Music and Society The Classical Period 3

Cathrine Blom

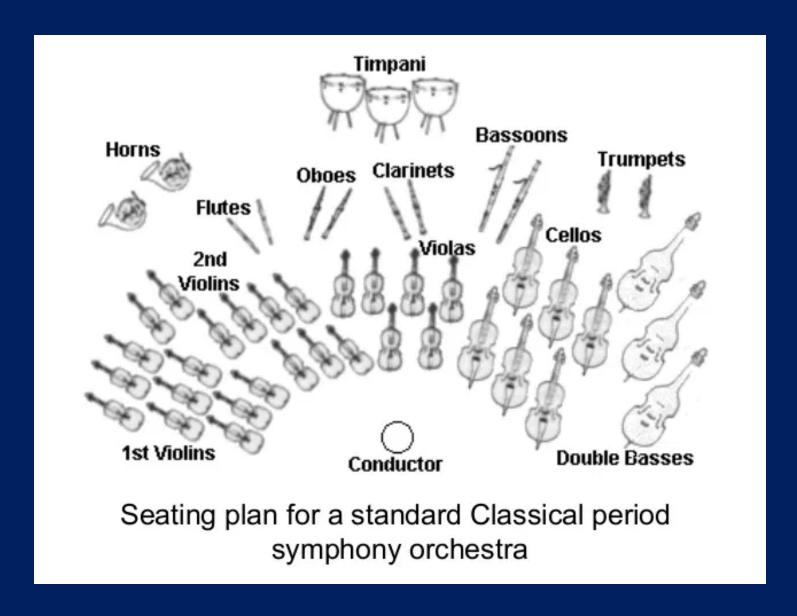
OLLI Spring 2021

Mozart and Haydn - similarities and differences



Mozart lived during the middle period of Haydn's life

The Classical Orchestra, 40-50 players



The Classical Concerto

Written for solo instrument, e.g., piano, violin, flute, clarinet, oboe, or trumpet and orchestra

- * featured virtuoso writing for soloist(s)
- * three movements: fast slow fast
- * music is melodic and pleasing
- * alternation between soloist and orchestra
- * the soloist and orchestra share the same material
- * cadenza = improvised-sounding part for soloist

Elvira Madigan, Swedish movie from 1967 Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 21, 2nd movement, as theme Built on real life characters:

Hedvig Antoinette Isabella Eleonore Jensen (b. 1867), called *Elvira Madigan*, a circus tightrope dancer



Bengt Edvard Sixten Sparre af Rossvig (b. 1854) Swedish nobleman and cavalry officer

Sixten was already married and bankrupt



In 1889, after about one year, he killed Hedvig and then committed suicide

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8ML2SFyOuw





O. Wiklund Westeras















Gjerritsgade. J. A. Braae Svendborg.





Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Born in Salzburg, Austria

Father, Leopold, was a court musician, violinist, composer, teacher



Mozart at 7

His sister Nannerl at about 13

Age of entertainment. Child prodigy traveled and performed all over Europe with his older sister Maria Anna (Nannerl). Displayed at courts and salons



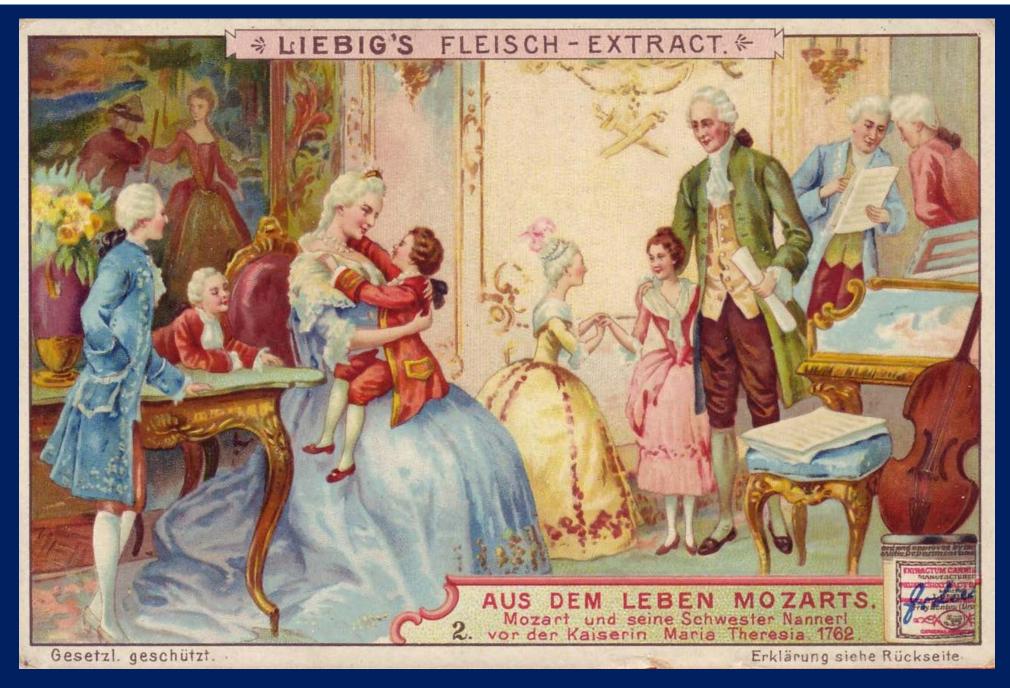
At 5: first published work

At 8: first symphony

At 12: first opera

Bastien and Bastienne

At 17: masters all musical genres. Writes down Allegri's *Miserere*, guarded property of the Vatican, from memory



Trading chard of Wolfgang and Nannerl playing for Empress Maria Theresia, mother of the later emperor Joseph II, in Vienna.





The Presentation of the Young Mozart to Mme De Pompadour at Versailles in 1763. The Mozart family also attends a dinner with Louis XV and Queen



In 1764, Mozart (8) and his family arrive in London

Four days later he plays for King George III and his 19 year old German wife Charlotte, who sings an aria



Also meets Johann Chr. Bach. Plays with him, studies his symphonies. When father falls ill and nearly dies, Mozart writes his first symphony

At 17: becomes Court musician for the Prince-Archbishop of Salzburg, a fierce autocrat, stingy, unpopular

Writes all kinds of music: symphonies, concertos, operas, sonatas, string quartets, masses, motets, divertimenti

At 21: Travels with his mother to Augsburg, Mannheim, Munich, and Paris to seek employment

His mother dies in Paris. Writes the beautiful Concerto for Flute and Harp https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xc6-KozGK3c

At 25: Meets the new Emperor Joseph II who gives him a part time position and him several commissions. The Archbishop of Salzburg fires him "with a kick in the arse"

Has a big fight with his father, who does not want him to quit working for the Archbishop. Settles in Vienna

Mother, music teacher on the wall. She dies in 1778



Family portrait of Nannerl, Wolfgang, and father Leopold in 1781.

In 1782 (at 26) finishes his singspiel *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* (The Abduction from the Seraglio). Has considerable success all over German-speaking Europe. Now an established composer



Mozart falls in love



with Aloysia Weber a famous singer



He writes arias for her, but she still does not want him

Luckily she has a younger sister, Constanze, who does

Constanze Weber "has two small black eyes and a good figure"



Happiest time of Mozart's life: He is free and in love, lives in Vienna, gives concerts, has pupils, commissions and a publisher

Marries Constanze in 1782 Six children, only two survive



Franz (Wolfgang) and Karl Thomas



Franz, composer, pianist, conductor, and teacher, Karl a pianist

1784: Mozart becomes a freemason

Contended that people of lowly class could be noble in spirit just as nobly born could be mean-spirited. Did lots of charitable work

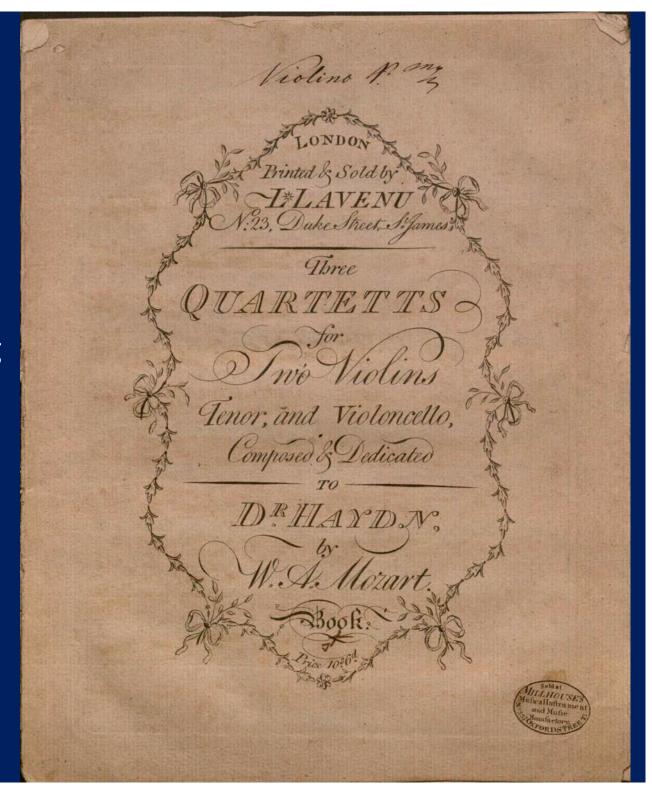


The Masonic lodge was name *Zur Wohltätigkeit* (*Benevolence*) Writes music for his lodge. Music is used "to spread good thoughts and unity among the members" and "unite them in innocence and joy"

In 1785 Mozart publishes six string quartets dedicated to Haydn

In 1782: Haydn and Mozart begin attending chamber music parties and play together

Haydn teaches Mozart how to write string quartets



Al mio care Umico Haydn

a Ridre, avendo risolto di mandare i sivi figli nel gran Mondo, stimo develli affidate alla protezione, e condotta d'un Homo molto celebre in allora, il quale per buoner sorte, era di più il suo migliore Unuco._ Eccoti dunque del pari, Hom celebre, ed Amice mio carifsimo esei miei figlj. Esi sono, è veri il futto di una lunga, è laborito orfatica, pur la speranza fattami da più Amici di vederla almeno in parte compensata, ne incoraggisce, e mi lusingui, che questi parti siano perefecmi un giorno de qualche consolazione. Tu stefso amico carifimo nell'ultimo tuo cho piorno in questa Capitale, me ne dimostrasti la tua soddisfare. Luesto tuo suffragio mi anima sopra tutto, perche do te li sucrommandi, e mi fa sperare, che non ti sembreranno del tutto indegni del tuo favore. ... Siacciati Dunque acarglierli benignamente; ed efer lora Sudre, Guida, ed amico Da questo momento, do li cedo i miei diritti sopra di esi ti supplier però di quardare con indulgenza i difetti, che l'ochio parziale di Sadre mi può aver celati, e di continuar loco malgrado, la generosa tua Amicizia a chi tanto Capprezza mentre sono di tutto Cuore.

Amico Guissimo Vienna il p^{emo} Settembre 1788. I to dinerfrime florica

W. A. Morar

To my dear friend Haydn

...During your last stay in this capital you yourself, my very dear friend, expressed to me your approval of these compositions. Your good opinion encourages me to offer them to you and leads me to hope that you will not consider them wholly unworthy of your favor. Please then receive them kindly and be to them a father, guide and friend! From this moment I surrender to you all my rights over them. I entreat you, however, to be indulgent to these faults which may have escaped a father's partial eye, and, in spite of them, to continue your generous friendship towards one who so highly appreciates it. Meanwhile, I remain with all my heart, dearest friend, your most sincere friend.

W.A. Mozart

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5BS_rG_XZ0Y

1786: Wrote the hilarious *Der Schauspieldirektor* (*The Impresario*) *https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7rcfKTZCak*



Monsieur Buff

Madame Herz (Hart) sung by Aloysia Weber,
Mademoiselle Silberklang (Silversound), and Herr Vogelsang (Birdsong)

www.Bandicam.com

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVIrs_DQzGk

I'm unsurpassed by any singer!

Mozart's operas (20)

*The Marriage of Figaro, 1786 opera buffa

*Don Giovanni, 1787 dramma giocoso

*Cosi fan tutte, 1790 opera buffa

La clemenza di Tito, 1791 opera seria

The Magic Flute, 1791 Singspiel

*Da Ponte libretti



Opera categories

- * opera seria: Italian serious opera, no spoken dialogue (La clemenza di Tito)
- * opera buffa: Italian comic opera, no spoken dialogue (Le nozze di Figaro)
- * dramma giocoso: playful drama, no spoken dialogue (Don Giovanni)
- * Singspiel: German light opera with spoken dialogue (The Magic Flute)
- * operetta: opera with light subject matter, spoken dialogue (The Merry Widow)
- * tragédie lyrique: French serous opera, no spoken dialogue 17th C. Includes ballet. (Lully's Armide)
- * opéra comique: humanistic opera with spoken dialogue.
 Includes ballet. (Carmen)
- * intermède: Italianate comic opera with ballet performed between the acts of a serious play or opera (The Village Soothsayer)

Mozart's late operas are influenced by Gluck's "reform opera"

- * arias have all forms
- * choruses and ensembles
- * arias, choruses, and recitative carry the plot
- * naturalistic and expressive
- * orchestra more independent and substantial than earlier

Music more important than words

Lorenzo da Ponte (1749-1838)

1770: Professor of Literature in Veneto

1773: Catholic Priest

Mistress and two children

1779: Charged with "public concubinage" and "abduction of a respectable woman"

1781: Introduced to Antonio Salieri Librettist at the Italian Theater, Vienna Met and collaborated with Mozart

1792: Moved to London, then fled to US



1805: Professor of Italian Literature at Columbia University

1825: Produced first full performance of *Don Giovanni* in the US

1833: Founded the first opera theater in the US, the Italian Opera House

Le Nozze di Figaro (The Marriage of Figaro) very smart and not so smart cunning Figaro Susanna married getting wants Susanna servant servant as his mistress Countess Almaviva Count Almaviva unhappy due to her husband's many affairs. She and Susanna Cherubino (17) make a plan to trap the Count in love with all women, incl. the Countess and Susanna Older generation: Basilio, music master, intrique maker once had an affair Marcellina Bartolo wants to marry Figaro SHOCK: they are Figaro's parents!

Susanna and Figaro, Marcellina and Bartolo get married. To trap the Count, the Countess dresses as Susanna; Susanna dresses as Countess; Figaro woos the "Countess;" Count gets furious with "Countess," will not forgive her; the Count woos "Susanna"; is exposed, asks for forgiveness. The Countess forgives him. HAPPY ENDING!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QZpZ00woAmA
The whole opera. STELLAR CAST! with subtitles



Sextet from The Marriage of Figaro

Two not-so-good years in Mozart's life

1787: His father becomes seriously ill and dies (May)

Has to move to cheaper apartment

Elected chamber composer, but with very little pay

Third son dies

Premiere of Don Giovanni in Prague. A huge success

Suffering from depression

1788: Has to move again

Daughter Theresia dies

His wife Constanze is seriously ill

He is in his worst financial crisis ever. Pleads with everyone for money

Premiere of Don Giovanni in Vienna. Not a success

Yet still: Within six weeks in summer of 1788, he composed:

Symphony No. 39

Symphony No. 40 in G minor

Symphony No. 41 (his last symphony)

Mozart never heard the symphonies performed, and never got paid for any of them

Symphony No. 40 reflects his desperate mood. All movements are in the minor key. No trumpets, no timpani

Mozart symphony No. 39 (1788)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=44LRfzR5sYY



Don Giovanni 1787

Don Juan is an antihero who seduces every woman in sight, defies God, and is dragged down to hell. No redeeming features.

Familiar story all over Europe from folktales and ballads to street performances and puppet theaters.

The first known written version is the Spanish The Trickster of Seville or The Guest of Stone

The story was set by everybody.

Mozart borrowed the finale from Gluck's ballet pantomime *Don Juan*Da Ponte borrowed from Molière's comedy *Dom Juan*.

Da Ponte had two life models for Don Juan, himself and Casanova

Giacomo Casanova (1725 – 1798)



Cleric, theatre violinist, army officer, gambler, diplomat and spy, go-between and 'fixer,' financier and lottery promoter, Freemason and occultist, prolific author and translator of the *Iliad*.

Often running from the police.
Spent his last dozen years in hiding at Count von Waldstein's château in Bohemia
Friend of Lorenzo da Ponte's
Attended the premiere of Don Giovanni and gave some advice regarding the libretto

Don Giovanni dramma giocoso (playful drama) a mixture of opera seria and opera buffa

Don Giovanni Leporello

the world's greatest womanizer his frustrated servant

Donna Anna engaged to Don Ottavio (opera seria characters)

Donna Elvira seduced by Don Giovanni (mix opera seria and buffa)

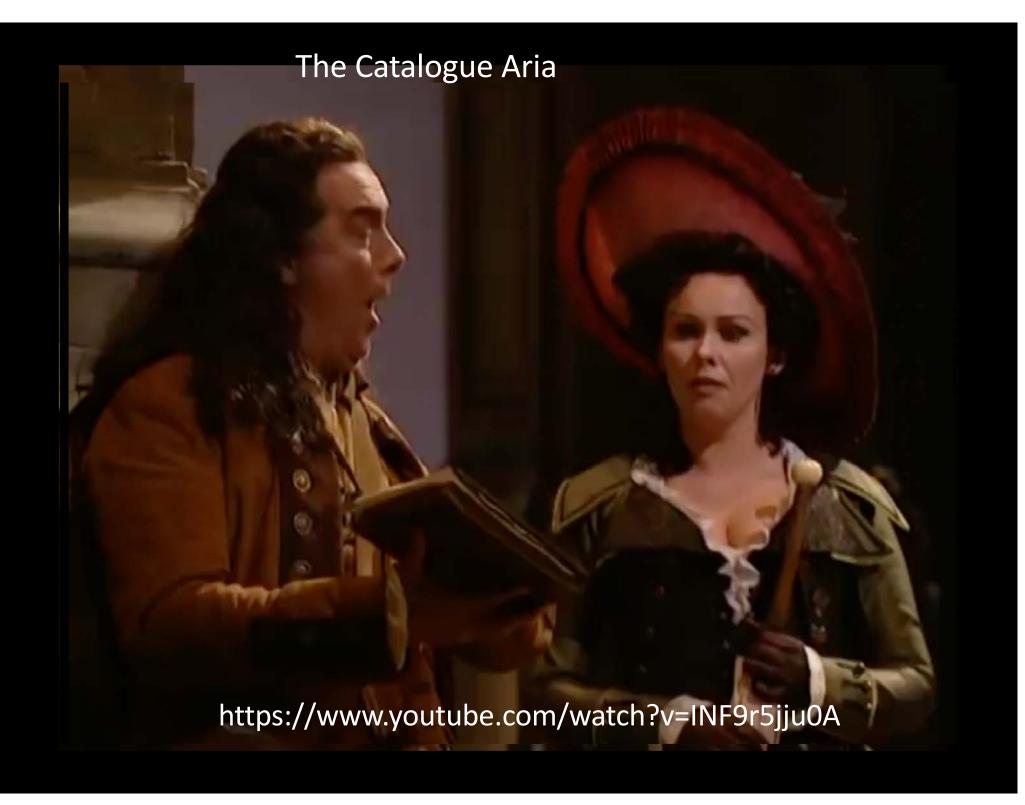
Zerlina to be married to Masetto (opera buffa characters)

Opening: Don Giovanni tries to seduce Donna Anna, then murders her father. Donna Elvira, abandoned, seeks revenge. Don Giovanni is tired of her and tries to seduce the peasant girl Zerlina before her wedding to Masetto, but Donna Elvira interferes. She still loves the Don, who forces Leporello to switch identity with him; Elvira is seduced again. Everybody wants to frame Don Giovanni, who hides in the churchyard where the statue of Il Commendatore, Donna Anna's father, speaks to him. The Don invites him for dinner. He accepts. Il Commendatore wants Don Giovanni to repent. He denies and is dragged to hell. HAPPY ENDING

La ci darem la mano from Don Giovanni



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iJnJjpMdT3Y





Don Giovanni Final scene Ramey, Moll



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHSPT6LRDx4

Cosi fan tutte (So do all [women])

Sisters



Companions (and lovers): Despina + Alfonso

Alfonso to the boys: I bet you can pretend to leave, come back in disguise, and, within 24 hours, seduce your own fiancée. NEVER!

Boys tell girls that they have to join the army. Girls are

The boys return disguised as "Albanians." They take "poison" to win the girls. The girls decide that a little cheating would not hurt - and fall in love with each other's fiancés.



SUMMARY: Within 24 hours, the boys have left for the army, returned as "Albanians," taken "poison"; Despina has acted as waitress, cook, counselor, doctor, and lawyer; the lovers have switched partners, fallen in love, and married their new partners; the boys have returned from the army, returned to their original partners, and gotten married again!

COSI FAN TUTTE!

The Magic Flute

Singspiel = a mixture of song and spoken words

Sung in the local language, here German

Prince Tamino is saved from a serpent by the Three Ladies of the Queen of the Night



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oWIK2goT2Ew

Most of the pictures from Bergman's movie *Trollflöjten* (The Magic Flute) 1975

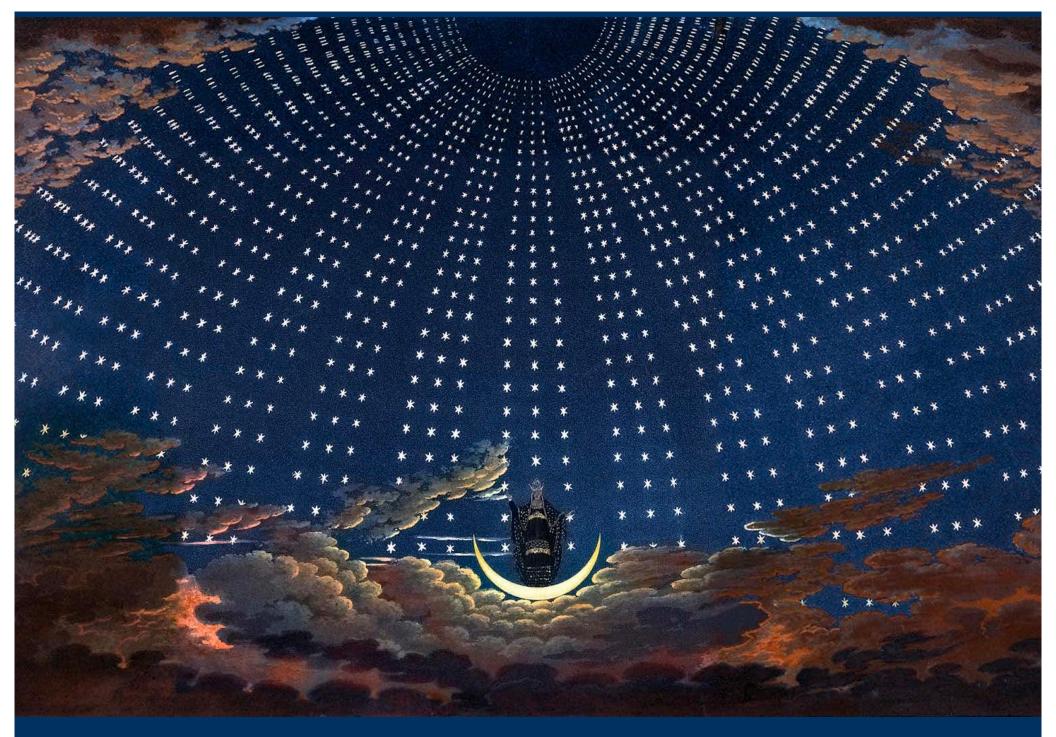
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ufQxByt7dNM







They ask Tamino to rescue the Queen's daughter Pamina from her evil father Sarastro. As a reward she will be his bride.



The Queen of the Night. Stage set for Mozart's The Magic Flute, 1815



They show Tamino a picture of Pamina. He falls in love with her at once.







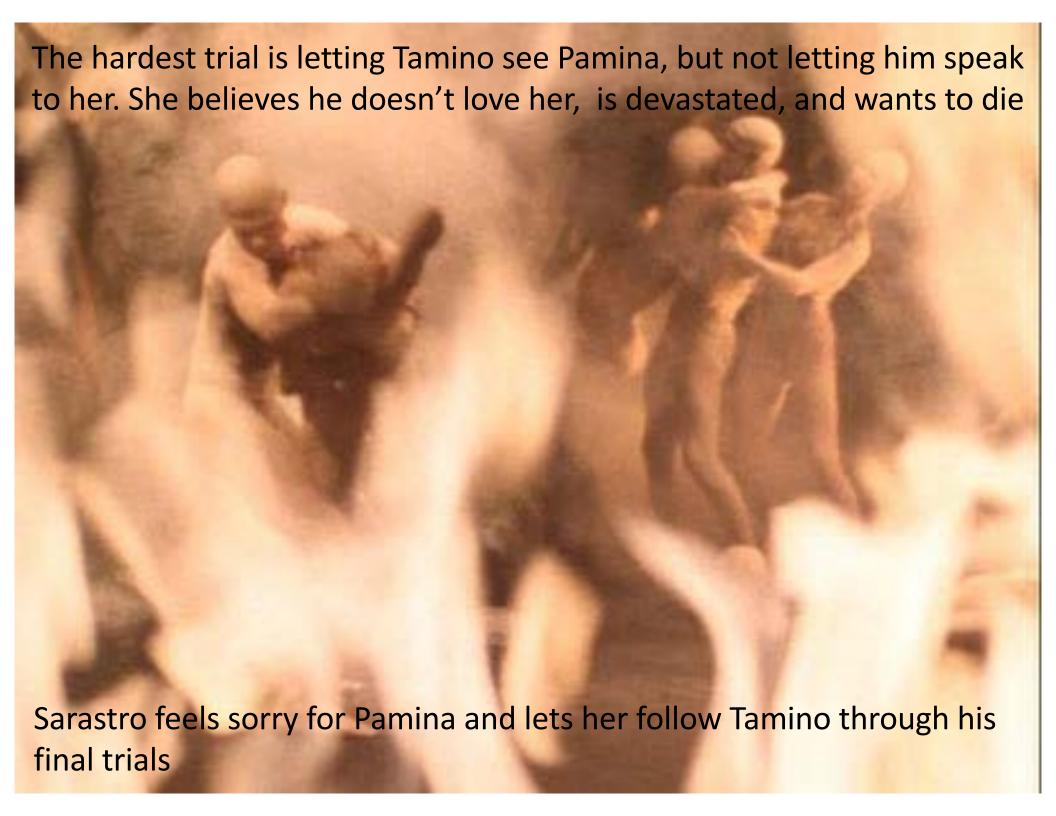
The Queen enters and tells Pamina that she has to kill her father.

Tamino has walked into Sarastro's temple and decides to join the temple order.



Before Tamino can become a member, he has to prove worthy by going through a series of initiation trials. He has to be speechless. Papageno comes along only by being promised a bride, Papagena.





The Queen of the Night rushes in to destroy the temple, but is defeated. Sarastro asks the gods to grant wisdom to Pamina Tamino and welcomes them to join his temple order. And Papageno get his Papagena. HAPPY ENDING!



The Magic Flute was an enormous success

For Mozart himself, not a happy ending

Falls violently ill with rheumatic fever on 20 November 1791

Had just gotten a commission for a Requiem. Had never written one before, and was looking forward to doing so

Only finishes the opening (*Introitus*). Makes sketches for most of the rest assisted by his student Franz Süssmayr. Becomes aware he is writing his own Requiem

On 4 December, gathers three soloists to sing through what he has written so far. During the *Lacrymosa*:

Full of tears will be that day

Therefore spare him, O God,

When from the ashes shall arise

Merciful Lord Jesus,

The guilty man to be judged;

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YaH3zI0bYkM

... Mozart breaks down in tears and they have to stop. He dies the next evening on 5 December, 35 years old