

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART was born on January 27, 1756, in Salzburg, to Leopold and Anna Maria Mozart. The last of seven children, only he and his sister Marianne ("Nannerl") were to survive past infancy. Young Mozart started playing the piano at the age of three. He began to study music at four and by six was an accomplished performer on the harpsichord, organ and violin. He and his sister went on a series of tours with their father. From the age of six, Mozart performed across Europe.

Mozart wrote his first opera, *Matridate, King of Pontus* in 1770, when he was only thirteen. In the last six years of his life Mozart created some of his greatest and most renowned operas including *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Don Giovanni* and *The Magic Flute*.

Mozart died on December 5, 1791 at the age of thirty-five, amid unsubstantiated rumours of poisoning. He was given a third-class funeral at St. Stephen's Cathedral, attended only by a few friends. Only a gravedigger was witness to his burial.

Mozart produced 626 catalogued works, including nearly 50 symphonies, 20 operas, and 23 piano concertos. Of these only a handful were published in his lifetime.

ANTONIO SALIERI was born to a wealthy merchant family in Legnago, Italy on August 8th, 1750. His father lost his fortune through speculation and a crooked partner, and died in 1765. Salieri thereafter left his hometown for Venice, where a nobleman supported him. In 1766, Florian Gassman, the director of Italian Opera in Vienna, got to know Salieri, discovered his talent and took him to Vienna. There he soon came to be known by major members of the court of Joseph II.

After the death of Giuseppe Bonno on April 15, 1788, Salieri was appointed First Court Conductor and at the same time became president of the Society of Composers and Musicians. Thus, he ruled the world of music in Vienna. In 1817, Salieri founded the Vienna Conservatoire with Gluck and Hayden. He produced a voluminous amount of music including operas, oratorios, cantatas, and masses.

Following the Emperor's death, Salieri was freed from his work at the court theatre but kept very busy as a composer of social and religious music, as a conductor and a teacher. In 1821, his health began to decline and he asked to be pensioned off and relieved of his duties at court; temporarily he seemed to have lost his mind. In 1824, he was retired at full salary, and died on May 7th, 1825.

THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT, sometimes called the

AGE OF REASON, covered about a century and a half in Europe. It was considered to have begun with the close of the Thirty Years' War (1648) and ended with the French Revolution (1789).

The Enlightenment advocated reason as a means to establishing an authoritative system that would allow human beings to obtain objective truth about the whole of reality. Enlightenment thinkers argued that reason could free humankind from superstition and religious authoritarianism that had brought suffering and death to millions in religious wars.

The wide availability of knowledge was made possible through the production of encyclopedias, serving the Enlightenment cause of educating the human race. The intellectual leaders of the Enlightenment regarded themselves as a courageous elite who would lead the world into progress from a long period of doubtful tradition and ecclesiastical tyranny.

FREEMASONRY believes their roots to be derived from ancient associations of actual stonemasons who built such wonders as the cathedrals, abbeys and castles of the Middle Ages. Masons are taught to follow the Freemason way of life which includes honoring one's country, maintaining a honorable lifestyle and also sharing in Masonic activities including rituals, events, studies and charity work. Mozart's position within the Masonic movement lay with the rationalist, Enlightenment-inspired membership, as opposed to those members oriented toward mysticism and the occult. This rationalist faction is identified by the Illuminati. They espoused the Enlightenment-inspired, humanist views proposed by the French philosophers Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Denis Diderot. The Illuminati contended that social rank was not coincident with nobility of the spirit, but that people of lowly class could be noble in spirit just as nobly born could be mean-spirited.

Since the organization's inception, much of what is associated with Freemasonry has been shrouded in mystery. Members are admitted to meetings with a grip or secret handshake. The Masons have been associated with political scandals, even suggesting they, even suggesting they have behind the scenes control of major governments. Proof for this exists in what theorists see as hidden symbols in seals, landmarks, works of art and even the American dollar bill.

Freemasonry still exists in various forms all over the world, with a membership estimated at around six million.

TECHNICAL CREW

Stage Manager.....	Jessica McRandall
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Sydney Collet
Audio Crew.....	Eric Wellman
Carpentry Crew.....	Ian Barber, Nicholas Cholack, Joshua Chudziak, Matthew Cochrane, Cedric Daros, Jonathan Grosz, Nicholas Matthews, Erika Rombough, Eric Ruberto
Head Electrician.....	Andrew Dearden
Lighting Crew.....	Russell Benoit, David Corbacio, Lawrence Glover, Carrie McMunn
Properties Crew.....	Breanna Baker, Leona Czaplinska, Monika Dembowy, Caroline Hunt, Jasmyne Leisemer, Adrianna Marchi, Matthew Pannell, Chelsea Reinders, Ellen Roach
Scenic Paint Crew.....	Cristin Barr, Alice Ferreyra, Alana Freistadt, Andrea Harrington, Jacob Gow, Nancy Kapodistrias, Sashin Naidu, Jenna Purnell, Katrina Sorg, Stephanie Tucker
Wardrobe Crew.....	Alice Barnett, Esther Brown, Hannah Gordon, Shakira Kissoon, Matthew Leckie, Katie Miller, Jessica Richard, Bernadette Gall Sperandeo
Production Assistants.....	Andrew McGowan, Jayda Woods
Technical Assistants.....	Michael Coulter, John Page

RUNNING CREW

Crew Chief.....	Eric Ruberto
Lighting Board Operator.....	John Page
Audio Playback.....	Eric Wellman
Stage Hand.....	Jacob Gow
Dressers.....	Alice Barnett, Bernadette Gall Sperandeo
Voice Coach.....	Robert Gontier
Dialect Coach.....	Scott Denton
Movement Coach.....	Marc Richard

THE
Great-West Life
ASSURANCE COMPANY

London Life

Shine Brighter
Sheridan

STRONGER COMMUNITIES TOGETHER™

THEATRE SHERIDAN PRESENTS

AMADEUS

BY PETER SHAFFER



APRIL 14 – 23, 2011

Director **Diana Reis**

Musical Director
Alex Fiddes

Set Designer
Denise Lisson

Costume Designer
David Juby

Lighting Designer
Won Kyoon Han

Shine Brighter
Sheridan

Act I is approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes.
Act II is approximately 1 hour and 20 minutes.

There will be a 15 minute intermission.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Since its debut at Britain's National Theatre in 1979, *AMADEUS* has been one of the most produced plays in the world. F. Murray Abraham won the 1985 Best Actor Oscar for his performance as Antonio Salieri in the film adaptation, which was directed by Milos Forman with screenplay by Peter Shaffer.

AMADEUS is the fictional account of the relationship between two celebrated musicians of the 17th century – many believe the best composer that ever lived, Mozart Amadeus Mozart and court composer to Austrian Emperor Joseph II, Antonio Salieri. With *AMADEUS*, Peter Shaffer has developed a deep and meaningful clash between the two men and elevated it to the level of a dramatic counterpoint between genius and mediocrity. The play is based on factual declarations that were reported in respectable documents and periodicals of the day including Beethoven's *Conversation Book*. These comments are quoted verbatim in the final scene.

Shaffer's complex tragic-comedy allows us to explore several important humanist themes. Primary among them is the importance of man's

relationship to his father. The two characters at the center of our story are locked in a primal conflict with their fathers. For Mozart, the conflict is with his real father – Leopold Mozart. For Salieri, it is his relationship – and bitter disappointment in that relationship – with God that is the cause of both his anger and his descent into bitter senility.

I want to thank my entire cast for their positive spirits and never ending desire to rise to the challenge and be excited by their potential, the Music Theatre Performance / Production faculty for their active support and the wonderful production team for their hard work and dedication to our common goal. I would like to acknowledge the real and active participation of my assistant directors Sean Cage and Sean Blakeley. Finally, I want to acknowledge the talents of my assistant stage manager Sydney Collet and especially Jessica McRandall, our stage manager who navigated this "opera of a play" with supreme grace and a steady hand.

~ Diana Reis

CHARACTERS

ANTONIO SALIERIConstant Bernard

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZARTIain Stewart

CONSTANZE WEBER, WIFE TO MOZARTAly Workman

JOSEPH II, EMPEROR OF AUSTRIADavid Hohl

COUNT VON STRACK,
Groom of the Imperial ChamberSean Blakeley

COUNT FRANZ ORSINI-ROSENBERG,
Director of the Imperial OperaMatthew Villemaire

BARON VAN SWIETEN ,
Prefect of the Imperial OperaAl Bratz

'VENTICELLE', 'LITTLE WINDS':
Purveyors of information, gossip and rumour: Jocelyn Regina,
Laurel Denning, Emma Smit, Lena Wiklund

MAJOR DOMO / DARK MESSENGERMichael Sousa

SALIERI'S VALET Erik Kopacsi

SALIERI'S COOKAlycia Novak

TERESA SALIERI, wife of SalieriAndreane Bouladier

KATHERINA CAVALIERI, Salieri's PupilChristine Vandenberg

GIUSEPPE BONNOSean Cage

KARL, a GallantNick Nesbitt

FRIEDRICH, a GallantNathan Leung

THE CITIZENS OF VIENNA AND SERVANTS:
Trevor Curran, Michelle Bouey, Nadya Corscadden, Kyle
Haycock, Nichola Lawrence, Melissa Peters, Tringa Rexhepi,
Brittany Robinson

CAST



CONSTANT
BERNARD



SEAN
BLAKELEY



MICHELLE
BOUEY



ANDREANE
BOULADIER



AL
BRAATZ



SEAN
CAGE



NADYA
CORSCADDEN



TREVOR
CURRAN



LAUREL
DENNING



KYLE
HAYCOCK



DAVID
HOHL



ERIK
KOPACSI



ALYCIA
NOVAK



NICHOLA
LAWRENCE



NATHAN
LEUNG



NICK
NESBITT



MELISSA
PETERS



JOCELYN
REGINA



TRINGA
REXHEPI



BRITTANY
ROBINSON



EMMA
SMIT



MICHAEL
SOUSA



IAN
STEWART



CHRISTINE
VANDENBERK



MATTHEW
VILLEMAIRE



LENA
WIKLUND



ALY
WORKMAN

The services of Diana Reis by special permission of Canadian Actors' Equity Association.
AMADEUS is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

Still photos, videotaping or other video recording of this production is strictly prohibited. The action of the play takes place in Vienna in November 1823, and, in recall, the decade 1781-1791