

THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
FESTIVAL OPERA

and the

OFFICE OF LECTURES AND CONCERTS

present

THE ABDUCTION FROM THE SERAGLIO

Music by W. A. Mozart

Original text by C. F. BRETZNER

Adapted by G. STEPHANIE THE YOUNGER

English Version by JOHN W. BLOCH

To L.R.

R#1 - 4169

R#2 - 4170

R#3 - 4171

R#4 - 4172

R#5 - 4173

Wednesday, August 18, 1965 8:00 p.m.

Friday, August 20, 1965 Roosevelt High School Auditorium

THE ABDUCTION FROM THE SERAGLIO

CAST OF CHARACTERS:

Pasha Selim, Speaking Role Rodney Godshall
 Constanza, beloved of Belmonte, Soprano Patricia Schlosstein
 Blonda, maid of Constanza, Soprano Susan Gateley
 Belmonte, a Spanish nobleman, Tenor Rodney Eichenberger*
 Pedrillo, servant of Belmonte, Baritone Howard Nelson
 Osmin, overseer of the country palace
 of the Pasha, Bass Leon Lishner*
 Mute Lyman K. Bailey
 Janissaries and Attendants Dick Bailey
 Gary Warmink
 Dick Weston
 Robert Plucker
 Dick Percini
 Patricia Barta
 Sandra Cook
 Ruth Hoen
 Lulu Seeley
 Coralie Balch

PLACE: The country palace of the Pasha

TIME: Middle of the sixteenth century

*Faculty Members

Synopsis of Scenes

ACT I Morning
 INTERMISSION
 ACT II Afternoon
 INTERMISSION
 ACT III *Scene I* Midnight
 Scene II The next morning

SYNOPSIS

Constanza, the beloved of the Spanish nobleman, Belmonte, has been kidnapped, along with her servants, Blonda and Pedrillo, by pirates at sea, who brought them to Turkey and sold them into slavery. There, they were bought by Pasha Selim who is keeping them in his palace. The Pasha is trying to win the affection of Constanza, while Blonda is courted by Osmin, his overseer, and Pedrillo has gained the Pasha's favor by working as a gardener.

At this point, Belmonte arrives in search of his beloved. Upon approaching the grounds of the Palace, he meets Pedrillo, who tells him of their plight. Belmonte evolves a plan of escape, having arranged for a boat to leave at midnight, with them all aboard. With the help of Pedrillo, Belmonte gains the confidence of Selim and is hired in the guise of an Italian architect. The preparations for escape proceed, seemingly successfully, as Pedrillo manages to persuade Osmin, the chief obstacle, to drink some wine containing a sleeping potion. Yet, as the decisive moment, although dazed, Osmin becomes aware of the noise connected with their escape, and his cries summon the guards. All four are caught and brought before Selim. Belmonte pleads with the Pasha and offers a ransom for their freedom, explaining that he is the son of the Commandant of Oran. Selim is astounded at this, as this very Commandant has been the cause of his personal misfortune and he has now the opportunity to avenge himself.

While the fate of all four seems hopeless, Selim relents and decides to repay with generosity the injustice done to him. He allows them to set sail for Spain, to the dismay of Osmin and Selim's glorification by all present.

