

52 **Treue** [Constancy], composed between 1948 and 1975.

Andre Asriel (b. 1922) is an Austrian-born German composer who, after spending World War II in Britain, became enamoured with left-wing musical ideals, and moved to East Germany, where he wrote film scores, incidental music for the theater, a textbook on jazz, and numerous songs in popular styles.

Sung in German; English translation by James Thomson, *The poetical works* (London, 1895).

Other settings of this poem: 3

Mir träumte wieder der alte Traum:
Es war eine Nacht im Maie,
Wir saßen unter dem Lindenbaum,
Und schwuren uns ewige Treue,

The old dream comes again to me:
With May-night stars above,
We two sat under the linden tree
And swore eternal Love.

Das war ein Schwören und Schwören aufs neu',
Ein Kichern, ein Kosen, ein Küssen;
Daß ich gedenk des Schwures sei,
Hast du in die Hand mich gebissen.

Again and again we plighted troth,
We chattered, and laughed, and kissed;
To make me well remember my oath
You gave me a bite in the wrist.

O Liebchen mit den Äuglein klar!
O Liebchen schön und bissig!
Das Schwören in der Ordnung war,
Das Beißen war überflüssig.

O darling with the eyes serene,
And with the teeth so white!
The vows were proper to the scene,
Superfluous was the bite.