

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

First version of this publication: 2026

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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: 1, 6, 11, 16, and 21. The dynamics are marked as *mf* (mezzo-forte), *p* (piano), *pp* (pianissimo), and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, sixteenth notes, and chords, as well as articulation marks like accents (^) and slurs. The piece concludes with a final chord in the right hand and a sustained bass line in the left hand.

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 four systems of four measures each. The first system begins with a piano (p) dynamic marking. The melody is primarily in the right hand, often featuring eighth-note patterns and slurs. The left hand provides a steady accompaniment with eighth-note chords and single notes. The second system starts at measure 5. The third system starts at measure 9. The fourth system starts at measure 12 and includes a piano (p) dynamic marking at measure 13. The score concludes at measure 16.

20

23 *lo stesso tempo*

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 (measures 1-3) starts with a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic. The second system (measures 4-6) continues with mp. The third system (measures 7-9) also continues with mp. The fourth system (measures 10-11) continues with mp. The fifth system (measures 12-14) begins with a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic, followed by a "smorzando" (diminuendo) marking, and ends with an "a tempo" marking. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, sixteenth notes, and rests.

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
LH
mp
p
f
RH
LH

37

$\text{♩} = \text{♩}$
mesto

mp
p
RH
LH

43

RH
LH

49

cantabile

pp
RH
LH

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*

41

45

49

53

57

61

p *pp*

65

f

69

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

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