

# 4. Wenn ich mit Menschen- und mit Engelzungen redete

4 Serious Songs, Op.121 (*Vier ernste Gesänge*)

Johannes Brahms

**Andante con moto ed anima**

Singstimme  
Voice

Pianoforte

*f* *mf* *p*

Wenn ich mit Menschen- und mit Engelzungen redete, und hätte der Liebe nicht, so wär' ich ein tönend Erz, oder eine klingende Schelle.

Und wenn ich weis - sa - gen könn - te und

*f* *mp*

16

wüss - te al - le Ge - heim - nis - se und al - le Er - kennt - nis, und

19

*p* *f* *sf*

hät - te al - len Glau - ben, al - so, dass ich Ber - ge ver -

22

*f* *p* *dolce*

-setz - te, und hät - te der Lie - be nicht, so

26

wä - re ich nichts, so wä - re, wä - re ich nichts.

The image shows a musical score for three staves, all in bass clef. The top staff contains a whole rest followed by a quarter rest, then a quarter note G2, and the word "Und" below it. The middle staff contains a quarter rest, a quarter note G2 with a flat, a quarter rest, a quarter note G2 with a flat, a quarter rest, and a quarter note G2 with a flat. The bottom staff contains a quarter note G2, a quarter rest, a quarter note G2, a quarter rest, a quarter note G2, a quarter rest, and a quarter note G2. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb).

30

wenn ich al - le mei - ne Ha - be den Ar - men gä - be, und lie - sse\_\_ mei - nen\_\_

*f* *p* *fp* *fp*

34

Leib\_\_\_\_\_ bren - nen, mei-nen Leib\_\_\_\_\_ bren - nen; und

*fp* *sf* *f*

38

hät - te der Lie - be\_\_\_\_\_ nicht, so wä - re mir's nichts

*p*

42

nü - tze, so\_\_ wä - re mirs nichts nü -

*f* *p* *dim.*

Adagio

-tze. Wir se - hen jetzt durch ei - nen

*rit.* *plce*

Spie - - gel in ei - nem dunk - eln Wor - - te,

dann a - - ber von An - - ge - sicht zu

58

An - ge - sich - te.

This musical system covers measures 58, 59, and 60. The vocal line is in the bass clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are 'An - ge - sich - te.' with hyphens indicating syllables across notes. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves. The right hand features a melodic line with a long slur over measures 58 and 59, and a triplet of eighth notes in measure 60. The left hand features a bass line with triplets of eighth notes in measures 58 and 59, and a triplet of eighth notes in measure 60.

61

This musical system covers measures 61, 62, and 63. The vocal line is in the bass clef and contains a whole rest in measure 61. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves. The right hand has a block of chords in measures 61, 62, and 63, with a long slur spanning all three measures. The left hand features a bass line with triplets of eighth notes in measures 61, 62, and 63.

Jetzt er - ken - ne ichs stück - wei - se,

*p*

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

Detailed description: This system covers measures 62 to 64. The vocal line (bass clef) has lyrics 'Jetzt er - ken - ne ichs stück - wei - se,'. The piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs) features a melody of eighth notes with triplets in the right hand and a bass line with dotted notes and a 'p' dynamic marking in the left hand.

dann

3 3 3

Detailed description: This system covers measures 65 and 66. The vocal line (bass clef) has the lyric 'dann'. The piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs) features a long melodic line in the right hand and a bass line with triplets and a 'p' dynamic marking in the left hand.

a - - ber werd ich's er - ken - - nen,

Detailed description: This system covers measures 67 and 68. The vocal line (bass clef) has lyrics 'a - - ber werd ich's er - ken - - nen,'. The piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs) features a melody of eighth notes with slurs and a 'p' dynamic marking in the right hand, and a bass line with chords and a 'p' dynamic marking in the left hand.

gleich - - - - wie

Detailed description: This system covers measures 69 and 70. The vocal line (bass clef) has lyrics 'gleich - - - - wie'. The piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs) features a long melodic line in the right hand and a bass line with chords and a 'p' dynamic marking in the left hand.

70

ich er-ken-net bin.

*poco a poco*

*p*

*cresc.*

**più moto**

76

Nun a-ber blei-bet Glau-be, Hoff-nung,

*mp*

80

Lie



92

Musical score for measure 92. The vocal line (bass clef) contains the lyrics "se - - - ste" with a fermata over the final note. The piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs) features a melodic line with triplets (marked '3') and a bass line with chords and a triplet. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat).

93

Musical score for measure 93. The vocal line (bass clef) contains the lyrics "un - ter ih - nen." with a fermata over the final note. The piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs) features a melodic line with a piano dynamic marking (*p*) and a bass line with chords and a long melodic line. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat).