

“Vous, qui faites l’endormie,” (You, who make believe you’re sleeping), Méphistophélès’ “Serenade,” Act IV, FAUST by Charles Gounod, libretto by J. Barbier and M. Carré, 1859; based on Goëthe’s masterpiece by the same name.

SYNOPSIS: Valentin, Margiuerite’s brother, has come home from the wars to find his sister carrying a child. With the help of Mephistopheles. Faust seduced the young woman while Valentin was gone. While brother and sister are inside their cottage, Mephistopheles sings a mocking serenade to taunt the despondent pair.

MÉPHISTOPHÉLÈS

“Vous, qui faites l’endormie,
n’entendez-vous pas?
N’entendez-vous pas?
O, Catherine, ma mie,
n’entendez-vous pas
ma voix et mes pas?”
Ainsi ton galant t’appelle,
ainsi ton galant t’appelle,
et ton coeur l’en croit.
Ha, ha, ha, ha!, etc.
N’ouvre pas ta porte, ma belle,
que la bague au doigt.
N’ouvre pas ta porte, ma belle,
que la bague au doigt,
que la bague au doigt.

“Catherine, que j’adore,
pourquoi refuser, pourquoi refuser
à l’amant qui vous implore,
pourquoi refuser
un si doux baiser?”
Ainsi ton galant supplie,
ainsi ton galant supplie,
et ton coeur l’en croit!
Ha, ha, ha, ha! etc.
Ne donne un baiser, ma mie,
que la bague au doigt.
Ne donne un baiser, ma mie,
que la bague au doigt,
que la bague au doigt!
Ha, ha., ha , ha!
Ha, ha, ha, etc.

“You, who make believe you’re sleeping,
don’t you really hear?
Don’t you really hear?
Oh, Catherine, my dear one,
don’t you really hear
my voice drawing near?”
That’s the way your lover calls you,
that’s the way your lover calls you,
and he wins your heart.
Ha, ha, ha, ha!, etc.
Don’t unlock your door, my beauty,
till you wear his ring.
Don’t unlock your door, my beauty,
till you wear his ring,
till you wear his ring.

“Catherine, I adore you.
why do you refuse? Why do you refuse?
To the lover who implores you
why do you refuse
such a sweet embrace?”
That’s the way your lover begs you;
that’s the way your lover begs you,
and he wins your heart!
Ha,, ha, ha, ha!, etc.
Don’t give him a kiss, my beauty,
till you wear his ring,
Don’t give him a kiss, my beauty,
till you wear his ring!
till you wear his ring!
Ha, ha, ha, ha!
Ha, ha, ha, etc.

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