**Year 13 Listening**

**Shoenberg - Pierrot Lunaire - Mondestrunken**

This song is from the song cycle ‘Pierrot Lunaire’ by Shoenberg. This song, ‘Mondestrunken’ means ‘moon-drunk’.

*Pierrot Lunaire* is one of the most famous expressionist and atonal compositions of Arnold Schoenberg. The melodrama *Pierrot Lunaire* consists of various poems, divided into three parts. Each part has 7 poems (total of 21 poems). The style used in this piece is *Sprechstimme,* meaning the vocalists uses specified rhythms and pitches but the pitches are not sustained, shifting up and down according to the manner of the speech. This sing-speak style can also be known as . The narrator delivers the poem within singing style of *sprechstimme* along with instrumental accompaniment. Whilst composing *Pierrot Lunaire*, he was fascinated by numerology (the study of the purported divine, mystical or other special relationship between a number and some coinciding observed (or perceived) event). This influenced him in composing this work with a particular focus on the number 7.

***Q – What different 20th Century expressionist techniques does Schoenberg use in this piece and how are they used to to evoke the meaning of the title of this work?***