

Premiere / First ever performance in Frankfurt

LA GAZZETTA

Dramma per musica in two acts by Gioachino Rossini
Libretto by Giuseppe Palomba based on Carlo Goldoni
Sung in Italian with German surtitles

Conductor: Simone Di Felice
Director: Caterina Panti Liberovici
Set Designer: Sergio Mariotti
Costume Designer: Raphaela Rose
Choreography: David Laera
Lighting Designer: Jan Hartmann
Dramaturge: Deborah Einspieler

Don Pomponio: Sebastian Geyer
Lisetta: Elizabeth Sutphen
Filippo: Mikołaj Trąbka
Alberto: Matthew Swensen
Doralice: Angela Vallone
Madama La Rose: Nina Tarandek
Monsù Traversen: Danylo Matvienko
Anselmo: Franz Mayer amongst others

Vokal Ensemble; Frankfurter Opern- und Museumsorchester

With generous support from the Frankfurt Patronatsverein – Sektion Oper

La gazetta (*The newspaper*) was written by **Gioachino Rossini** (1792-1868) for the Nepalese Teatro Fiorentini, which was badly needed of a box office hit. Hopes were high for the renowned composer from Pesaro, whose *Il barbiere di Siviglia* has just met with outstanding general acclaim in Rome. His *Gazzetta* was based on Carlo Goldoni's comedy *Il matrimonio per concorso* (1775) and, like Goldoni, librettist Giuseppe Palomba played with the Nepalese dialect, which the composer brilliantly set to music. The World Premiere on September 26th 1816 was a great success. Rossini, famous for re-cycling melodies from his other operas, used this overture again, for *Cenerentola*. *La gazetta* has never been heard in Frankfurt before.

The story seems endearingly old fashioned in times of online dating: nouveau riche Pomponio, unbeknownst to his daughter Lisetta, has placed a classified ad in a newspaper, hoping to find a well-off son-in-law. He has no idea that she has already fallen in love, beneath her station, with Filippo, landlord of an inn, where most of the action takes place. Also staying there are Anselmo and his daughter Doralice, the travellers Alberto and Monsù Traversen and, pulling strings in the background, Madama La Rose. When Alberto – assuming she must be the young lady in the advertisement – falls in love with Doralice, her father Anselmo is strongly opposed because he has already promised her hand to wealthy Monsù Traversen. Everyone pursues their own interests, which causes a lot of terrible confusion and misunderstandings. But the „right“ lovers meet up at a masked ball in the end and, helped by their disguises, manage to flee their strict, domineering fathers.

The conductor is **Simone Di Felice**, who started at Oper Frankfurt as a soloists' coach and was made a Kapellmeister in 2017, conducting works including Handel's *Rinaldo* and *Radamisto*, and he's no stranger to Rossini, having led *Il barbiere di Siviglia* and *La Cenerentola* at Theater Basel. **Caterina Panti Liberovici**, an assistant at Oper Frankfurt since 2009, made her directorial debut here in 2016, with Fioravanti's *Le cantatrici villane*. She has also directed Rossini's *L'occasione fa il ladro* (2010), Mozart's *La finta semplice* (2015) and Cimarosa's *L'impresario in angustie* (2018) at the Festival Cantiere Internazionale d'Arte in Montepulciano and Giovannino Guareschi and Arturo Coppola's *La favola di natale* at the Teatro Regio in Turin. All the singers are Members, or former Members, of Oper Frankfurt's Ensemble and Opera Studio: **Sebastian Geyer** (Don Pomponio), **Elizabeth Sutphen** (Lisetta), **Mikołaj Trąbka** (Filippo), **Matthew Swensen** (Alberto), **Angela Vallone** (Doralice), **Nina Tarandek** (Madama La Rose), **Danylo Matvienko** (Monsù Traversen) and **Franz Mayer** (Anselmo).

Premiere / First ever performance in Frankfurt: Sunday February 2nd 2020, at 19.30hrs in the Bockenheimer Depot

Further performances: February 4th, 6th, 8th, 10th, 12th, 14th, 16th 2020

Unless otherwise stated, all performances begin at 19.30hrs

Tickets cost: € 20 to € 80 (with a 12.5% pre-booking fee when not purchased direct from the theatre)

Tickets can be obtained from the usual outlets, by telephone +49 (0)69 – 212 49 49 4 or online www.oper-frankfurt.de.

We do hope you might be able to publish this event. For further information, ordering photographs and reserving press tickets please contact Holger Engelhardt (Leitung Pressereferat) on +49 (0)69 – 212 46 727. His fax number is +49 (0)69 – 212 37 164 or you can email him on holger.engelhardt@buehnen-frankfurt.de