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

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 ................. 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

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.

Synopsis of Scenes

ACT I Morning
INTERMISSION
ACT II Afternoon
INTERMISSION
ACT III Scene I Midnight
Scene II The next morning
FESTIVAL OPERA PRODUCTION STAFF

Conductor and Director .......................... Stanley Chapple
Stage Director ..................................... Ralph Rosinbum
Repetiteur ........................................... Fred Ockwell
Technical Director ................................. Joseph J. E. Poe
Costumer ............................................. James Crider
Assistant Costumer ................................. Sandee Strand
Construction ......................................... Bill Inglis
Painting .................................................. David Newell
Lighting .................................................. Bob Smith
Make-up ................................................. John Ruppeck, Eileen Ruppeck
Properties ............................................. Bill Greenwood, Mary Dundore
Production Assistants .............................. Gary Warmink
Stage Manager ........................................ Lawrence Thompson
Production Stage Manager ......................... John Treglown
Company Manager ................................... Joyce Beasley