

A Diction Guide to the Choral Movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony

A BASIC INTRODUCTION TO GERMAN PRONUNCIATION

VOWEL SOUNDS with rough English equivalents

<u>Written</u>	<u>Pronounced</u>	<u>Recommended Shorthand</u>	<u>Example</u>
a	ah (as in father); very bright	ah	" <u>a</u> lle," p. 16
e (closed) / ee / eh / ä	ay (as in stay), but without diphthong	ay	"Re <u>b</u> en," p. 22
e (open)	eh (as in bed)	eh	"Me <u>n</u> schen," p. 16
e (schwa)	Halfway between e (as in bed) and ou (as in should)	eh	"Fre <u>u</u> de," p. 14, et al.
i (closed)	ee (as in feet)	ee	"w <u>i</u> r," p. 31
i (open)	i (as in sit)	ih	"b <u>i</u> nden," p. 16
o (closed)	o (as in no, but without diphthong and much more closed)	oh	"M <u>o</u> de," p. 16
o (open)	aw (as in saw), but slightly more closed	aw	"ge <u>k</u> onnt," p. 19
u (closed)	oo (as in food, but much more closed)	oo	"d <u>u</u> ," p. 37
u (open)	ou (as in should)	ū	" <u>u</u> ns," p. 22

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VOWEL COMBINATIONS with rough English equivalents

<u>Written</u>	<u>Pronounced</u>	<u>Recommended Shorthand</u>	<u>Example</u>
ei	eye (as in eye) (Think of pronouncing the second of the two vowels.)	eye	"de <u>ine</u> ," p. 16
ie	ee (as in feet) (Think of pronouncing the second of the two vowels.)	ee	"lie <u>ber</u> ," p. 36
au	ow (as in now)	ow	"Zau <u>ber</u> ," p. 16
eu	oy (as in boy)	oy	"Fre <u>und</u> ," p. 22

VOWELS SOUNDS without English equivalents

For the following vowels, put your lips in one vowel position, while saying a different vowel sound.

<u>Written</u>	<u>Pronounced</u>	<u>Recommended Shorthand</u>	<u>Example</u>
ö (closed)	(lips) oh > (say) ay (without diphthong)	ø	"schö <u>ner</u> Götterfunken,"
ö (open)	(lips) oh > (say) eh	œ	"schö <u>ner</u> Götterfunken," p. 30
ü	(lips) oo > (say) ee	ü	"ü <u>ber</u> ," p. 30
y	(lips) oo > (say) ee (same as ü)	ü	"Ely <u>sium</u> ," p. 31

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CONSONANTS and CONSONANT GROUPS

Certain consonants are basically identical in both languages: b (initial), d (initial), f, g (initial), h (initial), k, l, m, n, p, t. (Some exceptions noted below.)

<u>Written</u>	<u>Pronounced</u>	<u>Recommended Shorthand</u>	<u>Example</u>
b (at end of word)	p	p	"gab," p. 22
ch (soft)	Closest English equivalent would be h in huge, but with a higher tongue and more force.	ç	"Cherub," p. 22
ch (hard)	Similar to soft ch, but lower in the throat.	x	"auch," p. 19
d (at end of word)	t	t	"Bund," p. 19
g (at end of word when preceded by i)	pronounced like soft ch (see above)	ç	"freudig," p. 27
h (after a vowel)	silent		"stehle," p. 19
j	y	y	"ja," p. 19
l	l (tongue should be placed directly behind top teeth)	l	"Heiligtum," p. 31
ng	ng (as in doing, not finger)	ng	"streng," p. 16
s	z	z	"sanfter," p. 16
s (followed by t or p)	sh	sh	"Sternen," p. 38

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sch	sh	sh	" <u>S</u> chöpfer," p. 37
r (single)	flipped	R	"F <u>r</u> eude," p. 14, et al.
r (initial)	rolled	RR	" <u>R</u> eben," p. 22
v	f	f	" <u>v</u> or," p. 22
w	v	v	" <u>W</u> urm," p. 22
z	ts (as in sits)	ts	" <u>Z</u> auber," p. 16

Double consonants: Hold them twice as long as single consonants.

Examples: alle, Küsse, Gott ("Muss ein lieber Vater wohnen")

Glottal onsets: Use a gentle glottal onset for words that begin with a vowel.

Examples: alle, auch, ein ("Muss ein lieber Vater wohnen")

AN DIE FREUDE

O Freunde, nicht diese Töne!
Sondern laßt uns angenehmere anstimmen,
und freudenvollere.

Freude, schöner Götterfunken,
Tochter aus Elysium,
wir betreten feuertrunken,
Himmelsche, dein Heiligtum.
Deine Zauber binden wieder,
was die Mode streng geteilt;
alle Menschen werden Brüder,
wo dein sanfter Flügel weilt.

Wem der große Wurf gelungen,
eines Freundes Freund zu sein,
wer ein holdes Weib errungen,
mische seinen Jubel ein!
Ja, wer auch nur eine Seele
sein nennt auf dem Erdenrund!
Und wer's nie gekonnt, der stehle
weinend sich aus diesem Bund!

Freude trinken alle Wesen
an den Brüsten der Natur;
alle Guten, alle Bösen
folgen ihrer Rosenspur.
Küsse gab sie uns und Reben,
einen Freund, geprüft im Tod;
Wollust ward dem Wurm gegeben,
und der Cherub steht vor Gott.

Froh, wie seine Sonnen fliegen
durch des Himmels prächt'gen Plan,
laufet, Brüder, eure Bahn,
freudig, wie ein Held zum Siegen!

Seid umschlungen, Millionen!
Diesen Kuß der ganzen Welt!
Brüder, über'm Sternenzelt
muß ein lieber Vater wohnen!
Ihr stürzt nieder, Millionen?
Ahnest du den Schöpfer, Welt?
Such ihn über'm Sternenzelt,
über Sternen muß er wohnen!

ODE TO JOY

O friends, not these tones!
Rather, let us strike up more pleasant
and joyful ones.

Joy, beautiful spark of Divinity,
Daughter of Elysium,
We enter, drunk with fire,
Heavenly One, thy sanctuary!
'Thy magic binds again
What custom strictly divided;
All people become brothers,
Where thy gentle wing abides.

Who has succeeded in the great attempt,
'To be a friend's friend,
Whoever has won a lovely woman,
Add his to the jubilation!
Indeed, who even just has one soul
To call his own in this world!
And who never managed it should slink
Weeping from this union!

All creatures drink of joy
At nature's breasts.
All the Just, all the Evil
Follow her trail of roses.
Kisses she gave us and grapevines,
A friend, proven in death.
Salaciousness was given to the worm
And the cherub stands before God.

Gladly, as His suns fly
through the heavens' grand plan
Go on, brothers, your way,
Joyful, like a hero to victory.

Be embraced, Millions!
'This kiss to all the world!
Brothers, above the starry canopy
'There must dwell a loving Father.
Are you collapsing, millions?
Do you sense the creator, world?
Seek him above the starry canopy!
Above stars must He dwell.

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CHORAL TEXT (*Text in grey italics has been sung by the chorus earlier in the work.*)

PAGE 14

Freude! Freude! ...

PAGE 16

Deine Zauber binden wieder
Was die Mode streng geteilt;
Alle Menschen werden Brüder,
Wo dein sanfter Flügel weilt.

PAGE 19

Ja, wer auch nur eine Seele
Sein nennt auf dem Erdenrund!
Und wer's nie gekonnt, der stehle
Weinend sich aus diesem Bund!

PAGES 22-23

Küsse gab sie uns und Reben,
Einen Freund, geprüft im Tod;
Wollust ward dem Wurm gegeben,
Und der Cherub steht vor Gott.

PAGES 26-27

Laufet, Brüder, eure Bahn,
Freudig, wie ein Held zum Siegen.

PAGES 30-33

Freude, schöner Götterfunken,
Tochter aus Elysium,
Wir betreten feuertrunken,
Himmlische, dein Heiligtum!

*Deine Zauber binden wieder
Was die Mode streng geteilt;
Alle Menschen werden Brüder,
Wo dein sanfter Flügel weilt.*

PAGES 34-36

Seid umschlungen, Millionen!
Diesen Kuss der ganzen Welt!
Brüder, überm Sternenzelt
Muss ein lieber Vater wohnen.

PAGES 37-39 (top)

Ihr stürzt nieder, Millionen?
Ahnest du den Schöpfer, Welt?
Such' ihn überm Sternenzelt!
Über Sternen muss er wohnen.

PAGES 39-46

*Freude, schöner Götterfunken,
Tochter aus Elysium,
Wir betreten feuertrunken,
Himmlische, dein Heiligtum!
Seid umschlungen, Millionen!
Diesen Kuss der ganzen Welt!*

PAGES 47-48

*Ihr stürzt nieder, Millionen?
Ahnest du den Schöpfer, Welt?
Such' ihn überm Sternenzelt!
Brüder! Brüder!*

*Überm Sternenzelt muss ein lieber
Vater wohnen.*

PAGES 51-59 (middle)

*Deine Zauber binden wieder
Was die Mode streng geteilt;
Alle Menschen werden Brüder,
Wo dein sanfter Flügel weilt.*

*Seid umschlungen, Millionen!
Diesen Kuss der ganzen Welt!
Brüder!*

*Überm Sternenzelt muss ein lieber
Vater wohnen.*

PAGES 59 (middle) to 61 (end)

*Freude, Freude, schöner
Götterfunken,
Tochter aus Elysium!
Freude, schöner Götterfunken!
Götterfunken!*