

The Silver Swan

SAATB a cappella^{*)}

Lyrics: Anonymous

German translation: Constance Stöhs

Music: Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625),
The First Set of Madrigals and Mottets [!] of 5. Parts, 1612

S
(Cantus)

A1
(Quintus)

A2^{*)}
(Altus)

T
(Tenor)

B
(Bassus)

Piano/Klavier
(for rehearsal)

The sil - ver swan, who liv - ing had no
The sil - ver swan, who liv - ing had no note,
The sil - ver swan, who liv - ing had no
The sil - ver swan, who liv - ing had no
The sil - ver swan, who liv - ing had no

Die silberne Schwäne, die im Leben keine Stimme hatte,

4

note, when death ap-proached, un - locked her si - lent
— when death ap-proached, un - locked her si - lent
note, when death ap-proached, un - locked her si - lent
note, when death ap-proached, un - locked her si - lent
note, when death ap-proached, un - locked her si - lent, si - lent

öffnete, als der Tod sich näherte, ihre stumme, ihre stumme,

^{*)} Alt 2 kann auch von einem Tenor gesungen werden. / Alto 2 can also be sung by a tenor.



7

throat, lean - ing her breast a - gainst the reed - y shore,

throat, lean - ing her breast a - gainst the reed - y shore,

throat, lean - ing her breast a - gainst the reed - y shore,

throat, a - gainst the reed - y shore, thus sung her

throat, lean - ing her breast a - gainst the reed - y shore,

Kehle, lehnte sich mit ihrer Brust ans Uferschilf, Uferschilf, sang so ihr

11

shore, thus sung her first and last, and sung no more,

sung her first and last, and sung no more, no more, fare - well all

thus sung her first and last, and sung no more, fare -

first and last, and sung no more, and sung no more, fare -

thus sung her first and last, and sung no more, fare - well all

erstes und letztes Mal und sang nicht mehr, und sang nicht mehr, lebet wohl, alle



15

fare - well all joys, o death e close mine
 joys, o death come close mine
 - well all joys, o death come mine eyes
 well all joys, o death me close mine
 joys, o death come cl mine eyes

Freuden, o Tod, komm, Augen,

18

eyes, ge than swans now live, more fools than wise.
 geese than swans more fools than wise, than wise.
 more geese swans now live, more fools than wise.
 eyes, more swans now live, more fools than wise.
 more geese than swans now live, more fools than wise.

mehr Gänse leben jetzt als Schwäne, mehr Narren als Weise, mehr Narren als Weise.

