



Special thanks to the Department of  
Literatures, Cultures, and Languages, Marie  
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# *The Marriage of Figaro*

A Walking Tour

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Friday, the eighth of May  
Sunday, the tenth of May  
At six thirty in the evening

*Voy che sapete, che cosa è amor?*

## *The Wedding Party*

The Bride, Susanna

*Leena Yin*

The Groom, Figaro

*Kyle Eiken*

Matron of Honor, Rosina *Mia Farinelli*

Best Man, Alan

*Dashiell Provost*

### *Bridesmaids*

Cousin of the Groom, Barbarina

*Tessa Eckley*

Sister of the Bride, Giulia

*Hannah Pho*

### *Groomsmen*

Brother of the Groom, Charlie

*Tori Testa*

Brother of the Groom, Chris

*Shannon McClinton*

Photographer

*Preston Lim*

### *Musicians*

Keyboard

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*Jason Griffin*

Bassoon

*Sarah Perkins*

Clarinet

*Diego Hernandez*

Oboe

*Momo Hoshi*

Vows officiated by *John Ribeiro-Broomhead*

## *Le Nozze di Figaro*

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Music by

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Libretto by

Lorenzo da Ponte

Based on a play by

Pierre Beaumarchais



*Voi che sapete che cosa è amor...*

*Le Nozze di Figaro* premiered in Vienna in 1786, based on the scandalously revolutionary Beaumarchais play of the same name. Audiences loved Mozart's music and da Ponte's libretto, and the work has become one of the most frequently performed operas in the world. In our version, the story has been modernized: Figaro and Susanna are Stanford Alumni, coming back to campus to get married, approximately 5 years after graduating. Almaviva and his wife, Rosina, were their best friends in college. They got married soon after graduation, and Almaviva founded TechGlob, a hugely popular startup. Success has unfortunately gone to his head, and he's become snobbish and entitled. When we begin, he has just offered his old friend Figaro a great job at TechGlob, while secretly hoping he can leverage this offer to seduce Susanna. By setting the story in a more familiar time and place than 18<sup>th</sup> century Vienna, and by presenting it as a walking tour around campus, we've explored some of the universal resonances which continue to make *Le Nozze* so popular. There are people afraid they've lost their partner's love, friends going above and beyond to help those they care about, the heights of anticipation and the depths of bitter despair.

This project fits into the growing genre of pedestrian performance and site-specific work (as produced by such groups as Wrights & Sites, Janet Cardiff, Punchdrunk and Grid Iron). By inviting audience members to walk around in a theatrically significant space and making them a part of the production, pedestrian performances break down the barrier between audience and performer and provide an engaging, immersive experience. Performing Figaro this way (outside, as a campus tour, with a modernized plot) is hopefully also less intimidating to those who might not think they like opera. We also reinvigorate the space of campus by turning everyday locations and sights into a stage we can interact with and aesthetically appreciate (singing a particular song near the Burghers of Calais, for example, or using a hill on the engineering quad as a scaled stage that creates natural levels). The idea is to use campus as a natural theater set, perform our piece by interacting with that space, and move on to the next one.

**Director***Melissa Kagen***Music Director***Sarah Perkins***Assistant Music Director***Diego Hernandez***Stage Manager***Jenny Strakovsky***Poster and Postcard Design***Mia Farnelli***Publicity***Leena Yjin***Costumes and Props***Jenny Strakovsky**Melissa Kagen**Dashiell Provost***Spark! Grant Liaison***Emily Sidel*

## *The Wedding Ceremony*

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Prelude

Greeting

*White Plaza Memorial Fountain (Act 1)*

**Cinque...dieci**.....Figaro, Susanna  
*Susanna – that's me! What a day. You look so lovely.*

**Se a caso madama**.....Figaro, Susanna  
*So close to our friends. A little too close!*

**Non so più cosa son**.....Charlie  
*I can talk of love with anyone. Even if I'm alone!*

Guest Tour of Campus, by Figaro

*Engineering Quad (Act 2)*

**Voi che sapete**.....Chris  
*If you know what love is, tell me: do I feel it now?*

**Susanna, or via sortite**.....Alan, Rosina, Susanna  
*Susanna's phone – or your lover's? Listen to me!*

**Aprite presto aprite**.....Susanna, Chris  
*Hurry, Chris! Give me Rosina's phone! Oh, what a scandal!*

**Esci omai, garzon malnato**.....Alan, Rosina  
*With a groomsman! You adulterous pervert! Have you no shame?*

## Photos of the Bridal Party

*Memorial Courtyard (Act 3)*

**Vedrò mentre**.....Alan  
*Look at them, celebrating. He doesn't deserve her like I do.*

**Dove sono**.....Rosina  
*Is this all there is? Where is the love I once knew?*

**Sull'aria**.....Rosina, Susanna  
*Tell him: meet me by the trees at dusk. He'll understand.*

**Crudel! Perché finora**..... Alan, Susanna  
*Minx, will you really be there? I will keep my promise.*

Exchange of Vows

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*Main Quad. (Act 4)*

**L'ho perduta**.....Barbarina  
*I've lost it! The phone – have you seen it?*

**Aprite un po' quegl'occhi**.....Photographer  
*You're fools to trust them! Women are fickle through and through.*

**Deh, vieni**.....Susanna  
*The night has finally come. Let my lover find me here.*

**Pace, Pace**.....Figaro, Susanna, Alan  
*Peace, love. I recognized your voice; it was a joke.*

**Finale**..... Tutti  
*Forgive me! Rosina, forgive me.*

Cutting of the Wedding Cake

Reception