

Meeresleuchten

German
Carl Loewe

Respiration and Support

The eighth-note pattern found frequently throughout this piece assists in flexible breathing. Use the rhythm of vocal line found in measures 6-7, and bounce on the vowels (elongated staccato) in the pattern of the vocal line. Rearticulating the vowel should feel like laughing in this exercise.

[a - a ə i ə ɔ - ɔ - ɔ - ɔ - ɔ ə]
strah - len fie - len gol - - den

Resonance

To balance resonance in the bass voice, it is important to alternate forward and back vowels in vocalises. This text includes many examples of this: i.e. *die Wogen*. Alternate between these vowels to neutralize the position of the larynx for consistent resonance.

[i o i o i o i o i] [e a e a e a e a e]

Phonation

The many fricatives in this text provide opportunities to maintain breath flow and consistent vocal fold vibration.

Sonnenstrahlen

'zzzɔ.nən. ʃʃʃtra:.lən

Feierstund'

'fffa:e.v. ʃʃʃtɔnt

funkensprüh'nde

'fffɔŋ.kən. ʃʃʃpɾy:n.də

Registration

Use the following vocal exercises with vowels chosen from the song to assist with bass registration.

[a - - -] [o - - -] [I - - -] [o - - -]

[a] [a] [a]
[o] [o] [o]
[I] [I] [I]
[o] [o] [o]

Diction/Articulation

Muddy vocal quality commonly is found in young basses, so it is important that they sing with clear, intelligible vowels in the low range. This piece gives an opportunity to address this issue as it descends to low G-sharp², F#-sharp², and E². Extra coloring of the voice in this range is unnecessary.

Practice 5 note scales, beginning in the middle of the voice, maintaining the pure vowel when descending.

[u - o - a - e - i] [u - o - a - e - i] [u - o - a - e - i]

Phonetic Transcription and Translation of the Text

Wieviel Sonnenstrahlen fielen goldenschwer,
[ˈviː.ʃi:l ˈzɔ.nən.ʃtraː.lən ˈfiː.lən ˈgɔl.dən.ʃveːɐ̯]
Many heavy gold sunbeams fell,

Fielen feurig glühend in des ew'ge Meer!
[ˈfiː.lən ˈfɔːy.ɾɪç ˈglyː.ənt ʔɪn dɛs ˈʔevːgə meːɐ̯]
fell glowing like fire into the eternal sea!

Und die Woge sog sie tief in sich hinab,
[ʔʊnt diː ˈvoː.gə zo:k ziː ti:f ʔɪn zɪç hɪn.ˈap]
And the waves drew them down, deep within,

Und die Woge ward ihr wild lebendig Grab.
[ʔʊnt diː ˈvoː.gə vart ʔiːɐ̯ vɪlt le.ˈben.dɪç gra:p]
and the waves became their living tomb.

Nur in stiller Nächte heilger Feierstund'
[nuːɐ̯ ʔɪn ˈʃtiːlə ˈnɛçːtə ˈhaː.el:gə ˈfaː.e.v.ʃtʊnt]
Only in the peaceful hour of the quiet night

Sprühen diese Strahlen aus des Meeres Grund.
[ˈʃpɾyː.ən ˈdiː.zə ˈʃtraː.lən ʔa:us dɛs ˈmeː.rəs grʊnt]
are these rays released from the sea's depths.

Leuchtend roll'n die Wogen durch die dunkle Nacht
[ˈlɔːyç.tənt rɔln diː ˈvoː.gən dʊrç diː ˈdʊŋk.lə naxt]
Shining, the waves roll through the dark night

Wunderbar durchglüht sie funkensprüh'nde Pracht
[ˈvʊn.dɐ.baːɐ̯ dʊrç.ˈgly:t ziː ˈfʊŋ.kən.ʃpɾyː.n.də praxt]
shimmering wondrously with glittering splendor.

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from *Liederkrantz für die Bassstimme*

Carl Seibel

Op. 145 N.1

Carl Loewe
(1796-1869)

Andante

2

Musical score for measures 1-2. The piece is in G major (one sharp) and 9/8 time. The tempo is Andante. The score consists of a bass line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The bass line is mostly rests in these two measures.

3

§ 4

Bass

5

1. Wie viel Son - - - nen -
2. Nun in stil - - - ler

Musical score for measures 3-5. The bass line begins with a melodic phrase starting on measure 4. The piano accompaniment continues with its eighth-note accompaniment. The piano part has a section of sustained chords in the left hand.

6

7

8

strah - len fie - len gol - - - den schwer, fie - len
Näch - te heil' - ger Fei - - - er-stund sprü - hen

Musical score for measures 6-8. The bass line continues with the melodic phrase. The piano accompaniment features sustained chords in the left hand and eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand.