

SONGS

NICOLAI (1810 –1849) “Nun eilt herbei - Now Hurry Here”

from Act I of *The Merry Wives of Windsor - Die lustigen Wieber von Windsor*.

Libretto by Mosenthal/Shakespeare.

Synopsis:

Two married ladies, Frau Fluth and Frau Reich, discover that they both received love letters from the impoverished nobleman Falstaff at the same time. They decide to teach him a lesson and withdraw to hatch a plan.

Translation:

“Now hurry here, jokes, bright humour, the greatest pranks, cunning and bravado.

Nothing is too wicked, if it serves to punish men without pity. That is a group, so awful, that one cannot complain enough about them. Before all others that fat glutton [Falstaff], who wants to seduce us. Ha ha ha ha! He should pay the penalty. But when he comes, how will I have to behave? What will I say? Stop! I already know!

Seducer! Why do you set a trap for a virtuous spouse? Why? Seducer! The outrage will never subside. No, never, my anger must be your punishment. However, a woman's heart is weak. You complain so pathetically about your pain. You sigh, my heart becomes weak. No longer can I be cruel, and I confess it, shamefully blushing, to you, my knight. I love you. I love you. Ha ha ha ha.

He will believe me, performing I can do very well. A bold risk is it indeed, only for fun may one allow it herself. Happy sense and humor spices up life and to forgive is well a joke. So for pleasure may one lie. Real love and faithfulness stay in the heart. Therefore full of trust, dare I to do the deed. Happy women, yes, who know their own advice.” <http://lottelehmanneligues.org/legendary-unknown/>

MASSENET (1842 – 1912) “Adieu, Notre Petite Table - Goodbye my Little Table”

from Act II of *Manon*

Libretto by Meilhac

Synopsis:

Manon has been told by a nobleman that her lover Des Grieux will soon be kidnapped by his father's men in order to get him away from her. She knows that the happy days they have spent in Des Grieux's apartment will soon be at an end and takes the opportunity to bid adieu to the table at which she and her love ate many meals together. <http://www.aria-database.com/search.php?individualAria=610>

PUCCINI (1858 –1924) “Donde Lieta Usci – Goodbye ... No Hard Feelings”

from Act III of *La Bohème*

Libretto by Giacosa

Synopsis:

Rodolfo, a playwright, falls in love with his neighbour Mimi, who is suffering from tuberculosis. Rodolfo starts a fight with Mimi, saying that Mimi has been flirting with other men. However, the real reason he wants to separate from Mimi is he cannot bear to watch her die. He reveals this to Marcello, his friend, but Mimi overhears him and, after Marcello leaves, she comes to him and asks him to return all of her possessions to her former room.

<http://www.aria-database.com/search.php?individualAria=35>

LOEWE (1901 – 1988) “I could have danced all night”

from *My Fair Lady*

Libretto by Lerner/Shaw

Synopsis:

The musical's heroine, Eliza Doolittle, expresses her exhilaration and excitement after an impromptu dance with her tutor, Henry Higgins - in the small hours of the morning. In a counterpoint during the second of three rounds, two maids and the housekeeper, Mrs. Pearce, urge Eliza to go to bed, but she ignores them.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I_Could_Have_Danced_All_Night