

Richard Strauss was a German composer well known in the romantic era. He was also a pianist and a conductor. Strauss was a prolific composer, and was writing songs from six years of age to his death. By the time Strauss had left school he had already composed 140 works, many of which were lieder (German art songs) such as the ones in this program. Over his life time, he drew influence from the German great Wagner and Mendelssohn, as well as Franz Liszt.

Zueignung was composed in 1885, and is set to a poem by Austrian poet Hermann von Gilm. The poem is a jubilant song praising and thanking love for existing.

Zueignung

Ja, du weißt es, theure Seele,
Daß ich fern von dir mich quäle,
Liebe macht die Herzen krank,
Habe Dank.
Hielt ich nicht, der Freiheit Zecher,
Hoch den Amethysten-Becher
Und du segnetest den Trank,
Habe Dank.
Und beschworst darin die Bösen,
Bis ich, was ich nie gewesen,
Heilig an das Herz dir sank,
Habe Dank.

Devotion

Yes, you know it, dearest soul,
How I suffer far from you,
Love makes the heart sick,
Have thanks.
Once I, drinker of freedom,
Held high the amethyst beaker,
And you blessed the drink,
Have thanks.
And you exorcised the evils in it,
Until I, as I had never been before,
Blessed, blessed sank upon your heart,
Have thanks.

Lawrence Snyder

Traum durch die Dämmerung was composed in 1895, and is set to a poem by German poet Otto Bierbaum. The poem, titled “A Dream in Twilight,” describes meeting a lover in the twilight hours.

Traum durch die Dämmerung

Weite Wiesen im Dämmergrau;
die Sonne verglomm, die Sterne ziehn,
nun geh' ich zu der schönsten Frau,
weit über Wiesen im Dämmergrau,
tief in den Busch von Jasmin.

Durch Dämmergrau in der Liebe Land
ich gehe nicht schnell, ich eile nicht;
mich zieht ein weiches samtenes Band
durch Dämmergrau in der Liebe Land,
in ein mildes, blaues Licht.

Dream at Twilight

Broad meadows in the grey twilight;
the sun's light has died away and the stars are moving.
Now I go to the loveliest of women,
across the meadow in the grey twilight,
deep into bushes of jasmine.

Through the grey twilight to the land of love;
I do not walk quickly, I do not hurry.
I am drawn by a faint, velvet thread
through the grey twilight to the land of love,
into a blue, mild light.

Emily Ezust

Nachtgang was composed in 1895, and is set to a poem by German poet Otto Bierbaum. It is a soft recollection of a night with a loved one long departed.

Nachtgang

Wir gingen durch die stille, milde Nacht.
Dein Arm in meinem,
Dein Auge in meinem.
Der Mond goß silbernes Licht
Über dein Angesicht,
Wie auf Goldgrund ruhte dein schönes Haupt.
Und du erschienst mir wie eine Heilige,
Mild, mild und groß und seelenübereberr,
Heilig und rein wie die liebe Sonne.
Und in die Augen
Schwoll mir ein warmer Drang,
Wie Tränenahnung.
Fester faßt' ich dich
Und küßte --
Küßte dich ganz leise --
Meine Seele weinte.

At Night

We walked through the silent, mild night,
your arm in mine,
your eyes in mine.
The moon poured silver light
upon your face,
as though gold rested on your fair head.
And you appeared to me an angel,
mild, mild and great and overflowing with soul,
holy and pure like the dear sun.
And in my eyes
swelled urgent warmth,
as of threatening tears.
I held you tighter
and kissed you,
kissed you very softly.
My soul wept.

Emily Ezust

Cláudio Franco de Sá Santoro was a renowned Brazilian composer and conductor. Born in Manaus, he is a major figure in twentieth-century Brazilian music. A prolific composer, Santoro wrote nearly five hundred pieces, including one opera and several vocal compositions. The cycle Love Songs (1957) was written in partnership with the famous Brazilian poet Vinícius de Moraes.

Ouve o silêncio

Cala, ouve o silêncio, ouve o silêncio
que nos fala tristemente desse amor
Que não podemos ter
Não fala, fala baixinho
Diz bem de leve um segredo
Um verso de esperança em nosso amor
Não ó meu amor!
Canta a beleza de viver!
Saúda o sol e a alegria de amar
Em nossa grande solidão!

Em algum lugar

Deve existir, eu sei que deve existir
Algum lugar onde o amor
Possa viver a sua vida em paz
E esquecido de que existe a dor
Ser feliz, ser feliz, bem feliz.

Canções de Amor (*Hear the silence*)

Hush, hear the silence, hear the silence
Who speaks to us sadly of this love T
hat we cannot have
Do not speak, speak softly
Lightly tells a secret
A verse/refrain of hope in our love
No, oh, my love!
Sing the beauty of living!
Greets the sun and the joy of loving
In our great loneliness

Anne Marques Catarin

Canções de Amor (*Somewhere*)

It must exist, I know it must exist
A place where love
Can live its own life in peace
End forgotten about sorrow
Be happy, be happy, very happy.

Mirna Rubim

Amor que partiu

Dor de querer quem não vem
Dor de viver sem seu bem
Oh, dor que perdoa ninguém
Meu amor não tem compaixão
Partiu, ó flor, paixão
Amor que partiu Tem dó de mim
Assim sem meu bem,
Oh, vem perto de mim
Que sofro na solidão
Tão triste dor.

Acalanto da Rosa

Dorme a estrela do céu,
Dorme a rosa em seu jardim
Dorme a lua no mar

Dorme o amor dentro de mim
É preciso pisa leve
Ai, é preciso não falar

Meu amor se adormece
Quão suave é o seu perfume
Dorme em paz rosa pura
O teu sono não tem fim

Canções de Amor (*Love that's gone*)

Pain of wishing who is not coming
Pain of living without your love
Oh, pain which forgives nobody
My love has no mercy
She left, oh flower, passion,
Love that's gone
Have mercy of me
This way, without my beloved,
Oh, come close to me
Who suffers in this solitude
Such sad pain.

Mirna Rubim

Canções de Amor (*Lullaby of the Rose*)

A star sleeps in the sky,
The rose sleeps in its garden
The moon rests in the sea,

Love sleeps inside of me.
You must tread softly,
Ah, you must not speak.

My love is slumbering,
How sweet is her perfume,
Sleep in peace, pure rose,
Your slumber has no end.

Mirna Rubim

Born in Down Ampney, England, R. Vaughan Williams is the most celebrated English composers. He travelled the country side to collect and preserve English folk songs. This, his friendship with Gustav Holst, and his service during World War I had profound influence on his compositions. He refused a knighthood and is buried in Westminster Abbey.

Songs of Travel is one of the staples of baritone literature. It was composed around 1904, and consists of songs set to a poetry collection of the same name by Robert Louis Stevenson. It consists of nine songs, however the last number of the cycle, "I Have Trod the Upward and the Downward Slope," was published after his death. The original eight songs were performed together, but were published separately. The penultimate song, "Whither must I Wander," was not initially published with the rest of the cycle.

How Little We Know was composed by Philip Springer, with lyrics by Carolyn Leigh, for Frank Sinatra, and was released as a single in 1954.

Witchcraft was composed by Cy Coleman, with lyrics by Carolyn Leigh, for Frank Sinatra. It was released as a single by Frank Sinatra in 1957.

All The Way was composed by James Van Heusen, with lyrics by Sammy Cahn, for Frank Sinatra. It was released as a single in 1957.