

UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY

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First Concert

1957-1958

Complete Series 3216

Twelfth Annual
Extra Concert Series

THE NBC OPERA COMPANY

in

THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO

MOZART

SUNDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 6, 1957, AT 8:30

HILL AUDITORIUM, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

THE CAST

<i>Count Almaviva</i>	WALTER CASSEL
<i>Countess Almaviva</i>	MARGUERITE WILLAUER
<i>Susanna</i> , the Countess' maid	JUDITH RASKIN
<i>Figaro</i> , the Count's valet	MAC MORGAN
<i>Cherubino</i> , the Count's page	REGINA SARFATY
<i>Marcellina</i> , an aged dame	RUTH KOBART
<i>Basilio</i> , a music master	LUIGI VELUCCI
<i>Don Curzio</i> , a judge	FRED CUSHMAN
<i>Bartolo</i> , a doctor	EMILE RENAN
<i>Antonio</i> , a gardener—Susanna's uncle	EUGENE GREEN
<i>Barbarina</i> , his daughter	BERTE GOAPERE
<i>Crier</i>	RICHARD KRAUSE

Country men and women, court attendants, hunters, and servants.

(Cast subject to change)

Conductor and Stage Director: PETER HERMAN ADLER

Baldwin piano courtesy of Maddy Music Company, Ann Arbor.

A R S L O N G A V I T A B R E V I S

THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO

By WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

Libretto by DAPONTE

Based on a comedy by BEAUMARCHAIS

English version: EDWARD EAGER

Producer: SAMUEL CHOTZINOFF

Music and Artistic Director: PETER HERMAN ADLER

General Manager: CHANDLER COWLES

Costumes: ALVIN COLT

The action takes place in the castle and grounds of the Count and Countess Almaviva, near Seville.

ACT I

Count Almaviva, grown faithless to his Rosina after some years of marriage, has cast a roving eye upon her maid, Susanna, the bride-to-be of his valet, Figaro; while the Count's page, young Cherubino, has fallen in love, if you please, with the Countess herself. To confuse matters further, old Dr. Bartolo, who bears a grudge against Figaro, plots with the aged Marcellina to compel Figaro to marry *her*. The Count solves his dilemma, or so he thinks, by ordering Cherubino into the army and the first scene ends as Figaro laughingly sings to the page that henceforth he will have weary marching in place of tender love-making.

The resourceful Figaro suggests to the Countess a way to recapture her husband's affection—make him jealous by letting him discover a note arranging a rendezvous. Susanna shall go in her place and Cherubino, dressed as Susanna, to meet the Count. Now Cherubino enters to say farewell and the women, continuing with the plot, proceed to dress him in Susanna's garments. But here is the Count, angrily knocking at the door. Cherubino scurries into a closet . . . the Countess refuses to open the closet-door . . . the Count hurries to fetch a crow-bar . . . quickly Cherubino emerges and leaps out the window. When the Count returns, it is Susanna who steps out of the closet. The day is saved, but not for Figaro, for now Marcellina enters with her lawyer and demands that he shall keep an old promise to marry her.

ACT II

The plot thickens! Count Almaviva plans to force Susanna to accept his attentions by threatening to make Figaro wed the aged Marcellina; and Susanna, wishing to further the plans of her mistress, seems to surrender. Marcellina, her lawyer, the Count and Bartolo all come to tell Figaro he

must marry as he has promised, or pay damages. But lo! Figaro has a birth-mark upon his right arm and by it Marcellina knows him to be her long-lost son! Mother and son embrace and at last Susanna and Figaro can be wed. But first Susanna writes a letter to the Count, at the Countess' dictation, fixing the time and place of their rendezvous, and manages to slip it to him during the ceremony.

ACT III

Figaro believes that his bride, Susanna, is actually faithless and intends to yield to the Count that very evening so he conceals himself in the garden just as the Countess and Susanna enter, Susanna dressed as the Countess, and the Countess as her maid. Cherubino comes in, having an appointment with Barbarina and seeing the supposed Susanna attempts to kiss her. The Count arrives just in time to see this and stepping between them unexpectedly receives the kiss himself, and administers a sound box on the ear to Cherubino who flees. He then proceeds to make ardent love to "Susanna." Figaro has observed this from his hiding place and is wild with fury. Unexpectedly he meets the real Susanna, impersonating the Countess, and tries to awaken her jealousy by telling her of her "husband's" conduct. Susanna, however, reveals herself and the Count, seeing Figaro apparently embracing the Countess, promptly forgets the supposed Susanna and throws himself upon Figaro. Explanations follow, and the Count, perceiving himself outwitted, begs his wife's forgiveness. All ends in universal rejoicing.

THE NBC OPERA COMPANY

The NBC Opera Company, sponsored by RCA and NBC, is the boldest and most important development in the field of opera in many decades. In its eight-year history, the NBC TV Opera Theatre had been acclaimed by press and public alike. It was in response to demand from all over the country that Brigadier General David Sarnoff, Chairman of the Board of RCA, two years ago announced plans for an annual national tour. The interest aroused in the press, the world of music, and the general public quickly resulted in a sold-out tour.

From the NBC Television Opera Theatre, the Metropolitan Opera, and the concert and opera stages across the land a company of ninety-six has been recruited to form an ensemble of performers who can act as well as sing. The special qualities of this company, offering opera in English, were developed by NBC producer, Samuel Chotzinoff, and Peter Herman Adler, the music and artistic director, who first got together in 1949 to discuss the possibility of TV opera in English. Now, eight years later, more than forty highly successful productions have been given to millions of viewers, over a network that has grown from 15 to 100 stations.

Baldwin is the official piano of The NBC Opera Company

1957 — UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY CONCERTS — 1958

Seventy-ninth Annual Choral Union Series

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Thursday, October 17
CHARLES MUNCH, *Conductor*

PROGRAM

Symphony in G minor MOZART
Ballet, "Jeu de cartes" STRAVINSKY
Symphony No. 4 BRAHMS

YEHUDI MENUHIN, *Violinist* Tuesday, October 29

THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA Sunday, November 10
GEORGE SZELL, *Conductor*

WILLIAM WARFIELD, *Baritone* Tuesday, November 26

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Monday, February 17
PAUL PARAY, *Conductor*

OBERNKIRCHEN CHILDREN'S CHOIR Tuesday, February 25

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Sunday, March 2
FRITZ REINER, *Conductor*

MYRA HESS, *Pianist* Saturday, March 8

VIENNA ON PARADE Wednesday, April 2
CAPT. JULIUS HERRMANN, *Conductor*

Single Concerts: \$3.50—\$3.00—\$2.50—\$2.00—\$1.50

Twelfth Annual Extra Concert Series

FLORENCE FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA Thursday, October 24
CARLO ZECCHI, *Conductor*

RUDOLF SERKIN, *Pianist* Friday, November 15

VIENNA CHOIR BOYS (2:30 P.M.) Sunday, January 12

MANTOVANI AND HIS NEW MUSIC Tuesday, March 11

Single Concerts: \$3.50—\$3.00—\$2.50—\$2.00—\$1.50

Annual Christmas Concerts

MESSIAH (HANDEL) December 7 and 8, 1957

ADELE ADDISON, *Soprano*

PAUL MATTHEN, *Bass*

EUNICE ALBERTS, *Contralto*

CHORAL UNION and ORCHESTRA

HAROLD HAUGH, *Tenor*

LESTER MCCOY, *Conductor*

Tickets: 75c and 50c (either concert). On sale beginning October 15.

Eighteenth Annual Chamber Music Festival

BUDAPEST STRING QUARTET February 21, 22, 23, 1958

JOSEPH ROISMAN, *First Violin*

BORIS KROYT, *Viola*

ALEXANDER SCHNEIDER, *Second Violin*

MISCHA SCHNEIDER, *Violoncello*

Assisted by ROBERT COURTE, *Viola*

Season Tickets: \$3.50 and \$2.50.

For tickets or information, address: UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY,
Burton Memorial Tower.