

**ROBERT ALEXANDER SCHUMANN (1810-1856)**

**Ich grolle nicht - I feel no hate**



'Ich grolle nicht', another song from 'Dichterliebe' (see page 12) is quite different from 'Im wunderschönen Monat Mai', for here the effect relies on a pattern of heavy, repeated chords to express the poet's grief. There is plenty of irony here. The poet says he will not moan ('Ich grolle nicht' - 'I feel no hate'), but the whole song is actually one long moan, with a lament for his love who is 'lost for ever' and finally a gloating, malicious delight in the fact that she too is probably miserable by now. The repeated chords and the three separate loud chords at the end suggest that the poet is trying to put a brave face on things. The remaining songs

(this is number 7) will show that this does not work, as he thinks back to their time together and finds that everything reminds him of his lost love, even in his dreams.

Follow the dynamics (louds and softs) of this song carefully and you will see how this is an important part of Schumann's interpretation of the poem.

*Ich grolle nicht, und wenn das Herz auch bricht,  
Ewig verlornes Lieb ! Ich grolle nicht.  
Wie du auch strahlst in Diamantenpracht,  
Es fällt kein Strahl in deines Herzens Nacht.  
Das weiß ich längst.*

*Ich grolle nicht, und wenn das Herz auch bricht,  
Ich sah dich ja im Traume,  
Und sah die Nacht in deines Herzens Raume,  
Und sah die Schlang', die dir am Herzen frißt,  
Ich sah, mein Lieb, wie sehr du elend bist.*

*Heinrich Heine (1797-1856)*