Page 78

Read the text A life of music and wolves, p. 78-79

Helene Grimaud

ABOUT THE TEXT

The material here is adapted from Helene Grimaud’s autobiography, Wild Harmonies. As described in the text, Grimaud is a French classical pianist who was born in 1969. Following a troubled early upbringing, she revealed an exceptional talent for music, entering the Conservatoire de Paris in 1982 at the age of 13. In 1987, she became a professional musician and launched her career playing in the Orchestre de Paris under the Argentinian conductor Daniel Barenboim. Grimaud has been highly praised by critics throughout her career, due to her strong sense of independence and invention in interpreting the great piano works. As well as being a world-famous musician, Grimaud is a strong supporter of the Worldwide Fund for Nature, and Amnesty International. In 1999, she founded and ran the Wolf Conservation Center in New York State, protecting this critically endangered species and educating the public about it.

Vocab. help: (some of the vocabulary need to be worked out from the context in exercises 4 and 5, e.g. the highlighted words, so those words/expressions are not given below)

Enigma-something hard to explain, mystery

Tomboy-a girl who behaves in a manner usually considered boyish

Playmate-a companion in play

Wire mesh-ograda od žice

Caged-kept in a cage

Yearning-a tender or urgent desire for something

self-harm-the act of purposely hurting oneself

acute-sharp, severe, sudden

equilibrium-balance

trapped-caught in as if in a trap

outlet-a means of release or satisfaction for an emotion

peak-the highest level or greatest degree

nagging sense of...-a persistant, annoying worry about something

feel at home- To feel very comfortable in a particular group, setting, or place.

send a shiver up/down somebody’s spine - feel, or make somebody feel excitement or fear

silhouette-the outline of a body

vocation- a regular occupation, especially one for which a person is particularly suited or qualified

* Do exercises 3, 4 and 5, p.78
* Homework: Answer the questions and send the answers to me by email

