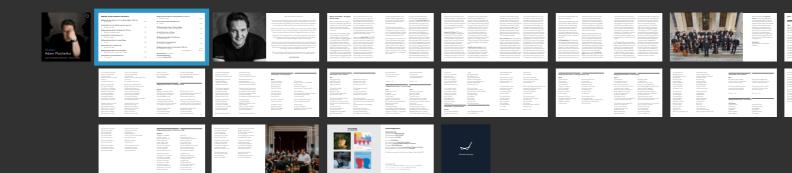


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Dear friends of Viennese Classicism!

The music you find on this album is close to my heart, and very dear to me. I have spent most of my career so far singing Mozart's operas. I've been asked many times, why I never made an album of his greatest arias. The answer is quite simple: There already are so many Mozart recordings and I didn't want to make just another one of them.

A way showed itself when we were considering a new recital program with Roman Válek, that we could perform with his orchestra. Being Czech, we remembered the plot of Miloš Forman's *Amadeus* and fathomed the idea of bringing Mozart together with Salieri.

It came as a little bit of surprise that we couldn't find any coloratura arias for bass in his work. However, we did come across quite a few fun buffo pieces, which seemed appropriate to be compared with Figaro, Leporello, and the others.

After a few concerts, we both felt the program might be worth recording. We just had no idea, where to find the time. Then along came the pandemic, and all of a sudden we had a lot of time on our hands. We seized the opportunity, and set the wheels in motion. When the situation allowed it, we met in a recording hall, and enjoyed a few days of music making, which were incredibly rare at the time.

When I listen to the recording I hear the joy of everyone involved in it. And I hope, and wish, that it brings as much pleasure to you, as it has to us in a difficult period.

- Adam Plachetka



Mozart versus Salieri — the legend and the reality

Mozart and Salieri. The genius composer as the envy of the socially high-profile but mediocre, routine creator. Such an image still prevails among the public today, thanks to artistic fictions that drew from one another.

Some twenty years after Mozart's death, a rumour spread in Vienna that Salieri had poisoned Mozart. This theme was taken up by Alexander Sergeyevich Pushkin in his drama *Mozart and Salieri* (1830). Nikolai Andreyevich Rimsky-Korsakov based his play on the opera of the same name (1898). Perhaps the most artistically significant contribution here is Peter Shaffer's drama *Amadeus* (1979), which inspired Miloš Forman's film of the same name (1984). And this is where the media problem arises: the Hollywood blockbuster must have been seen by disproportionately more viewers than any of Salieri's operas.

The real relationship between the two composers was far more complex than the aforementioned primary distinction. Both pursued their respective works with tension, which may have resulted in many points of convergence in content and musical texture. The two were united by the excellent librettist Lorenzo da Ponte. And most importantly: both were trying to establish themselves in Vienna, then an important centre of Italian opera.

Legnano-born **Antonio Salieri** (1750-1825), only six years older than his Salzburg rival, was more successful in this respect. As is often the case, a certain amount of luck helped. In Venice, where he received his musical training at St Mark's Basilica, his talent was noticed by Florian Leopold Gassmann, the Viennese court composer. Gassmann introduced Salieri to the Viennese court, where he was favoured and patronized by Emperor Joseph II. Salieri's career in Vienna culminated in the award of the post of Imperial Court

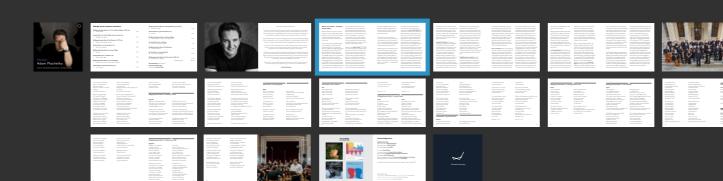
Composer (Hofkapellmeister), which he held from 1788 until 1824, when he retired to seclusion. (Mozart achieved only the title of chamber composer: Kammerkomponist).

That Salieri was not a second-rate composer is proven by the interest of his contemporaries not only in his work but also in his teaching. Beethoven, Schubert, Liszt, J. N. Hummel and others studied compositional techniques with him.

Salieri's opera work concentrated on the two main Italian genres: serious opera (seria) and comic opera (buffa). He also sporadically devoted himself to the singspiel, in which, however, Mozart, a native speaker of this popular theatrical form, understood by the wider popular classes, was more prominent. In contrast, Salieri — unlike Mozart — was inspired by Gluck's reform.

In the genre of opera buffa, Salieri is one of the most successful Viennese composers. His La scuola de' gelosi (The School of the Jealous), with a libretto by Caterina Mazzolà, was a great success. The work was written for the Carnival of Venice, where it was first performed on December 27th, 1778 at the Teatro San Moisè. Five years later, a revised version was performed at the Burgtheater in Vienna, then in London (1786) and other European cities. The popularity of the work was certainly also due to its popular theme, based on intrigues that aroused jealousy among all strata of society at the time: nobility, bourgeoisie and commoners. In fact, Goethe himself admired the work's music, writing in a letter to Charlotte von Stein of December 28th, 1784, among other things, about its refined taste and how his 'heart was moved by the beauty of the melodies, especially in the finale and in the admirable quintets'. In the bass aria of the merchant Blasio's Ma dica il mio signore, one can hear distinct Mozartian

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



La grotta di Trofonio (The Cave of Trofonio), performed at the Burgtheater on October 12th, 1785, has a similarly rewarding subject as the previous comic opera. The libretto was written by yet another Italian, Giovanni Battista Casti. The theme and form of the work are reminiscent of Mozart's buffas The Marriage of Figaro and Così fan tutte: hence the possible influence of Da Ponte's poetics. The story revolves around the love of two couples. The problem lies in the fact that the two members of these couples are of opposite natures. Everything is resolved by the magician Trofonio, who reconciles their characters in his cave, so

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that the plot comes to a happy ending. The father of the daughters in love, Aristone, watches over everything. In the gradations of his brisk aria Se il tuo sposo, one can observe compositional techniques that most listeners are more familiar with from Mozart's operas. This fact, however, is indicative of a kind of loci commune of the epoch. Salieri's operatic output is also characterised by a greater use of wind instruments than was common in the Italian opera style. This is already evidenced by the Sinfonia with its trumpet entrances in the dramatic opening in C Minor or the parts of flutes and clarinets in the following Allegro, often treated as solos.

Falstaff, ossia Le tre burle (Falstaff or Three Jests) is one of Salieri's three late-century operas set to a libretto by Carlo Prospero Defranceschi. It is based on Shakespeare's famous comedy The Merry Wives of Windsor, but Defranceschi translated its Elizabethan style into the

conventions of opera buffa, including the elimination of some characters. In any case, Salieri's Falstaff is one of the first operas based on a Shakespearean theme. The musicalisation of the character of Falstaff denies nothing of its English model: the boastful swagger in the aria Nell' Impero di Cupido, full of verbal equivalence, tends towards the style of Gioacchino Rossini's comic operas. The work was first performed on January 3rd, 1799 at the Kärtnertortheater.

Axur, re d' Ormus (Axur, King of Ormour) occupies a special position among Salieri's operas. It is a reworking of the original tragédie lyrique that the composer set to a French libretto by Beaumarchais under the title Tarare during his Parisian sojourn in 1786. The style of the opera is a kind of mixture of exoticism, comedy, political allegory and romance. The Parisian success of the work did not leave Emperor Joseph II indifferent. He forced Lorenzo da Ponte to rework the libretto into Italian and his

court composer Salieri to set it to music. The result is a work that unites elements of tragédie lyrique, opera seria and buffa under the formal designation dramma tragicomico. The protagonist is a brutal oriental king whose self-confidence and sovereignty are illustrated by the arioso included in this set: Misero abbieto negro, Viva, viva and Idol vano d'un popol. The rich instrumentation, certainly influenced by French style, is evident in the Overture. There are, for example, horn parts and a striking oboe solo. Axur was first performed at the Burgtheater in Vienna on January 8th, 1788 on the occasion of the marriage of Archduke Franz to Princess Elisabeth of Württemberg. It was not only this solemn event that forced Da Ponte to remove from the libretto, as in the case of The Marriage of Figaro, all political allusions to pre-revolutionary France. The work was so successful in Vienna that it was performed more times than Mozart's Don Giovanni, which had its Viennese premiere on June 7th that year. Let us add that the role of











Axur was also created by Mozart's first Figaro, Francesco Benucci.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) came to Vienna in 1781 as a free artist. The daily concerns of making a living and subsistence meant more difficult conditions for him than for Salieri. Moreover, he tried to make a name for himself through opera, which was dominated by the Italians in Vienna. Thus, he competed with them in the genre of opera buffa.

La finta giardiniera (The Gardener for Love, better The False Gardener), K. 196 is one of Mozart's first comic operas. At the age of nineteen he composed it for Maximilian II. Joseph of Bavaria for the Munich Carnival, where it was performed on January 13th, 1775. In this early work Mozart already hinted at his future stage poetics: the mixing of serious and comic elements (he first used the term dramma giocoso), the musical characterisation of

individual characters rather than types, and an almost baroque emotionality. The plot includes the motif of character substitution. This concerns the Marquise Violante Onesti, who poses as a gardener, and her servant Roberto, who goes by the name of Nardo. Mozart assigned him the typical role of basso buffo, as evidenced by the aria A forza di martelli.

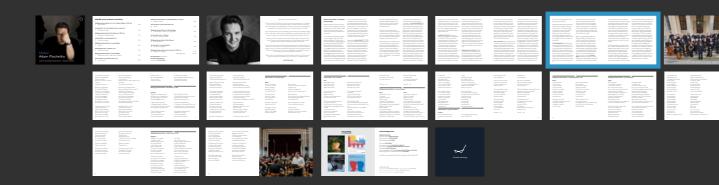
Mozart composed his best buffas, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Don Giovanni* and Così fan tutte, to libretti by Lorenzo da Ponte. It was Mozart who approached the court poet with a request to write a libretto based on Beaumarchais's play La folle journée, ou Le mariage de Figaro (*The Foolish Day or the Marriage of Figaro*). It is reported that Da Ponte granted the request because of a conflict with Salieri. The result is one of the finest libretti Mozart ever set to music. *Le nozze di Figaro* (*The Marriage of Figaro*), K. 492 is based on the conflict between the Count's valet Figaro and Count Almaviva, Figaro's

rival in the battle for Susanna. Mozart's compositional mastery was demonstrated, among other things, by the way he was able to distinguish between two similar male registers. This set, featuring arias by both Almaviva and Figaro, is a case in point. Not only the opening *Sinfonia*, which is entirely in a brilliant Presto, is a fine example of the composer's superb orchestration. The foundation is a specific sonority based on the harmony of strings and woodwinds, supplemented in prominent places by clarinets, horns and timpani.

The Marriage of Figaro was premiered on May 1st, 1786 at the Burgtheater in Vienna. Despite a great audience response, it was withdrawn from the programme after eight performances. Mozart made up for it all in Prague, where he celebrated his greatest triumphs. After the warm reception of the singspiel Die Entführung aus dem Serail in 1783, The Marriage of Figaro was presented at the Nostic Theatre

in early December 1786. Encouraged by this success, the composer visited Prague early the following year, where he concluded a contract for a new opera for the autumn season. It was performed under the composer's direction on October 29th under the title II dissoluto punito, ossia Il Don Giovanni (The Punished Infidelity or Don Giovanni), K. 527. The composer succeeded brilliantly in deepening the art of musical characterisation of individual characters in specific situations. While the servant Leporello, a typical buffo bass, in the so-called catalogue aria Madamina, il catalogo è questo, exaggeratedly enumerates the hundreds and thousands of mistresses of his master. Don Giovanni acts according to whom he addresses: he seduces a noblewoman differently, he courts a simple country girl differently, he treats differently his wife, to whom he is unfaithful. The aria Fin ch'han dal vino reveals Don Giovanni as a glutton with a carefree love of wine and women.







Mozart's last Italian buffa, **Così fan tutte** (So do they all), K. 588, received
an embarrassing reception in Vienna in
January 1790. The cause may have been
the bawdy subject matter, which irritated
the false morals of the upper classes.
Beethoven, on the other hand, also
considered Da Ponte's libretto immoral.
Not only the title, but also the subtitle
of the work, La scuola degli amanti
(The School of the Lovers), suggests this
attitude. A typical representative of this
"lovers' school" is the officer Guglielmo in
the Rivolgete aria.

Pavel Sýkora

(English translation: Lenka Zouhar Ludvíková)





Lyrics

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart · Le Nozze di Figaro, K. 492

Figar

Non più andrai, farfallone amoroso, notte e giorno d'intorno girando, delle belle turbando il riposo, Narcisetto, Adoncino d'amor, ecc.

Non più avrai questi bei pennacchini, quel cappello leggiero e galante, quella chioma, quell'aria brillante, quel vermiglio donnesco color. Non più andrai, ecc.

Tra guerrieri poffar Bacco!
Gran mustacchi, stretto sacco,
schioppo in spalla, sciabola al fianco,
collo dritto, muso franco,
o un gran casco, o un gran turbante,
molto onor, poco contante,
ed invece del fandango,
una marcia per il fango.

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You, womanizer, won't go around anymore night and day, disrupting all the pretty girls' rest, love's little Narcissus and Adonis, etc.

You won't have those fine plumes anymore, that soft and stylish hat, that hair, that stunning look, that rosy, girl-like colour.

No more will you, etc.

Among warriors swearing by Bacchus!
Great mustacchios, holding your pack,
shotgun on the shoulder, a sabre at your side,
head-on, frank face,
wearing a great helmet or a turban,
winning honours, but little money,
and instead of the fandango
a march for the mud.

Per montagne, per valloni, colle nevi, e i solleoni, al concerto di tromboni, di bombarde, di cannoni, che le palle in tutti i tuoni all'orecchio fan fischiar.
Cherubino alla vittoria, alla gloria militar!

Over mountains, over valleys, through the snow and burning sun, to the concert of trumpets, of shells and cannons, with balls sounding thunder, making your ears ring.

Cherubino, on to victory, on to military glory!

Antonio Salieri · Falstaff, ossia Le tre burle

Falstaff

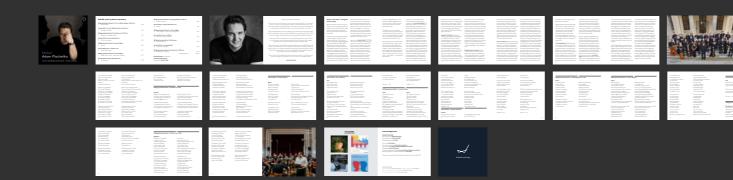
Nell'impero di Cupido sono un Cesare, un Achille; e son noti a mille i trofei del mio valor.

Questa piazza? lo me ne rido mi s'è resa a discrezione: tanto al sesso il vanto impone d'un eroe conquistator!

lo pro forma vo' a occuparla; ma (sia detto qui fra noi) In Cupid's empire
I am a Caesar, an Achilles;
and am known to a thousand
for the trophies of my valour.

This square? I laugh at it it has been given to me at my discretion: so much to the sex the boast imposes of a conquering hero!

I pro forma go to occupy it; but (let it be said here between us)



non mi preme il conservarla.
Penso sol di vendemmiare
nella cassa militare.
Fatto ciò, vi cedo poi i miei dritti
e fate voi;
ma badate a farmi onor.

Ma quel viso perché fate? No 'I credete? Dubitate? Caro Broch, voi m'offendete, che mi piovon (non sapete?) i biglietti e le ambasciate e che fin le messaggere, di me restano incantate, per esempio la tedesca, che portommi il noto invito, Ah se aveste un po' sentito!

Sospirava, e questo è un fatto, e diceva ad ogni tratto: "Ach! Sie loser, loser Mann! Blicken Sie mich so nicht an." Dunque amico, su, gioite, state in festa, e in allegria: Che a spianarvi io vo la via I do not care to preserve it.
I think only of harvesting
in the military till.
Having done that, I cede my rights to you,
and so be it;
but mind you do me honour.

But why do you make that face?
Do you not believe it? Do you doubt it?
Dear Broch, you offend me,
let the notes and the embassies
rain on me (don't you know?)
and that even the messengers
with me remain enchanted,
for instance the German,
who brought me the well-known invitation,
ah if you had heard a little!

He sighed, and this is a fact, and said at every stroke: "Ach! Sie loser, loser Mann! Blicken Sie mich so nicht an." So, my friend, rejoice, rejoice, and be merry: That to clear your way I go di beare il vostro cor. No 'l credete? Dubitate? Sono noti a mille i trofei del mio valor. To make your heart happy.

Don't you believe it? Do you doubt it?

The trophies of my valour are known to a thousand.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart · Don Giovanni, K. 527

Leporello

Madamina, il catalogo è questo delle belle, che amò il padron mio; un catalogo egli è, che ho fatt'io. Osservate, leggete con me.

In Italia seicento e quaranta, in Almagna duecento e trentuna, cento in Francia, in Turchia novantuna, ma in Ispagna son già mille e tre.

V'han fra queste contadine, cameriere, cittadine, v'han contesse, baronesse, marchesine, principesse, My little lady, this is the list of the beautiful women my master loved, a list which I have compiled. Observe, read along with me.

In Italy, six hundred and forty; in Germany, two hundred and thirty-one; a hundred in France; in Turkey ninety-one. In Spain already one thousand and three.

Among these are peasant girls, maidservants, city girls, countesses, baronesses, marchionesses, princesses,



e v'han donne d'ogni grado, d'ogni forma, d'ogni età. In Italia seicento e quaranta, ecc.

Nella bionda egli ha l'usanza di lodar la gentilezza; nella bruna, la costanza; nella bianca la dolcezza.

Vuol d'inverno la grassotta, vuol d'estate la magrotta; è la grande maestosa, la piccina è ognor vezzosa; delle vecchie fa conquista pel piacer di porle in lista.

Sua passion predominante è la giovin principiante. Non si picca se sia ricca, se sia brutta, se sia bella, se sia brutta, ricca, se sia bella; purché porti la gonnella, voi sapete quel che fa!

Purché porti la gonnella, ecc.

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women of every rank, every shape, every age. In Italy six hundred and forty, etc.

With blondes he is used to praise their kindness; with brunettes, their constancy; with the blondes, their sweetness.

In winter he wants the curvy one, in summer he wants the thin one; he considers the tall one majestic, the little one is always charming; he seduces the old ones for the pleasure of adding them to the list.

His greatest passion is the young beginner.
Regardless of whether she's rich, ugly or beautiful; if she is rich, ugly or beautiful. as long as she wears a skirt, you know what he does!

As long as she wears a skirt, etc.

Antonio Salieri · La scuola de' gelosi

Blasio

Mi dica il mio signore. Ha visto mai ne' prati due tori innamorati per gelosia cozzar? L'ha visto? l'ha visto?

Colle robuste corna da qui, di lì si danno, e co' muggiti fanno le selve risuonar.

M'intende, il signor mio? Capisce i sensi miei?

Il pungiglion d'amore, la gelosia, l'impegno ... Basta: chi sà lo sdegno, Che diavolo può far. Tell me my lord.

Have you ever seen in the meadows two bulls in love clashing out of jealousy? Have you seen it? Have you seen it?

With sturdy horns from here, from there they give themselves and with bellowing they make the woods resound.

Do you understand me, my lord? Do you understand my senses?

The sting of love,
jealousy, commitment ...
Enough of it: who knows the disdain,
What the devil it can do.



Antonio Salieri · Axur, re d'Ormus

Axur

Misero abietto negro, perché l'Atar non sei, cagion de' torti miei, cagion del mio dolor?

Oh come lieto e allegro sopra di te vorrei sfogare il mio furor! Ah! se quel traditor saper potesse qual tormento mi costa!

Dille che a questo delizioso Amorino per moglie io la destino, e ch'altro sposo in sua vita non speri. lo farò poi che al mio serraglio domattina esposta col narciso alla costa, oda cantar a coro generale: Viva, viva Irza ritrosa, che sdegnando un regio affetto, diventò sultana e sposa

Wretched abject black man, because you are not Atar, the cause of my wrongs, the cause of my sorrow?

Oh how happy and cheerful I would like to vent my fury upon you! Ah! if that traitor could know what torment it costs me!

Tell this delicious Cupid that she is destined to be my wife, that she will never hope for another husband in her life.

I shall then bring her to my menagerie tomorrow with narcissus to the shore, hear me sing in a general chorus: long live the shameless Irza, who, disdaining a royal affection,

di più nobile amator: un vil muto, un vecchio nero ha l'impero del suo cor.

Viva, viva ... etc.

became sultan and bride of a nobler lover: a vile mute, a black old man

has conquered her heart.

Long live ... etc.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart · Le nozze di Figaro

Conte

Hai già vinto la causa!

Cosa sento!
In qual laccio cadea?

Perfidi, io voglio...
Io voglio di tal modo punirvi,
a piacer mio la sentenza sarà...

Ma s'ei pagasse la vecchia pretendente?

Pagarla! In qual maniera?

E poi v'è Antonio
che all'incognito Figaro
ricusa di dare una nipote in matrimonio.

Coltivando l'orgoglio di questo mentecatto...
tutto giova a un raggiro...il colpo è fatto.

Vedrò, mentr'io sospiro, felice

Count

You already won the cause!
What am I hearing?
Where is the catch?
Cheaters! I want to...
I want to punish you in such a way...
the punishment will be as I please...
But what if he should pay the old suitor?
Pay her! How?
And then there is Antonio,
who refuses to give his niece in
marriage to the unknown Figaro.
By nurturing the pride of that nutcase...
Everything's falling into my scheme.
I'll see, while I breath, a servant of mine





un servo mio!
E un ben che invan desio,
ei posseder dovrà?
Vedrò per man d'amore
unita a un vile oggetto
chi in me destò un affetto
che per me poi non ha?
Vedrò mentr'io sospiro, ecc.

Ah no, lasciarti in pace, non vo' questo contento, tu non nascesti, audace, per dare a me tormento, e forse ancor per ridere, di mia infelicità!
Già la speranza sola delle vendette mie quest'anima consola, e giubilar mi fa!

Antonio Salieri · La grotta di Trofonio

Aristone

22

Se il tuo sposo e assai brioso, tu quel foco a poco a poco, happy and enjoying pleasure that I desire in vain? I will see the hand of love united to a vile lowly person to one who arouses feelings in me she does not feel herself? Shall I live to see, etc.

Ah no! I won't leave that carefree creature in peace; you were not born, audacious fellow, to give me torment or perhaps to laugh at my sadness.

Now only hope of my revenge consoles my soul and makes me rejoice!

If your bridegroom be very lively, you will, little by little

se vorrai temprar potrai colla savia gravità.

Se per sorte il tuo consorte troppo seri avrà i pensieri, scuoter puoi gli spirti suoi colla tua vivacità.

Sia lo sposo allegro o mesto, purché onesto, e sano sia, la tristezza e l'allegria non e mai sua primaria necessaria qualità.

Or dunque dal petto scacciate il sospetto. Contente godete, temer non dovete influsso maligno, che sempre benigno il ciel vi sarà.

Scacciate ... etc.

temper his fire with wise gravity.

If by chance your beloved will have too serious thoughts, you can shake his spirits with your vivacity.

Whether the bridegroom be cheerful or sad as long as he's honest and healthy, sadness and cheerfulness will never be his primary necessary quality.

Now therefore cast out the suspicion from your breast. Contently enjoy, you must not fear evil influence, because the heavens will always be benign to you.

Cast out ... etc.



LINER NOTES

| Martin | M









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Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart · La finta giardiniera, K. 196

Nardo

A forza di martelli il ferro si riduce a forza di scarpelli, il marmo si lavora; di donna il cuor ognora né ferro, né martello, né amore tristarello la può ridurre a segno, la può capacitar.

Siam pazzi tutti quanti che andiamo appresso a femmine, si sprezzino; si scaccino, si fugghino, si piantino, si lascino crepar. By the force of hammers iron is wrought; by the force of chisels, marble is processed; but the heart of a woman, neither iron nor stone nor miserable love can bring it to heel nor persuade it.

We are madmen, all of us, who run after women: let us despise them, let us chase them away, let us flee them, let us dump them, and let them die!

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart · Le nozze di Figaro

Figaro

Tutto è disposto:
I'ora dovrebbe esser vicina;
io sento gente...è dessa!
Non è alcun; buia è la notte...
ed io comincio omai a fare il scimunito
mestiero di marito... Ingrata!
Nel momento della mia cerimonia ei
godeva leggendo: e nel verderlo
io ridevo di me senza saperlo.
Oh Susanna! Susanna!
Quanto pena mi costi!
Con quell'ingenua faccia, con quegli occhi

Che il fidarsi a donna, è ognor follia.

Aprite un po' quegli occhi,
uomini incauti e sciocchi,
guardate queste femmine,
guardate cosa son!

Queste chiamate dee
dagli ingannati sensi,

innocenti, chi creduto l'avria? Ah!

Everything is ready: it is almost time.

I hear them coming...it's her!

No, it's no one. The night is dark,
and I'm already beginning to play the fool
trade of husband. Ungrateful!

At the moment of my wedding
he enjoyed reading, and seeing him
I laughed at myself without realising it.
Oh, Susanna, Susanna!

How much pain you cost me!

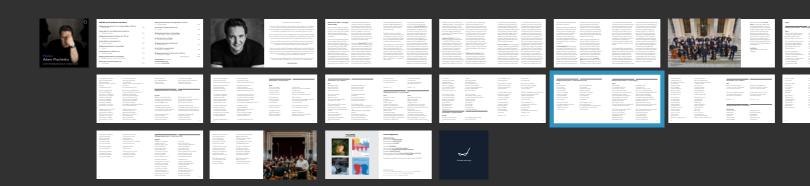
eyes, who would have believed it!

Ah, it's always madness to trust a woman!
Open your eyes for a moment,
incautious and silly men,
look at these women,
look at what they are.
You call them goddesses,

With that naive face, with those innocent

with your misled senses,





a cui tributa incensi la debole ragion, ecc. Son streghe che incantano per farci penar, sirene che cantano per farci affogar, civette che allettano per trarci le piume, comete che brillano per toglierci il lume.

Son rose spinose,
son volpi vezzose;
son orse benigne,
colombe maligne,
maestre d'inganni,
amiche d'affanni,
che fingono, mentono,
amore non senton,
non senton pietà,
no, no, no, no, no!
Il resto nol dico,
già ognuno lo sa.
Aprite un po' quegli occhi, ecc.

and pay them tribute with your weakened mind.
They are witches who mesmerise to make you suffer, sirens who sing to make you drown, tempting owls that take full advantage, comets that shine to take away your light.

They are thorny roses, charming vixens, harmless bears, wicked doves, masters of deception, friends of trouble, who pretend, lie, feel no love, feel no pity, no, no, no, no, no, no! I won't say the rest, everyone knows it already.

Open your eyes for a moment, etc.

Antonio Salieri · Axur, re d'Ormus

Axur

Idol vano d'un popol codardo, sì odioso al mio cor, al mio sguardo; ho pur vinto, morir ti vedrò!

Ah ch'eccesso di gioia in me sento nel pensare che giusto divento nel momento che ucciderti fo!

Idol vano ... etc.

Vain idol of a cowardly people, so hateful to my heart, to my eyes; I have won, I shall see you die!

Ah what excess of joy in me I feel to think that I have done justice the moment I kill you!

Idol in vain ... etc.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart · Don Giovanni

Don Giovanni

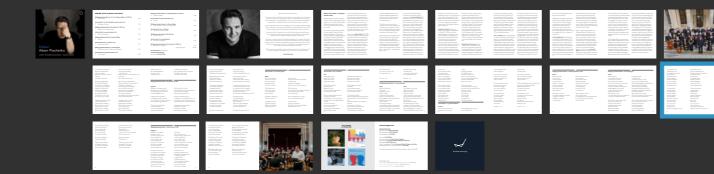
Finch'han dal vino calda la testa, una gran festa fa preparar. Se trovi in piazza qualche ragazza, As long as the wine warms up their head, go and prepare a great party.

If you find some girl in the square,

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



teco ancor quella cerca menar.

Senza alcun ordine la danza sia; chi 'l minuetto, chi la follia, chi l'alemana farai ballar.

Ed io frattanto dall'altro canto con questa e quella vo' amoreggiar. Ah, la mia lista doman mattina d'una decina devi aumentar! ecc. try also to bring her along.

Let the dance be wild; they can do the minuet, the folia, or the allemande, you will make them dance.

And meanwhile, I
on the other hand,
will be flirting
with this one and that one.
Ah, tomorrow morning
you will need to add
to my list
at least ten names! etc.

Antonio Salieri · La scuola de' gelosi

Blasio

Fate buona compagnia, trattenete il signor Conte, che con tanta cortesia si ha voluto incomodar.

Ah l'amico non le spiare: Mai di vista non lo perde. Io mi sento venir verde, ma convien dissimular.

Grazie tanto mio signore, Uno stilo dentro il core mi fa grazia s'ella resta Un buon maglio sulla testa.

Ma che dunque? che s'intende? Quì con lui l'ho da lasciar, con lui? Impossibile mi pare di potermi distaccar. Keep good company, retain the Count who so courteously has wished to inconvenience himself.

Ah, my friend does not spy on them: he never loses sight of it. I feel like becoming green, but I must hide myself.

Thank you very much my lord, a stylus into your heart I am grateful if she stays a good hammer on your head.

But what then? What do you mean? I have to leave her here with him, with him?
It seems to me impossible to leave these two.









Con permesso, mio signore, che le dica una parola.
Civettina sfacciatella del marito disonore fa la cara, fa la bella tu mi cerchi attossicar.

Fate buona compagnia ... Civettina sfacciatella ...

Grazie tanto mio Signore mi fa grazia s'ella resta. Servo suo mi raccomando che tu possa là crepar! If you'll excuse me, my lord, let me say a word to you. Cheeky little owl this beautiful woman is about to dishonour her husband, you seek to poison me.

Keep good company ... Cheeky little owl ...

Thank you so much, my Lord I am grateful if she stays. His servant I recommend may you perish there!

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart · Così fan tutte, K. 588

Guglielmo

Rivolgete a lui lo sguardo e vedrete come sta; tutto dice, io gelo, io ardo idol mio, pietà, pietà, io ardo, io gelo, io ardo idol mio, pietà, pietà! E voi cara un sol momento bel ciglio a me volgete e nel mio ritroverete quel che il labbro dir non sa.

Un Orlando innamorato non è niente in mio confronto; d'un Medoro il sen piagato verso lui, per nulla io conto; son di foco i miei sospiri son di bronzo i suoi desiri, se si parla poi di merto certo io sono ed egli è certo che gli uguali non si trovano da Vienna al Canadà. Look at him and you'll see how it is; it says everything: I freeze, I burn my idol, have pity, pity I burn, I freeze, I burn my idol, mercy, mercy!
And you, darling, for just a moment turn your lovely eyes on me and in my eyes, you will find what words cannot express.

An Orlando in love is nothing compared to me; a Medoro with plagued breast is nothing next to me; my sighs are fire his desires are bronze if we then talk about abilities, I am sure and he is sure you cannot find equals from Vienna to Canada.





Siam due Cresi per ricchezza, due Narcisi per bellezza; in amor i Marcantoni verso noi sarian buffoni siam più forti d'un ciclopo, letterati al par di Esopo.

Se balliamo un Pich ne cede sì gentil e snello è il piede, se cantiam col trillo solo facciam torto all'usignuolo, e qualch'altro capitale abbiam poi che alcun non sa.

Bella, bella, tengon sodo, se ne vanno ed io ne godo! Eroine di costanza, specchi son di fedeltà. The two of us are rich as Croesus gorgeous like Narcissus; the Marc Anthonys compared to us are buffoons we are stronger than a Cyclops, knowledgeable like Aesop.

If we dance, Le Picq bows to our refined narrow feet If we sing with a simple trill we outshine the nightingale and we have other abilities that nobody is aware of.

Beauty, beauty, hold firm, if they go, I enjoy it!
Our heroines of commitment are mirrors of faithfulness.







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Acknowledgements

PRODUCTION TEAM

Executive producer **Renaud Loranger** Recording producer **Milan Puklický** Recording engineer **Jan Lžičař**

Liner notes Pavel Sýkora

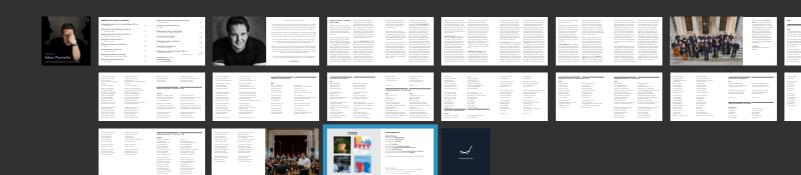
Liner notes translation **Lenka Zouhar Ludvíková** Lyrics translation **Francesca Mariani & Kasper van Kooten** Photography **Marek Olbrzymek**

Product management & Design **Francesca Mariani & Kasper van Kooten** Recording production coordinator & fundraiser **Jiří Ludvík**

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