ORFEO

Song of Eurydice

I used to live in happiness with my beloved Close to me.... So close to me His face haunts my mind Feeling his lips so close to mine And yet in the garden of life Death has stolen my reason for living Now today Orpheus enters The realm of darkness Searching for me And yet this space deprived of all light is a place forbidden to all men

Through his singing and his music he hopes to move The creatures of hell I see their faces Terrible Changing Numb Struck by the beauty of great Harmony

Creation, creation which opens for me the doors to meet again the loved one The one to whom I dream of giving an eternal kiss

His singing transforms the fires of hell in a flame of hope

I feel him Close, so close..

Then I hear the God of the Dead offering me a last chance I must follow Orpheus to return to life But misfortune for us if he looks at me. We advance leaving behind us the night I slip into its shadow We are close to the day But by an uncontrollable force he looks back: Eurydice! He looks at me! I am losing him for ever I have found death for the second time through too much love, an excess of love Oh despair! Oh human impatience! He has lost me I have lost him! Never again to embrace him Never again his body I say adieu to his soul! But here in the world of death Alone Condemned to darkness Deprived of love Alone... Orpheus Facing the sun On the nourishing and fertile earth will be singing again and again To live Art will be stronger than death! Oh, Orpheus! Your music becomes eternal Your voice lives in me Like my love For ever!

> Armando Bergallo Translation in English: Mavis Wilson