

In quelle trine morbide from the opera "Manon Lescaut"

France - early 18th Century

Act II of this opera reveals that Manon has left her young lover, Des Grieux, having been lured away by the luxurious life offered to her by the wealthy old libertine, Geronte. This pleasurable life has already begun to pale, however, when she is visited in her new home by her brother who proceeds to congratulate her on her fortunate decision to leave the indigent student. At this point Manon, with a sigh of regret, sings this aria expressing her realization that all the fine trappings which surround her do not compensate for the loss of Des Grieux' ardent love and the simple happy life they had known together.

In quelle trine morbide,
nell'alcova dorata v'è un silenzio,
un gelido mortal, un freddo che m'agghiaccia!
Ed io che m'ero avvezza a una carezza
voluttuosa
di labbra ardenti e d'infuocate braccia...
Or ho... tutt'altra cosa!
O mia dimora umile, tu mi ritorni
innanzi,
gaia, isolata, bianca,
come un sogno gentile e di pace e d'amor.

Among those soft laces,
In the gilded alcove, there's a silence,
a deathly chill, a cold that freezes me!
And I, who was accustomed to the
voluptuous caress
of ardent lips and passionate arms...
But now... how different all this is!
Oh my humble dwelling, you reappear
before me,
joyful, secluded, white,
like a sweet dream of peace and love.

English translation by WALDO LYMAN

GIACOMO PUCCINI
(1858-1924)

Lento

PIANO

p espressivo

rall.

Voice

Moderato con moto ♩ = 84

p

In que - lle tri - ne mor - bi - de nell' al - co - va do -

Moderato con moto ♩ = 84

pp

- ra - ta v'è un si - len - zio, un ge - li - do mor - tal - - - - - v'è un si

f *pp subito*