

Art Song: Gretchen Am Spinnrade

Internet Assignment

Go to the following website: www.sublimemediaworks.com/gretchen/gretchen.html and listen to the song **Gretchen am Spinnrade** (*Gretchen at the Spinning Wheel*) by **Franz Schubert**. You will also find there, pictures of the score to help you answer the questions.

This poem is very famous - Schubert took it from Goethe's epic poem Faust. Gretchen has lost her beloved, Dr. Faustus, and laments his absence while spinning at her wheel.

1) Schubert's setting of the poem is best described as: (circle one) (1 mark)

- a) Strophic
- b) modified strophic
- c) through-composed

Explain: (2 marks)

2) The main melody repeats three times in this piece. Write the approximate bar where it comes back for the second, third and fourth time: (3 marks)

2nd. _____

3rd. _____

4th. _____

Each new section of text has new music which explores new tonal regions.

Can you see how important the piano is in setting the mood?

3. What part of the music represents the 'spinning wheel'? Be specific. (1 mark)

4. What do the changing harmonies in the music reflect? Give a detailed response, including chords (3 marks)

TOTAL: / 10