

# Behold the Sun

Alexander Goehr, Op. 44

## Act One

### SCENE 1

The Merchant Berninck's room

Zimmer des Kaufmanns Berninck

Mrs. Berninck sits, reading from a Bible.  
She follows the words with her finger.  
Her son, Christian, is with her: they  
wait for the return of Berninck.

*Frau Berninck sitzt die Bibel lesend.  
Sie folgt den Worten mit ihrem Finger.  
Ihr Sohn, Christian, ist mit ihr: sie er-  
warten die Rückkehr Bernincks.*

(reading with uncertainty and hesitation)  
(unsicher und zögernd)

♩ = 76 Grave

Mrs BERNINCK

"For \_\_\_\_\_ there is  
„Denn \_\_\_\_\_ nichts ist ver -

The first system of music features a vocal line for Mrs. Berninck and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Grave' with a quarter note equal to 76 beats. The vocal line begins with a rest, followed by the lyrics. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

Mrs.B.

no-thing co- vered that shall not be re- vealed,  
- bor - gen, das nicht auch of - fen - bar wird,

The second system continues the musical score. The vocal line has a dotted line indicating a continuation of the previous line. The piano accompaniment continues with similar harmonic and melodic patterns.

Mrs.B.

nei - ther hid that shall not be known. There fore  
nichts heim - lich, das nicht sicht- bar wird. Da - rum,

The third system concludes the musical score. The vocal line ends with a final note. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic resolution.

Mrs. B.

what-so - e - ver ye have spo-ken in dark - ness shall be heard  
 was auch im - mer ihr in der Fin - ster - nis sa - get, wird man immer hö -

*cresc.* *f*

*cresc.* *fp*

Mrs. B.

in the light."  
 - - ren im Licht."

1  $\text{♩} = 114$

*pp* *pp agitato*

(going to the window)  
 (zum Fenster gehend)

CHRISTIAN

It's so dark out-side,  
 O wie dun - kel ist's,

*p*

Chr.

and there are wolves in the fo - rests, and bears,  
 da gibt es Wöl - fe und Bä - ren und auch

*pp*

(recit.)

Chr. and dang'rous men. Will my  
*viel bö - se Leut',* *Wird mein*

2 **meno mosso** (♩ = c.92)

Chr. fa - ther be home soon?  
*Va - ter bald hier sein?*

(She does not look up from her book.)  
 (Sie sieht nicht von ihrem Buch weg)

MRS. BERNINCK *dolce*

Mrs.B. Stop wor-ry-ing, my son.  
*Hab kei-ne Angst, mein Sohn,*

♩ = 114

Mrs.B. Your fa - ther will be home soon.  
*Va - ter kommt bald nach Haus.*

CHRISTIAN

When I grow up, Mo - ther, \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wenn ich groß bin, Mut - ter, \_\_\_\_\_

Chr.

Will I be a mer-chant like my fa - ther?  
 werd' ich dann auch Kauf-man, so wie Va - ter?

Chr.

Will I have to tra - vel to strange ci - ties \_\_\_\_\_ and come  
 Muß ich auch in frem - de Städ - te rei - sen, \_\_\_\_\_ komm' auch

3 meno mosso

Chr. home in the dark?  
ich nachts erst heim?

MRS. BERNINCK

Stop wor-ry-ing, my son.  
Hab kei-ne Angst, mein Sohn,

Chr. It's him!  
Er kommt!

Mrs. B. Your fa-ther will be home soon.  
Va - ter wird bald hier sein.

*d = 114*

*f*

*p*

Chr. It's him! I can see him! I can  
Er kommt! Ja, ich seh' ihn! Ja, ich

*cresc.* *mf*