

1 **Benisan, bayafeh**, no. 1 of *Five Hebrew songs from the Book of songs by H. Heine*, 1928.

Samuel Alman (1877-1947) was born and trained in Russia, but early in the 20th century emigrated to London, where he became very influential in that city's Jewish musical life.

Sung in Hebrew, translation by Isaac Katznelson; English translation by Edgar Alfred Bowring, *The poems of Heine complete* (London, 1861).

Other settings of this poem: 135

Benisan, bayafeh, lechodshei hazziv
Ach niru hannitsa nim
Vataal gam bilavi
Haahavah vaadanim.

'Twas in the beauteous month of May,
When all the flowers were springing
That first within my bosom
I heard love's echo ringing.

Benisan, bayafeh, lechodshei hazziv
Im shir kol kenafrenanim
Gillithi lah gagu ay
Umadvay hanneemanim.

'Twas in the beauteous month of May,
When all the birds were singing,
That first I to my my sweetheart
My vows of love was bringing.

original:

Im wunderschönen Monat Mai,
Als alle Knospen sprangen,
Da ist in meinem Herzen
Die Liebe aufgegangen.

Im wunderschönen Monat Mai,
Als alle Vögel sangen,
Da hab ich ihr gestanden
Mein Sehnen und Verlangen.