

Arnold Schoenberg, *Pierrot lunaire* (Moonstruck Pierrot), Op. 21 (1912)

A cycle of 21 songs drawn from a poetic cycle by the Belgian symbolist poet Albert Giraud, published in 1884; each poem consists of 13 lines, in which lines 7 and 8 repeats line 1 and 2, and line 13 repeat line 1

Stanza:	First Stanza				Second Stanza				Third Stanza				
Verse:	1	2	3	4	5	7	6	8	9	10	11	12	13
Rhyme:	A	B	b	a	a	b	A	B	a	b	b	a	A
Refrain:													

scored for a female singer with a chamber ensemble of five performers who play eight different instruments: piano, cello, violin/viola, flute/piccolo, clarinet/bass clarinet

use of *Sprechstimme* (“speaking voice”) to approximate the written pitches in the gliding tones of speech, while following the notated rhythm exactly—an innovative idea that blends the traditional notions of song and melodrama

Pierrot is a melancholic clown based on an archetypal character from traditional *commedia dell’arte* (Italian improvised theater); used to represent the isolated modern artist

No. 1 *Mondestrunken* (Moon Drunk)

Den Wein, den man mit Augen trinkt, Giesst Nachts der Mond in Wogen nieder, Und eine Springflut überschwemmt Den stillen Horizont.	The wine that one with eyes drinks Poured at night by the moon in waves descending And a spring tide overflows The still horizon.
Gelüste, schauerlich und süß, Durchschwimmen ohne Zahl die Fluten! Den Wein, den man mit Augen trinkt, Giesst Nachts der Mond in Wogen nieder.	Desires, horrible and sweet Swim through the currents without number! The wine that one with eyes drinks Poured at night by the moon in waves descending.
Der Dichter, den die Andacht treibt, Berauscht sich an dem heiligen Tranke, Gen Himmel wendet er verzückt Das Haupt und taumelnd saugt und schlürft er Den Wein, den man mit Augen trinkt.	The poet, by his prayers driven, Intoxicated with the sacred drink, Toward the heavens turns in rapture His head and stumbling sucks and slurps The wine that one with eyes drinks.