

*“Ich bin so **hold**...”*

*Because it is the first note of significant length, I treat “**hold**” as an opportunity to establish the emotional colour for this opening line. I cultivate qualities of warmth and fondness, encouraging a ‘creaminess’ to the tone.*

*I emphasise the roundness of the phonetic “**o**”, approaching a closed “**oh**” for richness of tone.*

*A strong “**h**” opens the throat and directs my awareness to an active breath support.*

“den”

*This vowel ‘sits up’ from the position of “**hold**”, brightening in tone.*

The tongue lifts at the back and the upper resonances of the vowel are projected up and forwards into the hard palette.

*This space is reaffirmed as the “**n**” is resonated in the nasal cavity and hard palette.*

‘sanft-’

*The titular word is coloured according to its meaning—“**gentle**”.*

Though the vowel is the most open and potentially the most strident of the three repeated notes, in this instance the upper partials of the word are exaggerated.

The soft palate is raised behind the vowel, connecting the voice to it’s higher, headier registers.