

THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
FESTIVAL OPERA COMPANY

presents

The Rape of Lucretia

by

Benjamin Britten

R #1 - 3116	Act I
R #2 - 3117	-do-
R #3 - 3118	Act II
R #4 - 3119	-do-

Thursday, February 1, 1962

8 p.m.

Saturday, February 3, 1962

Meany Hall

The Rape of Lucretia

by

Benjamin Britten

Libretto by Ronald Duncan

Based on Andre Obey's play *Le Viol de Lucrece*

The Cast

Male Chorus Carl Zytowski, *tenor*
Female Chorus Kristin Madison, *soprano*
Collatinus, a Roman general Cary Smith, *bass*
Junius, a Roman general Chris Trembanis, *bass*
Tarquinius, son of the Etruscan tyrant,
 Tarquinius Superbus John DeMerchant, *baritone*
Lucretia, wife of Collatinus Lynn Dupin, *contralto*
Bianca, Lucretia's nurse Diane Wegner, *mezzo-soprano*
Lucia, Lucretia's maid O'Brien Young, *soprano*

The scene is Rome; the year is 500 B.C.

Act I, Scene I Army Camp outside of Rome

 Scene II Hall of Lucretia's Home

Intermission

Act II, Scene I Lucretia's Bedroom

 Scene II Hall of Lucretia's Home

The Story

The Rape of Lucretia is an opera fraught with political intrigue. The year is 500 B.C. Rome is ripe for the overthrow of the Etruscan tyrant, Tarquinius Superbus, who rules by terror. The Roman most likely to assume the mantle of authority when the revolt comes is Collatinus, an amiable, honest general, who is a favorite of the Roman populace not because of his leadership abilities but because he possesses a virtuous and beautiful wife.

The power-hungry Junius, another Roman general, jealous of Collatinus' position, determines to ruin him by striking at him through his wife, Lucretia. He carefully lays his plans and succeeds in raising a passionate desire for Lucretia in the lustful, degenerate Tarquinius Sextus, son of the Roman tyrant. Tarquinius invades the calm serenity of Lucretia's household during the absence of Collatinus, seduces Lucretia by force, then steals away in the night.

Collatinus returns to hear of the tragedy from the lips of Lucretia. She is unable to bear the shame of the act for herself or the sorrow for Collatinus, and she commits suicide, leaving Collatinus a completely broken man.

The Romans, incensed by the terrible act of the Etruscan prince are led in their revolt by the victorious Junius.

School of Music Staff

Conductor and Director	Stanley Chapple
Stage Director	Ralph Rosinbum
Repetiteurs	Loyd Simpson William Clarke

Festival Opera Production Staff

Art Director	John Ashby Conway
Technical Director	Warren C. Lounsbury
Costumer	James Crider
Set Construction	Phil Hendren Robert Braddy
Scene Painting	Ivonne Yu
Stage Manager	Rick Carter