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Among all of the songs (dating from 1925 to 1944) in this volume, Lotte Lenya's favorite was *Nanna's Lied*. Although it had been written for her, she never attempted to sing it. She had an incredible modesty about her own work and would joke about the way Weill used to say to her "How did you get away with that? "

Knowing Weill's innermost concerns and intents better than anyone else, she realized that deep down he loved the classically trained operatic voice. She was always disturbed when Weill's songs were referred to as "Cabaret Songs" and often stated that Weill never wrote a single song for the cabaret. She always referred to them as "Art Songs" and felt that in their pure and simple wealth of melody they resembled Schubert songs more than any others.

Teresa Statas' masterful recording (Nonesuch D-79019) of the songs contained in this volume seemed to her proof of this point. Tragically, Lenya did not live long enough to see this publication. As her close friend of thirty years, I can truthfully say that she would consider it an invaluable contribution to and an enrichment of the currently available music in print by one of the true giants of 20th-Century music.

New York, June 1982

Lys Symonette

Nanna's Lied

(1939)

1

Words by
Bertolt Brecht

Music by
Kurt Weill

Moderato assai (♩ = 116)

mf

1. Mei - ne Her - ren, mit sieb - zeh - n Jah - ren kam ich
2. geht man mit den Jah - ren leich - ter

sempre legato
mf
p

auf den Lie - bes - markt und ich ha - be viel er -
auf den Lie - bes - markt und um - armt sie dort in

fah - ren. Bö - ses gab es viel doch das war das Spiel. A - ber
Scha - ren. A - ber das Ge - fühl wird er staun - lich kühl wenn man

poco rall.

a tempo

mf

man - ches hab ich doch ver - argt. (Spoken) (Schließlich bin ich ja auch ein Mensch.)
da - mit all - zu - we - nig kargt. (Spoken) (Schließlich geht ja jeder Vorrat zu Ende.) 1,2 Gott sei

espr.

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Complainte de la Seine

(1934)

Words by
Maurice Magre

Music by
Kurt Weill

Andante non troppo

mf

p

Au fond de la Sei - ne, il y a de l'or, Des ba-teaux rouil -lés, des bi-je-

p

armes... Au fond de la Sei - ne, il y a des



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