



Edition Schott

Maxwell Davies

* 1934

Leopardi Fragments

Cantata for Soprano, Contralto and Instrumental Ensemble

(1962)

ED 10819

ISMN 979-0-2201-0524-1

PREVIEW
Low Resolution

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FRAMMENTI DI LEOPARDI

Stridore notturno delle basiderole traendo il vento.
Vedendo meco viaggia la luna.

La speme che rinasce in un col giorno.
Dolor mi preme del passato, e
Del presente, e terror de l'avvenire.

Mi diedi tutto alla gioia bramando il tempo
della disperazione.

Campagna in gran folla vede
in lontano, e villani che credendo
dono festo di gaietate, alto, e gran
tempo.

Ahi tu piase al cielo,
Sospiro mia vita di felicità,
D'ogni mio vita, come
tu teneti seco.

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LEOPARDI FRAGMENTS

Nocturnal creaking of the weather-vanes borne on
the wind. Seeing with me the moon in its course.

Hope which is reborn in one with the day. Grief
of the past oppresses me, and ennui of the present
and terror of the future.

I gave myself up entirely to the wild and furious
joy of despair.

The steep slope of the countryside seen some paces
in the distance and peasants who, descending this,
soon disappear from view – another image of Infinitude.

Ah! you have left me, my eternal sigh; you have left
me; let bitter memory become the companion of my life;
every vague imagining, of all my tender feelings, those
dear, sad impulses of my heart, the last memory.

English translation by Dr. Nelly S. Kopp

LEOPARDI

Nächtliche Schreie der Wetterfahnen, die auf dem Wind
röhren. Ich sehe mit mir den Mond in seinem Lauf.

Die Hoffnung, die sich mit dem Tag erneut
zu bilden beginnt, drückt mich unterdrückend; Vergangenheit
und Gegenwart, und Angst vor der Zukunft.

Ich gab mich ganz der wilden und furchtbaren
Freude des Verzweifelns hin.

Die steile Hang des Landes, den man aus einigen Schritten entfernt,
sieht man auf der Ferne; die Bauern, die den Hang hinuntersteigen verlieren fast

aus den Augen; ein anderes Bild der Unendlichkeit.
Ah! du hast mich verlassen, mein ewiger Seufzer; du

hast mich verlassen; lass die bittere Erinnerung zu meinem Begleiterin jedes

Lebens werden; lass alle unscharfen Gedankenbilder, der traurigen

und leidvollen Bewegungen des Herzens, der herben

German translation by Ingrid Samson.

INSTRUMENTATION

Flute (doubling piccolo)

Oboe

Clarinet in B flat

Bassoon

Trumpet

Trombone

Harp

Cello:

Duration: c. 16 minutes

At bar 145 etc. the entries of the vocal parts become progressively earlier than the other instruments. The time-value of each entry is determined by the length of the melodic line, but whose speed is in turn dependent on the length of the 'consonant' notes. Early measures are slow, later ones faster. The point of entry of each part is indicated by the spacing. At bar 145, for example, 2-19 indicates that time signature 2 applies to the soprano; the notes of each part are to be sustained within themselves, but not to the notes of the other parts, unless specially indicated. At bar 145, for example, the entries of small notes (demisemiquavers) with rests are to be played as quickly as possible; the first entry is again indicated by spacing. At the overlapping bars, the same applies. Accented on the same vowel to the next in the vocal parts, produces a gradual change from the one to the other (e.g., a diphthong), over the given time-values.

‘Fragments’ has been recorded by Mary Thomas, Dorothy Phillips and members of the Melos Ensemble conducted by John Carewe. The recording was made under the auspices of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and it is currently available on CD from EMI classics [588 1872].

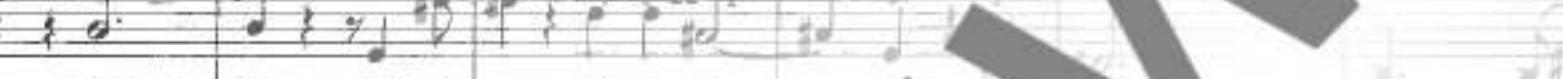
Leopardi Fragments

cantata for soprano, contralto and instrumental ensemble

Maxwell Davies

Davies

Moderato

Soprano: 

Contralto: 

Trombone: 

A musical score page featuring two large, semi-transparent, dark grey arrows pointing diagonally upwards from the bottom left towards the top right. The word 'DRAFT' is written vertically along the path of the top arrow, and the words 'Low Resolution' are written vertically along the path of the bottom arrow. The background shows a musical score with various staves, notes, rests, and dynamic markings like 'mp', 'f', 'p', 'pp', and 'fff'. There are also performance instructions such as 'bend', 'slur', and 'tie'.

PREVIEW

Low Resolution

A black and white photograph of a classical music score page. The page features two staves of musical notation with various dynamics like forte (f), piano (p), and sforzando (sf). A large, semi-transparent watermark reading "PREVIEW" and "Low Resolution" diagonally across the page indicates the image is a low-resolution preview.

A musical score page featuring two staves. The top staff is for voice and includes lyrics: "den-do me co vi - - - a - ggior - - - la". The bottom staff is for piano. Large, semi-transparent text "PREVIEW" and "Low Resolution" are diagonally overlaid across the page.

A close-up photograph of a page of sheet music. The music consists of five horizontal staves, each with vertical measures and various musical symbols like notes and rests. A large, semi-transparent watermark with the words "Low Resolution" written diagonally across it is overlaid on the music.

4 (30) **Moderato**

(35)

R. *fp* *mp pp* *mp ppp*

Ob.

Ct. (Bb) *p* *mp = p* *mp*

Sn.

Tpt. (D)

Tbn.

Hp.

Vcl.

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