

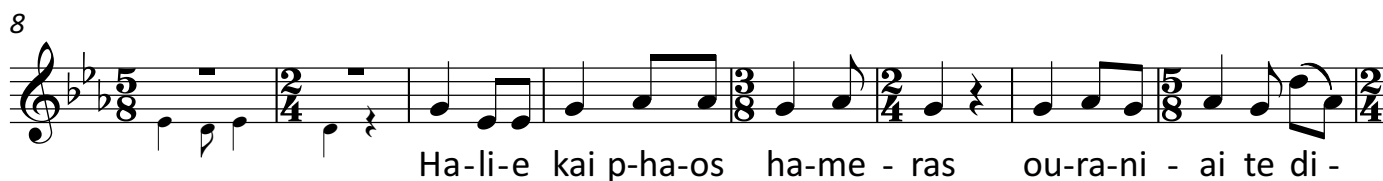
1. Alcestis, Admetus

Euripides, *Alcestis*, lines 244–83. First produced in Athens in 438 BCE. Set to music by Armand D'Angour and Barnaby Brown for performances at Bradfield College, UK, 22–27 June 2019

Two sounds exist in French and German but not in English:

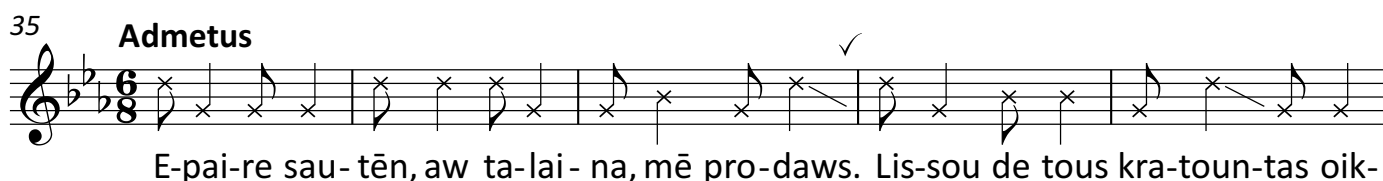
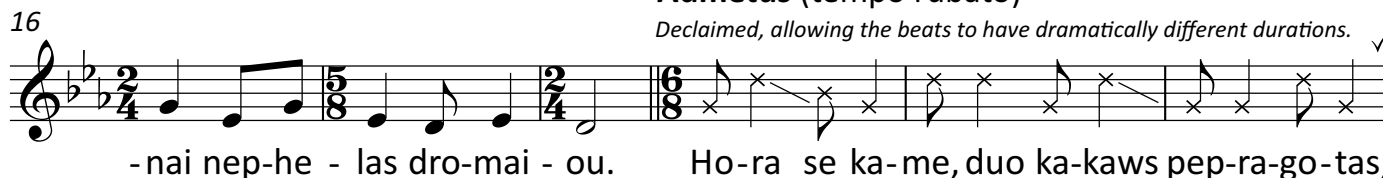
ē = les, mes, c'est, c'était; zehn, lederhosen, wie geht's? | ü = tu, sur, plus; für, fünf, über, tschüß

Alcestis (stately dance tempo)



Admetus (tempo rubato)

Declaimed, allowing the beats to have dramatically different durations. ✓



53

m'ē-dē ka-lei. Ti mel-leis? E - pei-gou, sü ka-teir-geis. Ta-de

59

Admetus

toi me sperk-ho-me - nos tak - hü-nei. Oi-moi; pik-ran ge tēn-de moi

65

nauk-lē - ri - an e - le - xas. Aw dus-dai-mon, hoi - a pask - ho-men.

69

Alcestis

A-gei m'a-gei tis, a-gei me tis ouk ho - ras?_ Ne-kü-awn es

76

au-lan, hüp' op-hrü - si kü-an - au-ge-si_ ble-pawn pte-raw-tos Hai-das.

83

Ti re-xeis? Ap-hes. Hoi-an ho-don ha dei-lai-o-ta - ta pro - bai-naw.

90

Admetus

Oik-tran p-hi-loi - sin, ek de tawn ma-list' e-moi, kai pai-sin, hois dē pent-hos en

95

Alcestis

koi-naw to-de. Met-he-te met-he-te m'ē-dē.

100

Kli-nat' ou st-he-naw po - sin. Plē-si-on Hai-das,

105

sko-ti-a d'ep' os-soi-si nūx ep-her-peī. Tek-na tek-n'ou-

111 *rallentando*

ke-ti dē, ou-ke-ti ma-tēr. Sp-hawn es-ti khai-ron-tes, aw tek-na,

117

to-de p-ha-os ho-raw - ton.

120 **Admetus** (a tempo)

Oi - moi, tod' e-pos lūp-ron a-kou-ein kai pan-tos e-moi

124

t-ha-na-tou meiz-don. Mē pros se t-he-awn tlēs me pro - dou-nai

128

mē pros pai-dawn hous orp-ha-ni-eis.

132

All'__ a-na tol-ma! Sou__ gar pt-hi-me-nēs ou-ket'an ei - ēn.

136

En soi d'es - men kai zdēn__ kai mē.

140

Sēn gar p-hi-li-an se-bo-mest-ha.

1. Alcestis, Admetus

Two sounds exist in French and German but not in English:

ē = les, mes, c'ēst, c'ētait; zehn, lederhosen, wie geht's? | ü = tu, sur, plus; fünf, über, tschüß

- ALCESTIS** Halie kai p-haos hameras
Sun and light of day,
ouraniai te dinai nep-helas dromaiou.
heavenly whirlings of running cloud.
- ADMETUS** Hora se kame, duo kakaws pepragotas,
The sun sees both you and me, two people suffering dreadfully,
ouden t-heous drasantas ant' hotou t-hanē.
who have done nothing against the gods for which you should die.
- ALCESTIS** Gaia te kai melat-hrawn stegai
Earth and roof of the house,
nūmp-hidi-oi te koitai patrias l-awlkou.
bridal bed of my homeland lolcus.
- ADMETUS** Epaire sautēn, aw talaina, mē prodaws.
Raise yourself up, poor woman, don't give up!
Lissou de tous kratountas oiktirai t-heous.
Beg the almighty gods to take pity.
- ALCESTIS** Horaw dikawpon horaw skap-hos en limna
I see the two-oared boat, I see it on the marsh lake
neküawn de port-hmeus
and the ferryman of the dead
ekhawn kher' epi kontaw Kharawn m' ēdē kalei.
with his hand on the pole, Charon, is calling me now.
Ti melleis?
Why are you delaying?

Epeigou, sü kateirgeis.
Hurry up, you're holding (us) back.

Tade toi me sperkhomenos takhünei.
In this way he's hurrying me and driving me on.

ADMETUS Oimoi; pikran ge tēnde moi nauklērian
Alas; bitter indeed for me is the voyage

elexas. Aw dusdaimon, hoia pask-homen.
you are speaking about. O poor soul, what terrible things we are suffering.

ALCESTIS Agei m'agei tis, agei me tis oukh horas?
He's taking me – somebody's taking, somebody's taking me, don't you see?

Neküawn es aulan,
– into the hall of the dead,

hüp'op-hrüsi küanaugesi blepawn pterawtos Haidas.
glaring at me under his dark brows, winged Hades.

Ti rexeis? Ap-hes.
What are you doing? Let me go!

Hoi-an hodon ha deilaiotata probainaw.
What a road I am going down – I the most wretched of all.

ADMETUS Oiktran p-hiloin, ek de tawn malist' emoi,
Sad to all who love you, and especially sad for me,

kai paisin, hois dē pent-hos en koinaw tode.
and for the children, for whom this sorrow is a shared burden.

ALCESTIS Met-hete met-hete m' ēdē.
Let me go, let me go now.

Klinat' ou st-henaw posin.
Lay me back down. I have no power in my feet.

Plēsion Haidas,
Hades is nearby,

skotia d'ep'ossoisi nüx ep-herpei.

black night is creeping over my eyes.

Tekna tekn'ouketi dē,

Children, children, no more,

ouketi matēr.

no more is your mother.

Sp-hawn esti khairontes, aw tekna,

May you live rejoicing, O children,

tode p-haos horawton.

to see the sunlight.

ADMETUS Oimoi, tod' e-pos lüpron akouein

Alas, how bitter this is to hear

kai pantos emoi t-hanatou meizdon.

and a greater woe to me than any death.

Mē pros se t-he-awn tlēs me prodounai

In the name of the gods, don't be so hard as to leave me,

mē pros paidawn hous orp-hani-eis.

in the name of the children you are leaving as orphans.

All' ana tol-ma!

But take courage, rise up!

Sou gar p-ht-himenēs ouket' an ei-ēn.

For if you die I would be no more.

En soi d'esmen kai zdēn kai mē.

In you, we live or we don't.

Sēn gar p-hilian sebomest-ha.

We love you and revere you.

1. Alcestis, Admetus

Euripides, Alcestis, lines 244–83, ed. David Kovacs (1994)
<http://data.perseus.org/texts/urn:cts:greekLit:tlg0006.tlg002>

Font: Biblical Uncial, based on Codex Bezae Cantabrigiensis (5th century CE)
<http://guindo.pntic.mec.es/~jmag0042/palegreek.html>

Rough breathing marks: ῑ (first half of the letter Η).
Smooth breathing marks removed, line breaks revised.

ἈΛΚΗΣΤΙΣ

ἄλιε καὶ φάος ἡμέρας
οὐράνιαί τε δῖναι
νεφέλας δροαίου

245

ἈΔΜΗΤΟΣ

ὄρᾱ σὲ καμέ, δῖο κακῶς πεπραγότας,
οὐδὲν θεοῦς δράσαντας ἀνθ' ὅτου
θανῆ.

ἈΛΚΗΣΤΙΣ

γαῖά τε καὶ μελᾶθρων στέγαι
νυμφίδιοί τε κοῖται
πατρίας ἰωλκοῦ.

ἈΔΜΗΤΟΣ

ἐπαῖρε σαυτήν, ὦ τάλαινα, μὴ προδῶς: 250
λίτσογ δὲ τοῦς κρατοῦντας οἰκτῖραι
θεοῦς.

ἈΛΚΗΣΤΙΣ

ὄρῳ δίκωπον ὄρῳ
σκάφος ἐν λίμνῃ·
νεκῶν δὲ πορθεῦς
έχων χέρ' ἐπὶ κοντῷ χάρων
μ' ἤδη καλεῖ· τί μέλλεις;
επείγογ'· σὺ κατείργεις.
τάδε τοί με σπέρχόμενος ταχύνει.

255

ἈΔΜΗΤΟΣ

οἴμοι· πικρὰν γέ τήνδε μοι ναγκληρίαν
έλεζας· ὦ δύσδαιμον, οἷα πάσχομεν.

ἈΛΚΗΣΤΙΣ

άγει μ' άγει τις· άγει
μέ τις οὐχ ὄρᾱς;
νεκῶν ἐς αὐλάν,
ὑπ' οφρύσι κυαναγέσι
βλέπων πτερωτός ἄϊδας.
τί ῥέζεις; άφες· οἷαν
ὁδὸν ἄδελαιοτάτα προβαίνω.

260

ἈΔΜΗΤΟΣ

οικτρὰν φίλοισιν, ἐκ δὲ τῶν μάλιστ'
ἐμοὶ
καὶ παίσιν, οἷς δὴ πένθος ἐν κοινῷ
τόδε.

265

ἈΛΚΗΣΤΙΣ

ΜΕΘΕΤΕ ΜΕΘΕΤΕ Μ' ἤΔΗ:
ΚΛΙΝΑΤ', ΟΥ ΘΕΝΩ ΠΟΣΙΝ.
ΠΛΗΣΙΟΝ ΑΪΔΑΣ,
ΣΚΟΤΙΑ Δ' ΕΠ' ΟΥΣΣΟΙΣΙ ΝΥΞ ΕΦΕΡΤΕΙ.
ΤΕΚΝΑ ΤΕΚΝ' ΟΥΚΕΤΙ ΔΗ
ΟΥΚΕΤΙ ΜΑΤΗΡ.
ΣΦΩΝ ΕΣΤΙ ΧΑΪΡΟΝΤΕΣ, Ω ΤΕΚΝΑ,
ΤΟΔΕ ΦΑΟΣ ὈΡΩΤΟΝ.

270

ἈΔΜΗΤΟΣ

ΟΪΜΟΙ: ΤΟΔ' ΕΠΟΣ ΛΥΤΡΟΝ ΑΚΟΥΕΙΝ
ΚΑΙ ΠΑΝΤΟΣ ΕΜΟΙ ΘΑΝΑΤΟΥ ΜΕΪΖΟΝ.
ΜΗ ΠΡΟΣ ΣΕ ΘΕΩΝ ΤΛΗΣ ΜΕ ΠΡΟΔΟΥΝΑΙ,
ΜΗ ΠΡΟΣ ΠΑΙΔΩΝ ΟΥΣ ΟΡΦΑΝΙΕΪΣ,
ΑΛΛ' ΑΝΑ, ΤΟΛΜΑ.
ΣΟΥ ΓΑΡ ΦΘΙΜΕΝΗΣ ΟΥΚΕΤ' ΑΝ ΕΪΗΝ:
ΕΝ ΣΟΙ Δ' ΕΣΜΕΝ ΚΑΙ ΖΗΝ ΚΑΙ ΜΗ:
ΣΗΝ ΓΑΡ ΦΙΛΙΑΝ ΣΕΒΟΜΕΣΘΑ.

275