



Paul Houghtaling, Director

Proudly presents . . .

Die Zauberflöte

Music by W.A. Mozart Libretto by Emanuel Schikaneder

Production Team

Director and Producer / English Dialogue and Adaptation: Paul Houghtaling

Assistant Director / Stage Manager: Bonita Bunt

Conductor: Caleb Harris

The Orchestra: Yangmingting Fang, Zijie Ma, and Scott Santoro, pianists

Additional Music Preparation: Alexis Davis-Hazell, David Tayloe, Susan Williams

Scenic and Lighting Designer: Joey Lay

Assistant Production Design: Matt Cornelson

Scenic Painting: Teresa Smith and Katie Thielen

Costume Designer: Katarina Kristensen

Costume Assistants: Tyler Felton, Joseph Musgrave, and Marie Bonds

Video, Sound, and Livestream Engineer: Elijah Brown

Social Media Manager: Hannah Park

Photography: Michelle Carter and Mika Camp

Opera GTAs: Elijah Brown, Even Fleming, Zoe Rose Proeber, and Grace Hall Richardson

CAST (In Order of Appearance)

Tamino: Elijah Brown * and Caleb Ferguson +

First Lady: Hailey Beard

Second Lady: Hannah Park * and Keying Xu +

Third Lady: Laura Pritchard

Papageno: Matthew Tyree * and Evan Fleming +

The Queen of the Night: Grace Hall Richardson

Monostatos: Benjamin Wiggins * and Thomas Sagona +

Pamina: Zoe Rose Proeber * and Julia Schwendenmann +

The Speaker / First Priest: Maxwell Sahli

Sarastro: Noah Graham

The Second Priest: Tate Goldberg

Papagena: Danielle Noletto * and Mika Camp +

First Boy: Jessica

Second Boy: Hannah Park

Third Boy: Laura Pritchard

Ensembles of Priests and Assistants: The Company

* - Thursday, 2/25 + - Friday, 2/26

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

S C H O O L O F M U S I C

SYNOPSIS

Act I

Tamino, a young prince lost in an unknown land, enters, running for his life (Zu Hilfe! Zu Hilfe!). He is pursued by a cunning dragon. Fearing he is about to become its victim, he invokes the mercy of the gods, and faints. Three veiled maidens rescue him. Charmed by the young man, each Lady wants the other two to depart to inform their Queen of the youth's presence, thereby leaving the third alone with the handsome young man (So geht und sagt es ihr!). Finally, they all depart.

Tamino awakens and is surprised to find the dragon has vanished. The sound of panpipes is heard. The strange creature, Papageno, earns his keep by catching birds for the Queen of the Night (Der Vogelfänger bin ich ja) in exchange of wine, sweetbread and figs. Papageno pretends he vanquished the dragon. The three Ladies have overheard him and are not pleased by what they have heard. They appear, not with wine, sweetbread and figs in exchange for his birds, but with water, a stone, and a padlock for his mouth. They give him a portrait of Pamina, the Queen's daughter and promise that if he is not indifferent to the portrait, good fortune, honor, and fame will be his. Tamino falls in love with the portrait (Dies Bildnis ist bezaubernd schön). The Ladies tell him the story of the abduction of Pamina by the evil demon Sarastro and Tamino promises to rescue Pamina.

Darkness suddenly comes as the Queen of the Night arrives. If he is successful in Pamina's rescue (O zittre nicht, mein lieber Sohn!), says the Queen, then Pamina will be his, forever. And with this promise, she disappears.

The three Ladies tell Papageno that the Queen has pardoned him. But with the removal of his padlock he must promise never to lie again and help Tamino in rescuing Pamina. The First Lady presents Tamino with another gift from the Queen: a Magic Flute which will protect and sustain them in the greatest of misfortunes (Hm Hm Hm). They advise the young men that three spirits in the form of three young boys will guide them along their journey.

Inside Sarastro's palace, we find that Monostatos, an underling of Sarastro's, has failed in his attempt to seduce Pamina and asks for help from his assistants. Pamina has fainted. Papageno enters and the two run from each other, convinced that each is the Devil. Having the picture in his possession, Papageno instantly recognizes Pamina and tells her that a prince will come to rescue her. But the conversation brings sorrow to Papageno: he has no one to love. The two ponder the idea of love (Bei Männern, welche Liebe fühlen).

The three Boys have advised Tamino to be steadfast, tolerant, and discreet. Suddenly a strong voice tells him to "Stay back!" He proceeds to the Temple of Nature, but another voice tells him to again "Stay back!". The Speaker arrives and tells Tamino that Sarastro is not the monster depicted by the Queen of the Night, but refuses to explain why he keeps Pamina. The Speaker promises Tamino that all will be revealed as soon as he is led by the hand of friendship into the sanctuary to the eternal bond.

Tamino begins to play his Flute. He hopes that Pamina might hear the sweet song of his magic instrument. Suddenly, Papageno's panpipes are heard in the distance. Wondering if Papageno found her, he rushes off to meet up with them.

Papageno and Pamina rush onto the scene in search of Tamino, praying to be protected from their enemy's fury (*Schnelle Füße, rascher Mut*). They are stopped by Monostatos. Papageno lets the little bells sing out and Monostatos and his assistant henchmen are entranced (*Das klinget so herrlich*) and they all dance away. Unexpectedly, when Pamina kneels before him and apologizes for her escape, Sarastro has supportive words. He can't liberate her, but doesn't explain the reasons. He lets her be with Tamino, and, after having punished Monostatos, orders that they be led away, tested and purified in the temple.

Act II

Sarastro announces that Tamino and Pamina will have to withstand trials to avoid The Queen's pitfalls. All ask Isis and Osiris to guide the steps of the two wanderers (*O Isis und Osiris*). The Priests want to verify Papageno and Tamino's motivations. The coward Papageno is finally motivated by the pledge of a wife. The Speaker tells Tamino, that he, too, must remain silent. With these instructions, the Priests leave, taking the light with them (*Bewahret euch vor Weibertücken*). Suddenly, the three Ladies appear. When Papageno continues to chatter, Tamino silences him, calling his inability to stop talking a disgrace. The Priests return and one congratulates Tamino on his steadfastness and manly conduct. Papageno, lying in a faint, is prodded by the Speaker.

Pamina is sleeping in a garden. Monostatos appears and wants to try to seduce her again. Suddenly the Queen arrives with a clap of thunder! "Back!" she cries. Monostatos hides himself, determined to listen to the conversation between mother and daughter. The Queen pulls out a knife and asks her daughter to kill Sarastro (*Die Hölle Rache kocht in meinem Herzen*). She disappears.

Monostatos creeps back and attempts to blackmail Pamina. Sarastro steps in and orders him to go. Monostatos leaves but vows to seek out the Queen. Sarastro announces to Pamina that he will offer revenge through the arms of his kingdom, love and wisdom (*In diesen heil'gen Hallen*).

The Priests again remind Papageno and Tamino of their oath of silence, but Papageno begins to speak with an ugly woman who pretends to be his 18 year old girlfriend. A clap of thunder is heard and she disappears just before she says her name.

The Speaker brings food and drink in order to quiet Papageno. Tamino plays upon his Flute and Pamina arrives. They can't speak to her, however, because of their oath of silence. Calling Tamino her one and only love, she tells him of her despair (Ach ich fühl's). She dejectedly leaves.

UA Opera Theatre Intermission Feature ... Enjoy!

Sarastro praises Tamino for his manly conduct. Pamina is led in to say goodbye to Tamino. This is the last trial, but Pamina refuses to hear about it (Soll ich dich, Theurer, nicht mehr seh'n?).

Papageno is punished and surrounded by the dark chasms of the earth. But his only wish, he tells the Speaker, is a good glass of wine. The Speaker grants him this wish momentarily. He dreams, once again, of a sweet little wife (Ein Mädchen oder Weibchen). The old crone reappears. If he doesn't marry her, he will die in awful circumstances. The instant he swears his fidelity, the crone changes into Papagena. The Speaker whisks her away, telling Papageno that he is not yet worthy of her.

The three Boys appear again in a garden, but in a vision to Pamina. They announce the first rays of the morning sun (finale: Bald prangt, den Morgen zu verkünden). Then the Boys catch sight of Pamina, who is preparing to commit suicide. Pamina now hears the Boys telling her Tamino loves her.

Two armored men have warned Tamino of the difficulties awaiting him, for the fire, water, air and earth trials. Pamina calls out for him to wait. Tamino now realizes that she can go with him and will lead him. They emerge successfully from the trials of fire and water, having been guided and protected by the Magic Flute.

Papageno is all alone. He calls in vain for his Papagena. Just in the nick of time, the three Boys appear, halting Papageno's suicide. The Boys remind him of the Magic Bells - if he will let them ring out, they will bring a wife to him. Papagena appears (Pa-pa-pa-pa).

Monostatos is urging the Queen and her three Ladies in the temple. Suddenly, bright sunlight streams into the night. They plunge into the bowels of the earth. Sarastro and the priests praise and thank Osiris and Isis. "The strong have won and as a reward, are crowned with everlasting crowns of beauty and wisdom."