Translations

In II Farnace, Gilades, the army captain, has fallen in love with Selinda, a prisoner and sister of the defeated imprisoned Farnace. In this aria, he is declaring his love to her.

Quel tuo ciglio languidetto*
(By your languid eyes)

By your languid eyes,
My heart all love
Has been enchained.
And that placid smile,
My soul wholly affected,
Always makes me more enamored.

Wohin? (To where?)
I heard a little brook rushing
Right out of the rocky spring,
Down to the valley rushing
So fresh and wonderfully clear.

I do not know how it happened,
Nor who gave me the advice,
I must also go down
With my walking stick.

Down and ever farther,
And always following the brook,
And ever more freshly babbling
And ever brighter the brook.

Is this then my road?
Oh brooklet, speak, to where?
You have completely intoxicated my senses
With your murmur.

Why do I speak of murmuring?
That cannot be babbling.
There sing the water nymphs
Their rounds in the depths.

Let them sing, fellow, let the brook murmur
And wander joyfully after it!
There turn mill-wheels
In every clear brook.

Der Jüngling an der Quelle
(The Youth and the Spring)

Softly, trickling spring.
You billowing, whispering poplars.
Your slumbering sounds only awaken love.

I sought relief with you
To forget the indifferent one.
Ah, and leaves and brook
Sigh, beloved, for you!

Aufenthalt (Resting Place)
Rushing stream, roaring forest
Towering cliff, my resting place.

As wave follows upon wave,
So flow my tears, eternally renewed.

High in the trees, the crowns surge,
So unceasingly my heart throbs.

And like the rock’s ancient ore,
Eternally unchanged remains my pain.

Nehmt meinen dank* (Take my thanks)
Take my thanks, you gracious patrons!
So fiery my heart speaks;
A man can sing your praises loudly,
I, just a woman, cannot.

But believe me, I will in my life
Never forget your grace;
If I remain, I would endeavor to serve you gladly
But patience!

Since the beginning, steady wandering is
The Muses’ and the artist’s lot;
With me, so it goes like all the others:
Away from my Fatherland,
I am guided by destiny.

But believe me, in each realm,
Wherever I go, at all times
Remains always
My heart with you.
Hello! Oh Margaret, it’s you.

Hello? Hello! Oh Margaret, it’s you. 
I am so glad you called, I was just thinking of you! 
It’s been a long time since you called me.

No, my dear, I’m not feeling very well. 
When? Where? I wish I could be there. 
I’m afraid I must not.

Hello? Hello? 
What did you say, my darling? 
What did you say? 
Hello? Hello? Please speak louder!

I heard the funniest thing! 
Jane and Paul are going to get married next July! 
Don’t you think it is the funniest thing you ever heard? 
I know...Of course...

And how are you? And how is John? 
And how is Jean? You must tell that I send them my love. 
And how is Ursula and how is Natalie? 
And how is Rosalie? I hope she’s gotten over her cold. 
And how is your mother, and how is your father, 
And how is dear little granny?

Ha ha! Oh, dear!

Well then, good-bye! Good-bye, my dear, good-bye! 
I am so glad you called, I was just thinking of you! 
It’s been a long time since you called me!

Yes, you already told me that. 
No, my darling, of course I won’t forget! 
Yes...yes...good-bye, my dear, good-bye... 
Yes, my darling, good-bye. Yes!

Ha ha! That’s the funniest thing I ever heard...

And how are you, and Bets and Bob, and Sara and Sam? 
You must tell them that I send them my love. 
And how is the pussycat, how is the dog? 
Oh I’m so glad! Good-bye!

Yes, Margaret! 
All right, all right, good-bye! 
All right, all right, good-bye! 
Now Margaret, good-bye! 
So long.