began to fall...

Before the Lord God made the sea and the land
He held all the stars in the palm of His hand,
And they ran through His fingers like grains of sand,
And one little star fell alone.

Then the Lord God hunted through the wide night air
For the little dark star on the wind down there
And He stated and promised He'd take special care
So it wouldn't get lost no more.

Now a man don't mind if the stars get dim
And the clouds blow over and darken him
So long as the Lord God's watchin' over him
Keepin' track how it all goes on.

I've been walkin' through the night and the day
'Til my eyes get weary and my head turns gray
And sometimes it seems maybe God's gone away
Forgetting the promise that we heard Him say

And we're lost out here in the stars,
Little stars, big stars, blowin' thru the night.

Text by Maxwell Anderson (1888-1959)

Abendständchen (Evening Serenade) – Max Reger

Hör', es klagt die Flöte wieder,	Listen, the flute laments again
und die kühlen Brunnen rauschen,	and the cool fountains murmur,
golden weh'n die Töne nieder,	Golden, the sounds waft down,
stille, laß uns lauschen!	Be still, let us listen in silence!
Holdes Bitten, mild Verlangen,	Gentle longing, mild supplication,
wie es süß zum Herzen spricht!	How sweetly it speaks to the heart!
Durch die Nacht, die uns umfängen,	Through the night that surrounds us,
blickt zu uns der Töne Licht.	The light of music shines upon us.

Text by Clemens Brentano (1778-1842)

Stardust – Hoagy Carmichael, arr. Jared Graveley

And now the purple dusk of twilight time
Steals across the meadows of my heart.
High up in the sky the little stars climb
Always reminding me that we're apart.
You wander down the lane and far away
Leaving me a song that will not die.
Love is now the stardust of yesterday,
The music of the years gone by.

Sometimes I wonder why I spend

My lonely nights
Dreaming of a song.
That melody haunts my reverie,
And I am once again with you.
When our love was new, and each kiss an inspiration;
Oh! But that was long ago, and now my consolation
Is in the stardust of a song.

Beside the garden wall, when stars are bright,
You are in my arms.
The nightingale tells his fairy tale
Of paradise where roses bloom;
Though I dream in vain, in my heart it will remain:
My stardust melody,
The memory of love's refrain.

Text by Mitchell Parish (1900-1993)

Cibavit eos – Heinrich Isaac

Cibavit eos ex adipe frumenti, alleluia.	He fed them from the abundance of the wheat, alleluia.
Et de petra melle saturavit eos, alleluia.	And sated them with honey from the rock, alleluia.

Exultate Deo adjutori nostro,	Rejoice in God our helper,
Jubilare Deo Jacob.	sing for joy to the God of Jacob.

Psalm 81:1,16

Innsbruck, ich muss dich lassen – Isaac

Innsbruck, ich muss dich lassen,
ich fahr dahin mein Straßen
im fremde Land dahin.
Mein Freud ist mir genommen,
die ich nit weiß bekommen,
wo ich im Elend bin.

Innsbruck, I must leave you
For I am traveling the road
to a foreign land.
There, deprived of my joy
and not knowing how to get it back,
I will be in misery.

Groß Leid muss ich jetzt tragen,
das ich allein tu klagen
dem liebsten Buhlen mein
Ach Lieb, nun lass mich Armen
im Herzen dein Erbarmen
daß ich muss von dannen sein.

I am burdened with great sorrow
which I can shed only
through the one dearest to me.
O my love, leave me not bereft
of compassion in your heart
that I must part from you.

Mein Trost ob allen Weiben,
Dein tu ich ewig bleiben
stets treu, der Ehren fromm.
nun muss dich Gott bewahren,
in aller Tugend sparen,
bis daß ich wieder komm!

My comfort above all other women,
I remain yours forever,
always faithful, in true honor.
And now, may God protect you,
safe in virtue,
until I return.

Lieblich hat sich gesellet (Lovingly has my heart been joined) – Reger

Lieblich hat sich gesellet
mein Herz in kurzer Frist
zu einer, die mir gefället,
Gott weiß wohl, wer sie ist.
Sie liebet mich ganz inniglich,

Lovingly has my heart been joined
in just a short span of time
with one who pleases me,
God knows well who she is.
She loves me deeply,

die Allerliebste mein, my dearest one,
in Treuen ich sie mein. faithfully, she is mine.

Wohl für des Maien Blüte The blossoms of May
hab ich sie auserkor'n, I have chosen well for her,
sie erfreut mir mein Gemüte. so much she pleases my soul.
Treu' Minne hab' ich g'schworn, I have sworn my true fidelity,
den will ich halten ewiglich, I will hold her in constancy,
mit Willen untertan, and be her willing subject
dieweil ich's Leben han. while I have my life.

Text anonymous, 16th century

I Remember – Stephen Sondheim, arr. Joseph Jennings

I remember sky,
It was blue as ink.
Or at least I think
I remember sky.
I remember snow,
Soft as feathers,
Sharp as thumbtacks,
Coming down like lint,
And it made you squint
When the wind would blow.
And ice, like vinyl,
On the streets,
Cold as silver,
White as sheets,

Rain, like strings,
And changing things,
Like leaves.
I remember leaves,
Green as spearmint,
Crisp as paper,
I remember trees,
Bare as coat racks,
Spread like broken umbrellas...
And parks and bridges,
Ponds and zoos,
Ruddy faces,
Muddy shoes,
Light and noise and
Bees and boys
And days.
I remember days,
Or at least I try,
But as years go by,
They're sort of haze.
And the bluest ink
Isn't really sky,
And at times I think
I would gladly die
For a day of sky.

Text by Stephen Sondheim

I miss you like I miss the trees – Ayanna Woods (b. 1992)

I Am a Tree from *The Rivers are our Brothers* – Majel Connery, arr. Majel Connery and Doug Balliett

I eat the sun, I drink the light.

I am a conjurer. My sugar is self-sacrifice.

I cut my arm to feed my leg.

I am waiting for nothing, needing for nothing.

I am an army, I am the mother of them all,

I can regenerate.

I clone a nation from my foot.

I am a country of one.

I am a family; I am a household.

I have skin and I can bruise and I can bleed, and I can cry.

I make my friends. We are connected.

We are inseparable. We grow intertwined.

We share the sky, we are agreed.

I can give, and I can care for.

I've got other mouths to feed.

They need me.

I am a tree. I know secrets that you will never know.

I channel lightning. I see in color.

I make the air you need to grow.

I'm not a man, I'm not a woman. Surprisingly I'm both.

And when I know that I must die

I put the best of me back into the ground.

I stretch for miles and miles and miles.

And let's not forget my leaves:

Clouds of green.

Text by Majel Connery

Abschied (Farewell) – Reger

Abendlich schon rauscht der Wald	At evening, the forest already murmurs
Aus den tiefen Gründen,	from the deepest valleys,
Droben wird der Herr nun bald	From on high, God will soon
An die Sterne zünden.	Rekindle the stars.
Wie so stille in den Schlünden,	How softly in the valleys
Abendlich nur rauscht der Wald.	Evening murmurs through the forest.
Alles geht zu seiner Ruh.	All goes to its rest,
Wald und Welt versausen,	Forest and world cease to stir,
Schaudernd hört der Wanderer zu,	Awestruck, the wanderer listens
Sehnt sich recht nach Hause.	Yearning to return home.
Hier in Waldes grüner Klause,	Here, in this wooded valley,
Herz, geh endlich auch zur Ruh.	Heart, go finally also to rest.

Text by Joseph von Eichendorff (1788-1857)

Willow Weep for Me – Ann Ronell, arr. Jennings

Willow, weep for me, willow, weep for me.
Bend your branches green along the stream that runs to sea.
Listen to my plea, listen willow and weep for me.

Gone! My lover's dream, lovely summer dream,
Gone and left me here to weeping tears into the stream
Sad as I can be, hear me willow and weep for me.

Whisper to the wind and say that love has sinned,
To leave my heart a-breaking and making a moan,
Murmur to the night to hide her starry light.
So none will find me sighing and crying all alone.

Weeping willow tree, weep in sympathy.
Bend your branches down along the ground.
Cover me when the shadows fall,
Bend, oh willow, and weep for me.

Text by Ann Ronell

I Am a River from *The Rivers are our Brothers* – Connery, arr. Connery and Balliett

I am a river. I am a world.
I am the distance, I am a system, I am the source.
I start my life in the ice.
With a little warmth, and a little sun,
I will travel miles.
I am a danger, I'm raging.
I am refreshment, I am a rush.
I am a sculptor, I am persuasion,
And I run. And I run! And how I run!
I am a river, I am a mother.
I give an arm, a foot, a tooth, a tongue.
I give a rib, a mouth, a hand, a lung!
When the time is right,
A sharp edge becomes skin-smooth.

When the time is right,
I change my body. I rise, and I rise!

Text by Majel Connery

Washing of the Water – Peter Gabriel, arr. Mason Bates

River, river, carry me on
Living river, carry me on
River, river, carry me on
To the place where I come from.
So deep, so wide, will you take me on your back for a ride
If I should fall, would you swallow me deep inside
River, show me how to float, I feel like I'm sinking down
Thought that I could get along
But here in this water, my feet won't touch the ground
I need something to turn myself around
Going away, away toward the sea
River deep, can you lift up and carry me
Oh roll on through the heartland
'Til the sun has left the sky
River, river, carry me high
'Til the washing of the water, make it all alright
Let your waters reach me, like she reached me tonight
Letting go, it's so hard, the way it hurts now
To get this love untied
So tough to stay with this thing, 'cause if I follow through
I face what I denied
I'll get those hooks out of me

And I'll take out the hooks that I sunk deep in your side
Kill that fear of emptiness, that loneliness I hide
River, oh river, river running deep
Bring me something that will let me get to sleep
In the washing of the water will you take it all away
Bring me something to take this pain away.

Text by Peter Gabriel

I Am the Air from *The Rivers are our Brothers* – Connery, arr. Connery and Balliett

I am the air, I am everywhere
I am inside you, behind you, before you
I'm indivisible. Just try to find me.
I am uncountable.
I bring rain upon my shoulder,
I bring fire in my hand.
I tell the trees just how to blow,
I tell the storm to land.
The winds are my children,
they do the changing work.
They scatter seeds and bend the trees,
and make the leaves to fall.
North, South, East, West,
They bear the bees along.
They guide the birds,
And steal the words of those who go before them.
I am the air, I am everywhere.
I am the king of the weather.

I am tornado, I'm hurricane,
I am the gale, I am the thunder.
I always speak my mind.

Text by Majel Connery

Hochsommernacht (Midsummer Night) – Reger

Stille ruht die weite Welt,	The vast world rests in silence,
Schlummer füllt des Mondes Horn,	slumber fills the Moon's Horn,
Das der Herr in Händen hält.	that the Lord holds in His hands.

Nur am Berge rauscht der Born–	Only the fountain murmurs on the mountain:
Zu der Ernte Hut bestellt,	called to guard the harvest,
Wallen Engel durch das Korn.	angels wafting over the wheat.

Text by Friedrich Hermann Frey (1839-1911), under the pseudonym Martin Greif

Eine ganz neue Schelmweys (A Completely New Rogues' Tune) – Reger

Wir Schelmbe sind ein feinen Hauff,	We rogues are a fine crowd,
da kann kein Herrgott wider auf.	No Lord God can control us;
Die Welt ist voll von Unsern Preiß,	The world is full of our praise,
seit Adam stahl im Paradeys.	Since Adam stole in paradise.

Uns bleibt kein geldt in unsern Sack,	There's no money left in our sack,
Wir sind ein fürnemb Lumpenpack.	We are a noble pack of rogues,
Wir han das Allergrößt Gefolg,	We have the biggest following
kein fuerst vnd Hertzog hat ein solch.	No prince and duke has such a one.

Zu nie keyn Diensten taugen Wir	We are no use for any service
als für dem Edlen Malwesier.	Except for the noble Malwesier.
Dem tun wir fröhnden und nit faul:	For it we are never lazy in serving:
ein jede Flaschen findt jr Maul.	Every bottle finds its mouth.
Wir han nit weib, wir han nit Kindt,	We have no wife, we have no child,
Wir sind die rechten Sausewind.	We are the real whirlwinds.
Und läßt uns eine Dirn nit ein,	And if a girl does not let us in,
die ander wird so süßer sein!	The others will be all the sweeter!
Wir schieren umb kein Pfaff uns nit,	We don't bother with any priest,
Wir han unß Eignen Segen mit.	We have our own blessings with us.
Und pfeifen wir am letzten loch:	And when we're on our last legs:
der Teuffel nimpt in Gnad uns doch!	The Devil will still take us in his grace!

Text by Richard Dehmel (1863-1920); Translation by Dr. Anthony Fox

I Am a Cloud from *The Rivers are our Brothers* – Connery, arr. Connery and Balliett

I am a cloud. I am upside down.
I am together, I am apart.
Upon the blue sky, now.
I spin around the world.
I change a thousand miles a minute
I am just born, and I'm disappearing.
I'm like the waves in the sky.
I'm a reflecting pool.
I mirror every ripple far below me.

I am an answer, I am surprising,
and I only take dictation from the wind.
I am a cloud, you do the work:
Just tell me what to be.
I am a thousand shapes upon the palette of the sky
I am a bird, I am a ship, I am a tree.
I am the music! I'm getting louder now.
I'm the original art form etched upon a blank slate.
I am the earth-shattering image of a face up in the sky,
I am the untold story of the beginning of time.
I'm the original conversation, and an ongoing negotiation.
I am purposeful obscurity, I'm spectacular multiplication.
I'm the universal symphony, and the centuries in reverse,
I'm the singular revelation of articulate matter,
I am the untrained genius of the childlike mind,
I am the waves in the sea!
I am disappearing.

Text by Majel Connery

Both Sides Now – Joni Mitchell, arr. Vince Peterson

Rows and flows of angel hair
And ice cream castles in the air
And feather canyons everywhere.
I've looked at clouds that way.
But now they only block the sun.
They rain and they snow on everyone.
So many things I would have done

but clouds got in my way.
I've looked at clouds from both sides now,
from up and down and still somehow
it's cloud illusions I recall.
I really don't know clouds at all.

Moons and Junes and ferris wheels,
the dizzy dancing way that you feel,
as ev'ry fairy tale comes real,
I've looked at love that way.
But now it's just another show.
And you leave 'em laughing when you go.
And if you care, don't let them know.
Don't give yourself away.

I've looked at love from both sides now,
From give and take and still somehow,
It's love's illusions that I recall.
I really don't know love at all.

Tears and fears and feelin' proud,
to say "I love you" right out loud,
dreams and schemes and circus crowds,
I've looked at life that way.
But now old friends are acting strange.
They shake their heads, they say I've changed
somethin's lost, and somethin's gained
in living every day.
I've looked at life from both sides now,
from win and lose and still somehow

it's life's illusions I recall.
I really don't know life,
I really don't know life at all.

Text by Joni Mitchell

I Am Snow from *The Rivers are our Brothers* – Connery, arr. Connery and Balliett

I start life as a vapor.
My heart is made of sand.
My pattern is impossible.
I'm a diagram, one hundred hands.
I live among the dancers.
We fall but we don't die.
Together we're destructive,
Intensifying white.
Total noise, and total silence.
We drown the light, we drown the life!
A crystal. A diamond in the sky.
I am a wonder. I am the music of a silent world.

Text by Majel Connery

Shenandoah – Traditional, arr. Marshall Bartholomew and James Erb

O Shenandoah, I long to see you
And hear your rolling river,
O Shenandoah, I long to see you
'way, we're bound away

Across the wide Missouri.

I long to see your smiling valley

And hear your rolling river,

I long to see your smiling valley

'way, we're bound away

Across the wide Missouri.

'Tis seven long years since last I see you

And hear your rolling river

'Tis seven long years since last I see you

'way, we're bound away

Across the wide Missouri.

O Shenandoah, I long to see you,

And hear your rolling river

O Shenandoah, I long to see you,

'way, we're bound away

Across the wide Missouri.

Little April Shower – Frank Churchill (1901-1942), arr. Adam Brett Ward

Drip, drip, drop little April shower

Beating a tune as you fall all around.

Drip, drip, drop little April shower

What can compare with your beautiful sound?

Drip, drip, drop, when the sky is cloudy

Your pretty music can brighten the day.

Drip, drip, drop, when the sky is cloudy
You come along with a song right away.
(come with your beautiful music...)

Drip, drip, drop little April shower
Beating a tune as you fall all around.
Drip, drip, drop little April shower
What can compare with your beautiful sound?

Drip, drip, drop, when the sky is cloudy
You come along with your pretty little song.
Drip, drip, drop, when the sky is cloudy
You come along with your pretty little song.

Gay little rondelay, song of the rainy day,
How I love to hear you patter, pretty little pitter-patter,
Helter-skelter when you pelter,
Troubles always seem to scatter away!

Text by Larry Morey (1905-1971)

The Weather – Clyde Lawrence, Gracie Lawrence, Jonathan David Bellion, Jonathan Koh, Jordan Cohen,
arr. Vineel Garisa Mahal

I won't talk about the weather,
Not with you, we're not together;
'Cause even when the sky is gray, I'm feeling blue,
And though the winds are always changing
And the clouds are rearranging,

Part of me will always be in love with you.

There's a fire in L.A.,

And since you moved there back in May

I wonder, should I call to see if you're alright?

You're a million miles away,

But I still think of you each day,

And hope the weather doesn't keep you cold at night.

So I won't talk about the weather

No, I won't talk about the weather

I won't talk about the weather

Not with you, we're not together

'Cause even when the sky is gray, I'm feeling blue

And though the winds are always changing

And the clouds are rearranging

A part of me will always be in love with you.

Aakaasa deseana aashaad'ha maasanaa

Meriseti oh meghama,

Virahamo dhaahamo vidaleni mohamo

Vinipinchu naa cheliki meghasandhesam...

[In the sky country, oh flashing cloud,

In the rainy season,

Please give this message to the love of my life,

That I am miserable, lost, and lonely without her...]

So I won't talk about the weather

No, I won't talk about the weather
I won't talk about the weather
Not with you, we're not together
And it's hard to say if we will ever be
But I'll admit my greatest fear
Is that the air will never clear
So I just wish that we could talk like you and me.
No, I won't talk about the weather
Not with you, we're not together
But I wonder if we're ever really through
'Cause if we're talking about whether
You and I should be together
Oh, I know I'll always be in love with you
Oh, yes I know I'll always be in love with you.

Text by Clyde Lawrence and Gracie Lawrence

Telugu text by Veturi Sundararama Murthy, translation by Harini Mahal

Wildflowers – Tom Petty (1950-2017), arr. Tim Keeler

You belong among the wildflowers,
You belong in a boat out at sea
Sail away, kill off the hours
You belong somewhere you feel free.

Run away, find you a lover
Go away somewhere all bright and new
I have seen no other
Who compares with you.

You belong among the wildflowers,
You belong in a boat out at sea.
You belong with your love on your arm,
You belong somewhere you feel free.

Run away, go find a lover
Run away, let your heart be your guide
You deserve deepest of cover
You belong in that home by and by.

You belong among the wildflowers
You belong somewhere close to me
Far away from your trouble and worry
You belong somewhere you feel free
You belong somewhere you feel free.

Text by Tom Petty

Blue Skies – Irving Berlin, arr. Jennings

Blue skies smilin' at me
Nothin' but blue skies do i see.
Bluebirds singing a song
Nothin' but bluebirds all day long.
Never saw the sun shining so bright
Never saw things going oh so right.
Noticing the days hurrying by
When you're in love, my how they fly...

Blue days, all of them gone
Nothing but blue skies from now on.

Text by Irving Berlin

Somebody to Love – Freddie Mercury, arr. Peterson

Can anybody find me somebody to love?
Each morning I get up, I die a little,
Can't barely stand on my feet.
Take a look in the mirror and cry,
Lord what you're doing to me.
I've spent all of my years believing you,
But I just can't get no relief, Lord!
Can anybody find me somebody to love?

I work hard every day of my life!
I work till I ache my bones!
At the end of the day,
I take home my hard earned pay all on my own.
I get down on my knees and I start to pray,
And the tears run down from my eyes, Oh!
Somebody find me somebody to love!

Everyday! I try and I try and I try,
But everyone wants to put me down,
They say I'm goin' crazy.
They say I've got water in my brain,
Got no common sense,

I got nobody left to believe.

Got no feel, I got no rhythm,

I just keep losing my beat.

I'm OK, I'm alright,

Ain't gonna face no defeat.

I just gotta get out of this prison cell,

One day I'm gonna be free, Lord!

Find me somebody to love,

Can anybody find me somebody to love?

Text by Freddie Mercury