

Martin Widmaier

Blicke mir nicht in die Lieder Do Not Look into My Songs

6 Coverversionen für Klavier / piano covers

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Preliminary Note

These six piano covers combine songs from the early to late Romantic period, and they were drafted over quite some years. Nonetheless, they form a cycle which holds together both in terms of key and attitude.

The piano cover after Robert Schumann dated 23 August 1980 has always remained a favourite of mine, and I have regularly chosen it as an encore. The piano cover after Josephine Lang, on the other hand, was not written down before 2025. The first half of the lied presents two four-line stanzas and a text repetition of the last line, its second half starting correspondingly and also including a text repetition but in a modified way; the solo piano version sounds very much like theme and variation.

On 17 March 2000, baritone Andreas Reibenspies and I finished a recital at the Mainz Peter Cornelius Conservatoire with a group of Fanny Hensel songs, and *Nachtwanderer* (Night Wanderer) in particular has proven to be a glorious instance of this marvellous art form. Just a few days later, I also came up with this solo piano version – simply for the fun of it. The lied by Agnes Backer Grøndahl which is as restless as bleak was equipped with a piano cover in 2019.

On 17 October 1984, tenor Matthias Widmaier – my brother – and I performed a number of Hugo Wolf songs at the Karlsruhe Stephansaal including *Denk es, o Seele* (O Soul, Remember). Solo piano versions were occasionally improvised but never set down until 2025. Finally, my 2019 piano cover of a Gustav Mahler lied gave the title to this cycle.

A cheery observation: an ordinary die has six faces, and countless song-form pieces also come in bundles of six.

Martin Widmaier

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Contents

1	Robert Schumann / Joseph von Eichendorff: <i>In der Fremde / In Foreign Land</i>	4
2	Josephine Lang / Nikolaus Lenau: <i>An die Entfernte / To the Distant One</i>	6
3	Fanny Hensel / Joseph von Eichendorff: <i>Nachtwanderer / Night Wanderer</i>	8
4	Agathe Backer Grøndahl / Emanuel Geibel: <i>Unruhe / Restlessness</i>	10
5	Hugo Wolf / Eduard Mörike: <i>Denk es, o Seele / O Soul, Remember</i>	12
6	Gustav Mahler / Friedrich Rückert: <i>Blicke mir nicht in die Lieder / Do Not Look into My Songs</i>	14

1. In der Fremde / In Foreign Land

Words by Joseph von Eichendorff / Music by Robert Schumann (Op. 39 № 1)

Piano cover by Martin Widmaier

Nicht schnell

p

4

6

8

10

13

16

19

22

24

27

pp

ritardando

2. An die Entfernte / To the Distant One

Words by Nikolaus Lenau / Music by Josephine Lang (Op. 13 № 5)

Piano cover by Martin Widmaier

Allegretto grazioso

The piano score is written for a single piano. It begins with a treble and bass clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat major), and a 2/4 time signature. The tempo is marked *Allegretto grazioso*. The score is divided into five systems, each with a measure number at the beginning of the first staff. The dynamics and articulations are as follows:

- Measures 1-5: *mf* (mezzo-forte) in the right hand, *p* (piano) in the left hand. Measure 1 has an accent (^) over the first note.
- Measures 6-10: *p* in the right hand, *pp* (pianissimo) in the left hand.
- Measures 11-15: *p* in the right hand, *pp* in the left hand.
- Measures 16-20: *p* in the right hand, *pp* in the left hand.
- Measures 21-24: *mp* (mezzo-piano) in the right hand, *pp* in the left hand. Measure 21 has an accent (^) over the first note. Measure 22 has an accent (^) over the first note. Measure 23 has an accent (^) over the first note. Measure 24 has an accent (^) over the first note.

27

p

leggero

32

36

40

meno mosso

a tempo

45

ritardando

3. Nachtwanderer / Night Wanderer

Words by Joseph von Eichendorff / Music by Fanny Hensel (Op. 7 № 1)

Piano cover by Martin Widmaier

Andante con moto

The piano score for 'Nachtwanderer' is written for piano and consists of 16 measures. The tempo is marked 'Andante con moto'. The key signature has one flat (B-flat major). The time signature is 3/8. The score is divided into five systems, each with a measure number (1, 5, 9, 12, 16) at the beginning. The first system (measures 1-4) starts with a piano (p) dynamic. The second system (measures 5-8) continues the melody and accompaniment. The third system (measures 9-11) features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The fourth system (measures 12-15) includes a piano (p) dynamic marking. The fifth system (measures 16) concludes the piece with a final chord in the right hand and a sustained bass line in the left hand.

20

23 *lo stesso tempo*

mp

27

mf

30

f

p

33

36 *ritardando*

pp

4. Unruhe / Restlessness

Words by Emanuel Geibel / Music by Agnes Backer Grøndahl (Op. 14 № 5)

Piano cover by Martin Widmaier

Allegro molto agitato

The piano score for "Unruhe / Restlessness" is written for piano. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat major). The time signature is 6/8. The tempo is marked "Allegro molto agitato". The score is divided into five systems, each with a measure number (1, 4, 7, 10, 12) at the beginning. The first system shows the initial melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The second system continues the melody and bass line. The third system shows the melody and bass line. The fourth system shows the melody and bass line. The fifth system shows the final measures, marked "smorzando" (diminuendo) and "a tempo". The score includes dynamic markings: *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte).

15 *smorzando* *a tempo*

18

20 *f appassionato*

22 *decrecendo e ritardando*

25 *meno mosso* *mp*

27 *morendo* *p* *pp*

Red.

5. Denk es, o Seele / O Soul, Remember

Words by Eduard Mörike / Music by Hugo Wolf (Mörike-Lieder № 39)

Piano cover by Martin Widmaier

To my brother Matthias

Moderato

7

13

18

23

27

RH
LH

32

LH
RH
mp
p
f

37

$\text{♩} = \text{♩}$
mesto

mp
p

43

49

cantabile

pp

6. Blicke mir nicht in die Lieder / Do Not Look into My Songs

Words by Friedrich Rückert / Music by Gustav Mahler

Piano cover by Martin Widmaier

Vivo

mp

mf

5

mp

f

9

mf

mp

13

p

17

mp

21

mp *fz* *p*

25

f

29

mp *ben marcato* *mf*

33

f *p* *pp*

37

f *p*

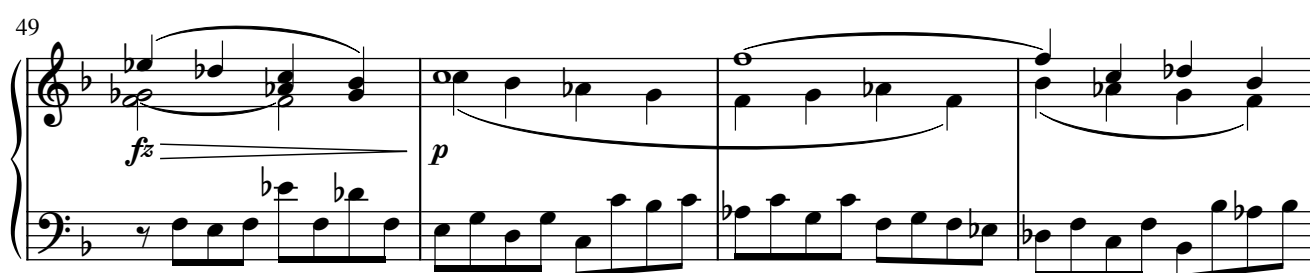
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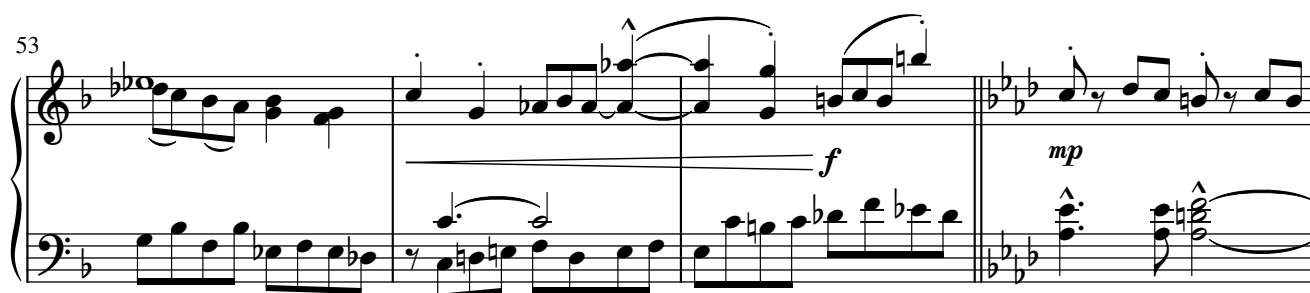
45



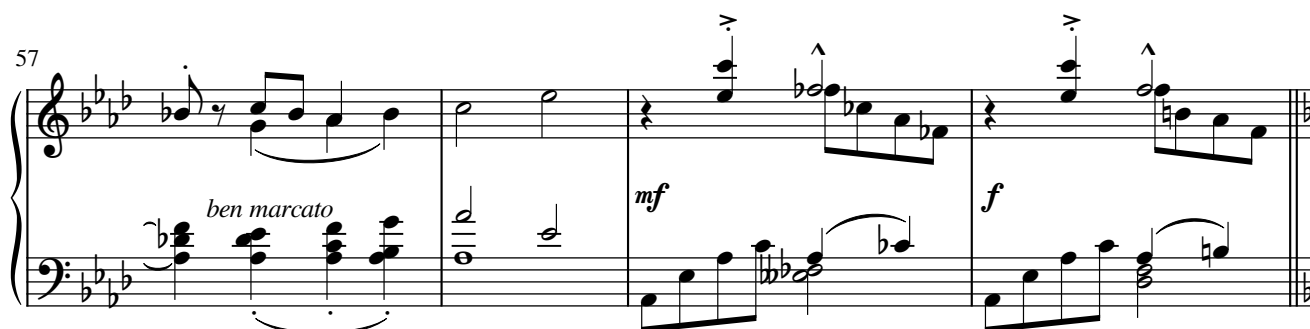
49



53



57



61

p *pp*

65

f

69

mf *mp* *p* *pp* sempre in tempo

8 3 3

Offline Publications

Orange Blue: *In Love with a Dream. Songbook*,

with piano arrangements by Burkhard Scheibe and Martin Widmaier, Peer, Hamburg 2001

Martin Widmaier: *Das kleine Land* (2 volumes), Peters, Frankfurt 2005/2006

Martin Widmaier: *24 Eight-Bar Studies after Frédéric Chopin*, Peters, Frankfurt 2012

Claude Debussy: *Préludes for Piano* (2 volumes), edited by Thomas Kabisch,

with fingerings by Martin Widmaier, Bärenreiter, Kassel 2014/2021

Martin Widmaier: *Basic Scales for Piano*, Naresuan University Publishing House, Phitsanulok 2015

Martin Widmaier: *Zur Systemdynamik des Übens*, Schott, Mainz 2016

August Halm: *Klavierübung* 1918/1919, edited by Thomas Kabisch, Linde Großmann

and Martin Widmaier, Ortus, Beeskow 2019

For **Online Publications**, see www.martinwidmaier.de