

Muttsu no Kodomo no Uta 六つの子供の歌 (Six Children's Songs)

6. Oyasumi おやすみ (Goodnight, 1947)

Music by NAKADA Yoshinao 中田喜直 (1923-2000)

Text by MIKI Rofū 三木露風 (1889-1964)

おやすみ おやすみ かりが なく
Oyasumi oyasumi kari-ga naku
(goodnight goodnight goose is crying)

おやの かりか この かりか
Oya-no kari-ka ko-no kari-ka
(parent of goose or child of goose?)

あおい つきよに なき わたる
Aoi tsuki-yo-ni naki wataru
(blue moon night in crying pass across)

かりの おやまは まっしろに
Kari-no oyama-wa masshiro-ni
(goose of mountain is pure white)

ゆきの あたまが とんがって
Yuki-no atama-ga tongatte
(snow of head is sticking out sharply)

ひゅうる ひゅうる かぜが ふく
Hyūru hyūru kaze-ga fuku
[onomatopoeia] wind is blowing)

おやすみ おやすみ かねが なる
Oyasumi oyasumi kane-ga naru
(goodnight goodnight bell is ringing)

かぜの たえまに かねが なる
Kaze-no taema-ni kane-ga naru
(wind of break at bell is ringing)

おてらの やねから かねが なる
Otera-no yane-kara kane-ga naru
(church of roof from bell is ringing)

お眠み お眠み 雁がなく
(Goodnight, goodnight, a goose is crying)

親の雁か 子の雁か
(A parent goose or a child goose?)

青い月夜に なきわたる
(In the blue moon night, crying, it flies across)

雁のお山は 真っ白に
(Goose-mountain is pure white)

雪のあたまが とんがって
(A snow-covered peak is sticking out sharply)

ひゅうる ひゅうる 風がふく
(The wind blows with a hissing sound)

おやすみ おやすみ 鐘がなる
(Goodnight, goodnight, a bell is ringing)

風の絶間に 鐘がなる
(At breaks between the winds, a bell is ringing)

聖寺の屋根から 鐘がなる
(From the church steeple, a bell is ringing)

かれた はっぱは かさこそと
Kareta happa-wa kasakoso-to
(dried leaves are) [onomatopoeia]

枯れた 葉っぱは かさこそと
Dried leaves are crunching

サンタクロスは こっそりと
Santakurōsu-wa kossori-to
(Santa Clause is stealthily)

サンタクロスは こっそりと
(Santa Clause is stealthily)

まどを たたいて おります。
Mado-o tataite orimasuru.
(window tap doing)

窓をたたいて おります。
(Tapping the window.)

おへやの なかは あかるい ひ
Oheya-no naka-wa akarui hi
(room of inside is bright lamplight)

お部屋の中は 明るい灯
(Inside the room is brightly lighted)

けいと の ねまきに くるまって
Keito-no nemaki-ni kurumatte
(wool yarn of pajamas with wrapped around)

毛糸の寝巻に くるまって
(Wrapped in [your] knitted pajamas)

おやすみ おやすみ かねが なる
Oyasumi oyasumi kane-ga naru
(goodnight goodnight bell is ringing)

おやすみ おやすみ 鐘がなる
(Goodnight, goodnight, a bell is ringing)

Marking

やわらかく 流れるように かるやかに
Gently flowing lightly

-These six songs are set to Dōyō (children's song) poems, but they are meant to be sung by trained adult singers.

-Although the music was composed in 1947, shortly after the end of WWII, and shows French influence, the poems were written in the 1920's when life was simpler without modern technology.

-These songs are also published with French and English singing translations.

-All letter *g*'s in this text are pronounced [ŋ], soft and nasal sound. But it must be short. Do not anticipate or elongate this sound.

-Santa Claus---Japanese houses (even now) usually don't have fireplaces and big chimneys. Therefore, the poet imagined that Santa Claus was tapping a window to get inside the house.

-Otera---Usually "otera" means a Buddhist temple. However, the poet became Catholic and was eventually awarded a Catholic order of knighthood by the Vatican. Therefore, it is reasonable to think that he meant a church or a cathedral.