



Mozart's

*The Marriage  
of Figaro*

**Surprises. Disguises. Compromises.**

NOVEMBER 5, 8, 11, & 13, 2022  
STUDENT MATINEE: NOVEMBER 10, 2022  
BENEDUM CENTER

PITTSBURGH **OPERA**  
2022-23 SEASON

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# The Marriage of Figaro

Music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
Libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte

## CAST (in order of appearance):

Figaro	Michael Sumuel <sup>+</sup>
Susanna	Natasha Te Rupe Wilson <sup>**</sup>
Dr. Bartolo	Ricardo Lugo <sup>+</sup>
Marcellina	Helene Schneiderman <sup>+</sup>
Cherubino	Jazmine Olwalia <sup>*</sup>
Count Almaviva	Jarrett Ott <sup>+</sup>
Don Basilio / Curzio	Daniel O'Hearn <sup>**+</sup>
Countess Almaviva	Nicole Cabell
Antonio	Evan Lazdowski <sup>**+</sup>
Barbarina	Julia Swan Laird <sup>*</sup>
Bridesmaids	Loghan Bazan
	Emily Tiberi <sup>+</sup>

## THE ARTISTIC TEAM:

Conductor	Antony Walker
Stage Director	Stephanie Havey <sup>**</sup>
Set Designer	Leslie Travers
Costume Designer	Leslie Travers
Lighting Designer	Andy Ostrowski
Wig & Make-up Designer	James Geier
Assistant Wig / Makeup Designer	Nicole Pagano
Assistant Conductor	Glenn Lewis
Chorus Master	Mark Trawka
Associate Coach / Pianist / Continuo	James Lesniak
Assistant Stage Director	Haley Stamats <sup>*</sup>
Stage Manager	Cindy Knight
Assistant Stage Manager	Hannah Nathan
Assistant Stage Manager	Monica Soderman <sup>+</sup>

Scenery for this production was constructed by Lyric Opera of Kansas City.

Costumes for this production were constructed by Kansas City Costume Company.

This production is jointly owned by Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Opera Philadelphia, San Diego Opera, and Palm Beach Opera.

<sup>+</sup> Pittsburgh Opera debut

<sup>\*</sup> Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist

<sup>\*\*</sup> Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist alumna

Cast subject to change without notice.

Pittsburgh Opera presents **The Marriage of Figaro**, first performed on May 1, 1786 in Vienna, Burgtheater.

These performances mark the 14th production of **The Marriage of Figaro** at Pittsburgh Opera, the most recent in 2017.

Opera in four acts.

Sung in Italian with English texts projected above the stage.

Supertitles created by Jeremy Sortore.

Estimated performance time: 3 hours and 9 minutes with one intermission.

Pittsburgh Opera offers an Audio Commentary service for patrons with visual impairments during Tuesday performances. To pick up an Assistive Listening Device, simply present an ID at the Guest Services Center. Braille and Large-Print programs are also available at each performance.

These performances are sponsored in part by the Gailliot Fund and a generous gift from Robert and Christine Pietrandrea.

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## SYNOPSIS

# THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO

### ACT I

While preparing for their wedding, Figaro learns from Susanna that their philandering employer, Count Almaviva, has designs on her. At this news, the servant vows to outwit his master. Before long the scheming Bartolo enters the servants' quarters with his housekeeper, Marcellina, who wants Figaro to marry her to cancel a debt he cannot pay. After Marcellina and Susanna trade insults, the amorous page Cherubino arrives, reveling in his infatuation with all women. He hides when the Count shows up, furious because he caught Cherubino flirting with Barbarina, the gardener's daughter. The Count pursues Susanna but conceals himself when the gossiping music master Don Basilio approaches. The Count steps forward, however, when Basilio suggests that Cherubino has a crush on the Countess. Almaviva is enraged further when he discovers Cherubino in the room. Figaro returns with fellow servants, who praise the Count's progressive reform in abolishing the *droit de seigneur*—the right of a noble to take a manservant's place on his wedding night. Almaviva assigns Cherubino to his regiment in Seville and leaves Figaro to cheer up the unhappy adolescent.

### ACT II

In her boudoir, the Countess laments her husband's waning love but plots to chasten him, encouraged by Figaro and Susanna. They will send Cherubino, disguised as Susanna, to a romantic assignation with the Count. Cherubino, smitten with the Countess, appears, and the two women begin to dress the page for his farcical rendezvous. While Susanna goes out to find a ribbon, the Count knocks at the door, furious to find it locked. Cherubino quickly hides in a closet, and the Countess admits her husband, who, when he hears a noise, is skeptical of her story that Susanna is inside the wardrobe. He takes his wife to fetch some tools with which to force the closet door. Meanwhile, Susanna, having observed everything from behind a screen, helps Cherubino out a window, then takes his place in the closet. Both Count and Countess are amazed to find her there. All seems well until the gardener, Antonio, storms in with crushed geraniums from a flower bed below the window. Figaro, who has run in to announce that the wedding is ready, pretends it was he who jumped from the window, faking a sprained ankle. Marcellina, Bartolo, and Basilio burst into the room waving a court summons for Figaro, which delights the Count, as this gives him an excuse to delay the wedding.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

## 20-MINUTE INTERMISSION

### ACT III

In an audience room where the wedding is to take place, Susanna leads the Count on with promises of a rendezvous in the garden. The Count, however, grows doubtful when he spies her conspiring with Figaro; the Count vows revenge. Marcellina is astonished but thrilled to discover that Figaro is in fact her long-lost natural son by Bartolo. Mother and son embrace, provoking Susanna's anger until she too learns the truth. Finding a quiet moment, the Countess recalls her past happiness, then joins Susanna in composing a letter that invites the Count to the garden that night. Later, during the marriage ceremony of Figaro and Susanna, the bride manages to slip the note, sealed with a hatpin, to the Count, who pricks his finger, dropping the pin, which Figaro retrieves.

### ACT IV

In the moonlit garden, Barbarina, after unsuccessfully trying to find the lost hatpin, tells Figaro and Marcellina about the coming assignation between the Count and Susanna. Basilio counsels that it is wise to play the fool. Figaro inveighs against women and leaves, missing Susanna and the Countess, ready for their masquerade. Alone, Susanna rhapsodizes on her love for Figaro, but he, overhearing, thinks she means the Count. Susanna hides in time to see Cherubino woo the Countess—now disguised in Susanna's dress—until Almaviva chases him away and sends his wife, who he thinks is Susanna, to an arbor, to which he follows. By now Figaro understands the joke and, joining the fun, makes exaggerated love to Susanna in her Countess disguise. The Count returns, seeing, or so he thinks, Figaro with his wife. Outraged, he calls everyone to witness his judgment, but now the real Countess appears and reveals the ruse. Grasping the truth at last, the Count begs her pardon. All are reunited, and so ends this "mad day" at the Almaviva court.

**Happy Birthday to Bob Pietrandrea,  
from all of us at Pittsburgh Opera!**

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Rachel Stegeman  
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Rochelle Agnew  
Luis Rojas

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*Assistant Principal*  
John McCarthy  
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*Principal*  
Karen Lee Sloneker

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John Dilanni  
*Principal*

## CONTINUO

James Lesniak

## LIBRARIAN

Eleanor Cameron

## PERSONNEL MANAGER

Sarah Schultz

*The Musicians of the Pittsburgh Opera Orchestra employed in this production are members of the American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada.*

*The Principal Artists, Chorists, and Production Staff employed in this production are members of the American Guild of Musical Artists.*

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# The Marriage of Figaro

## STUDENT MATINEE

Music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte

The Marriage of Figaro Student Matinee is performed by the Resident Artists and guest artists of Pittsburgh Opera on **November 10, 2022 at 10:15 AM.**

### CAST (in order of appearance):

Figaro	Evan Lazdowski**+
Susanna	Julia Swan Laird*
Dr. Bartolo	Ricardo Lugo+
Marcellina	Helene Schneiderman <sup>+</sup>
Cherubino	Jazmine Olwalia*
Count Almaviva	Brandon Bell*
Don Basilio / Don Curzio	Daniel O'Hearn**+
Countess Almaviva	Emily Richter*
Antonio	Brian Kontes
Barbarina	Meghan DeWald
Bridesmaids	Loghan Bazan Emily Tiberi

### THE ARTISTIC TEAM:

Conductor	Glenn Lewis
Stage Director	Haley Stamats*

+ Pittsburgh Opera debut

\* Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist

Cast subject to change without notice.

Pittsburgh Opera's Student Matinee is a complete performance of Mozart's masterpiece with full orchestra, top-quality singers, chorus, and production elements.

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Emmett Kent  
Photo: Archie Carpenter

# BENEDUM DIRECTORY

## LATECOMERS

To ensure the quality of our productions, latecomers will be taken to the best possible seat until intermission. Refunds or exchanges are NOT issued to latecomers.

## OBSTRUCTED VISION

Supertitles, the English texts projected above the stage, will be fully visible to most Benedum patrons. However, supertitles will not be visible to anyone seated in or behind row W on the Main Floor. By necessary placement of the screen, the architecture of the Benedum precludes visibility in these areas.

## CHECK ROOMS

Attended check rooms located on the Gallery and Promenade levels are open during the winter months.

## EMERGENCY INFORMATION

This theater is equipped with an Automated External Defibrillator.

## ELEVATOR

Located off the Grand Lobby, serving various levels of the Benedum.

## FIRE EXITS

Located at all levels and clearly marked. Use ONLY in case of emergency.

## LOST AND FOUND

Call Benedum Center Lost and Found at 412-456-2604 weekdays.

## REFRESHMENTS

Bars are located on the Gallery, Grand Lobby, and Promenade levels. Drinks may be purchased prior to performances and during intermissions. Beverages are permitted in Trust cups.

## BAG & SCREENING POLICY

A guest to a Pittsburgh Cultural Trust venue or event may enter with one bag that is no larger than 16" x 16" x 8". The definition of a bag includes, but is not limited to, purses, tote bags, duffel bags, suitcases, knapsacks, backpacks, packages, cartons, paper sacks, briefcases, portfolio cases, binocular cases, camera equipment cases, and any other type of device or vessel used for carrying or concealing items. Bags are subject to search and theatergoers may be requested to open their jackets prior to entering. Guests with prohibited items may return them to their vehicles. Unattended items left outside the facility doors will be discarded to ensure patron safety. Patrons will be required to pass through security devices. Refer to [TrustArts.org/Safety](http://TrustArts.org/Safety) for Safety & Security Procedures that may impact future visits.

## STAGE AREA

Limited to performers, staff, and authorized personnel.

## RESTROOMS

Lounges for ladies and gentlemen are located on the Gallery, Promenade, and Mezzanine levels. Restrooms for patrons with physical disabilities are located on the Grand Lobby level.

## TICKET SERVICES AND BOX OFFICE HOURS

Tickets to all performances may be purchased at the Box Office at the Benedum Center. Hours of operation are Monday-Saturday 10 AM - 6 PM, Sunday 12 PM - 4 PM. In conjunction, the Benedum Center and Byham Theater box offices will be open on performance days, two hours before curtain time, through intermission.

## INFORMATION AND TICKET CHARGE NUMBER

MasterCard, Visa, Discover, and American Express are accepted. Ticket Charge operates Monday-Saturday, 10 AM to 8 PM and Sunday, 12 PM to 8 PM. Additional phone services fees will apply. Call 412-456-6666 for tickets or Benedum Center show information. All sales are final.

## AUDIO COMMENTARY

Pittsburgh Opera offers an Audio Commentary service for patrons with visual impairments during Tuesday performances at the Benedum Center. Through Channel 2 on the Assistive Listening Devices, patrons can hear the supertitles read simultaneously with their appearances on the screen, as well as descriptions of the set, characters, and costumes. Pittsburgh Opera also offers Braille and large-print programs. Inquire at the Education table and Guest Services Center.

## NOTIFICATION TO PATRONS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

- Wheelchairs are available for transition from entrance to seat location.
- Wheelchair locations are available on the Main Floor only.
- Restroom facilities for patrons with physical disabilities are located near the Grand Lobby.
- Dog guides accommodated. Please inquire at the Box Office when buying tickets.
- Water cups are available in restrooms or at any bar location for the physically disabled.
- Elevator in Grand Lobby serves various levels of the Benedum Center.
- Door personnel and ushers are available for assistance.
- Notice should be given at time of purchase if a wheelchair or disabled patron location is required.
- Assistive Listening Devices, Braille, and large print programs are available in the Guest Services Center off the Grand Lobby.

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