

The Eye and Eye's Delight

Measha BRUEGGERGOSMAN, Soprano / Edwin HUIZINGA, Composer / Artists of Atelier Ballet
The Annunciation by Rainer Maria Rilke. (translation © for Opera Atelier by Grace Andreacchi)

Not that an angel entered (note it well),
frightened her. As little as to others when
a sunbeam or the moon by night
stealing into their room are startled at the sight
so little feared she the form
barely guessed the heaviness of place
to an Angel (Oh if we knew
how pure she was. Did not once a doe
resting there in the wood, catch her eye,
and in that eye lost itself to her so,
without a mate the unicorn was made,
the beast of light – the pure beast.)
Not, that he entered but that he bent
so close his youthful face
his look and hers so suddenly collide
the world outside is rent - now emptied of its all.
What millions saw and did and had to bear
pressed deep inside this pair - Just she and he
The Seeing and the Seen, the Eye and Eye's Delight
Alone in this place alone – that fright -
That frightened both of them.

And then the Angel sang his melody.