

Vocal music comprised around a quarter of Czech composer Bohuslav Martinů's extensive output, no fewer than 27 songs dating from 1912 alone, and much of it remaining unpublished during his lifetime. Many of these set texts drawn from Czech folk sources and poetry, though old Spanish, German, English and French poetry – sometimes translated into Czech – are also to be found. While echoes of Brahms, Dvořák and Schubert may be heard, Martinů's own style emerges surprisingly early in his career. Young Czech mezzo-soprano Jana Wallingerová, praised as 'splendid' (*Der Neue Merker*) and for her 'full voice brimming with feeling' and 'brilliant technique' (*Hospodářské noviny*), joins pianist Giorgio Koukl, whose Naxos recordings of Martinů's piano music have gained the highest praise.



Bohuslav MARTINŮ (1890–1959) Songs • 1



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|-------|--|------|----|------------------------------------|------|
| 1-6 | 6 Simple Songs, H. 110 | 6:51 | 29 | Mood Drawing, H. 29 | 3:03 |
| 7-9 | 3 Lullabies, H. 146bis | 6:03 | 30 | A Girl's Dreams, H. 22 | 1:19 |
| 10-11 | 2 Small Songs In Folk Idiom, H. 14 | 2:18 | 31 | When We Are Both Old, H. 10 | 2:46 |
| 12-13 | 2 Songs On Russian Poetry, H. 135bis | 3:34 | 32 | Before You Know It, H. 6 | 3:22 |
| 14-16 | 3 Goethelieder, H. 94 | 2:50 | 33 | Night After Night In Dreams I | |
| 17 | The Gnat's Wedding, H. 75 | 1:16 | | See You, H. 57 | 1:52 |
| 18-20 | 3 Children's Songs, H. 146 | 4:01 | 34 | 3 Songs On French Texts, H. 88: | |
| 21 | Dead Love, H. 44 | 2:46 | | No. 3 Night | 2:25 |
| 22 | Czech Riddles, H. 277bis | 4:39 | 35 | Life's Over For Me, H. 43 | 1:42 |
| 23-24 | 2 Songs, H. 31 | 4:10 | 36 | At Night, H. 30 | 2:27 |
| 25 | Walk, I Walk Among The Hills, H. 74bis | 1:37 | 37 | A Song Of 1st November, H. 72 | 5:54 |
| 26 | How Dear To Me The Hour, H. 106 | 2:35 | 38 | Old Song, H. 74 | 2:27 |
| 27 | Blissfulness, H. 81 | 1:39 | 39 | Song On An Old Spanish Text, H. 87 | 1:42 |
| 28 | Tears, H. 41 | 2:28 | 40 | A Song About Kissing, H. 27bis | 1:05 |
| | | | 41 | I Know A Nice Green Grove, H. 273 | 1:22 |

Sung in Czech except for tracks 14–16 (German) and 18–20, 34 (French)

Full track details will be found in the booklet

Jana Wallingerová, Mezzo-soprano • Giorgio Koukl, Piano



Texts and translations may be downloaded from www.naxos.com/libretti/572588.htm

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Producer, Engineer & Editor: Zdeněk Záhradník • All songs from manuscript • Booklet notes: Mark Gresham

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