"Wann in der ersten Frühlingszeit..."

The youthful, lively, airy qualities of Spring are emulated through a gradual 'blossoming' of tone across the repeat pitches of "ersten Früh-".

The bright and honeyed **ü-like** qualities shared by the closed vowels <u>"in der er</u>-sten <u>Früh-"</u> are accentuated—an "u" embouchure is sustained throughout for this purpose.

<u>"er-"</u> is sung with a vertical lengthening of the pharyngeal space—the soft palate raising and the eyes engaging—as the note is encouraged to bloom and develop, spinning towards the heady qualities of the <u>"Früh-"</u>. This length is first established in the brief hiatus facilitated by the glottal stop onset of <u>"er-"</u>, during which the airflow is momentarily halted, with a subglottic pressure—anchored to the sternum—adding a slight, but tangible mounting pressure.

The cultivated embouchure and vowel quality are released for a brief instant, as the unstressed syllable and more open vowel <u>"-sten"</u> is 'dropped in'. This note is treated like a stepping stone – hopped over as deftly as possible—before returning to the space and shape of the preceding vowels, the length and heady resonances of the "ü" accentuated further still as the accumulating tone reaches its culmination.