

The Society for Music Theory Podcast

Voice and Agency in Henryk Górecki's Symphony No. 3

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Definitions and Translations for German Nouns

Gesang – hymn, chant, act of chanting, song, act of singing

Stimmung – atmosphere, morale, tuning, mood

Stimme – voice part, register, call, mouthpiece, vote, voice

Polish Texts and Translations (translations: Krystyna Carter)

Second Movement

Mamo, nie płacz, nie.
Niebios Przeczysta Królowo,
Ty zawsze wspieraj mnie.

No, Mother, do not weep.
Most chaste Queen of Heaven
Support me always.

Zdrowaś Mario
Łaskiś Pełna.

Hail, Mary.
Full of grace.

Third Movement

Kajze mi sie podziół
mój synocek miły?
Pewnie go w powstaniu
złe wrogi zabiły.

Wy niedobrzy ludzie,
dło Boda świętego
cemuście zabili
synocka mojego?

Zodnej jo podpory
juz nie byda miała
Choćbych moje stare
ocy wypłakała.

Choćby z mych łez gorzkich
drugo Odra była,
jesce by synocka
mi nie ożywiła.

Lezy on tam w grobie,
a jo nie wiem kandy,
choć sie opytują
między ludźmi wsandy.

Moze nieboroczek
lezy kaj w dołecku,
a mógłby se lygać
na swoim przypiecku.

Ej, ćwierkejcie mu tam,
wy ptosecki boze,
kiedy mamulicka
znaleźć go nie moze.

A ty, boze kwiecie,
kwitnijze w około,
niech sie synockowi
choć lezy wesóło.

Where has he gone
My dearest son?
Perhaps during the uprising
The cruel enemy killed him.

Ah, you bad people
In the name of God, the most Holy,
Tell me, why did you kill
My son?

Never again
Will I have his support
Even if I cry
My old eyes out.

Were my bitter tears
To create another River Oder
They would not restore to life
My son.

He lies in his grave
And I know not where
Though I keep asking people
Everywhere.

Perhaps the poor child
Lies in a rough ditch
And instead he could have been
Lying in his warm bed.

Oh, sing for him
God's little song-birds
Since his mother
Cannot find him.

And you, God's little flowers,
May you blossom all around
So that my son
May sleep happily.

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