



Wesfarmers Arts

SYNOPSIS & CASTLIST

West Australian Opera presents

THE BARBER OF SEVILLE

A co-production between Seattle Opera, New Zealand Opera and Opera Queensland, first premiered on 9 July 2016 in Brisbane, Australia.

His Majesty's Theatre
17, 20, 22, 24 April 2021

Composer **Gioachino Rossini**

Librettist **Cesare Sterbini**

Conductor **Burhan Güner**

Original Director **Lindy Hume**

Revival Director **Jason Barry-Smith**

Rehearsal Choreographer **Margrete Helgeby Chaney**

Set & Costume Designer **Tracy Grant Lord**

Lighting Designer **Matthew Marshall**

Rosina **Brigitte Heuser**

Count Almaviva **Michael Petruccelli**

Figaro **James Clayton**

Doctor Bartolo **Warwick Fyfe**

Don Basilio **Robert Hofmann**

Berta **Naomi Johns**

Featuring **West Australian Opera Chorus**

Featuring **West Australian Symphony Orchestra**

ACT ONE

In a square in Seville, Count Almaviva, disguised as the student Lindoro, serenades Rosina, the young girl who has captured his heart. Figaro, a self-made man who used to be employed by Almaviva, explains that Rosina is confined to the house of her guardian Doctor Bartolo, who wants to marry Rosina himself. Figaro devises a plan to help Almaviva meet Rosina by pretending to be a drunken soldier with orders to be quartered at Bartolo's house.

Rosina is smitten with 'Lindoro's' song. She writes him a letter and plans to escape. Meanwhile Don Basilio, Rosina's music tutor, warns Doctor Bartolo that Count Almaviva is interested in Rosina. Bartolo resolves to marry Rosina the next day. Figaro overhears this, warns Rosina, and promises to help the young lovers.

A knock at the door heralds the arrival of 'the drunken soldier' – Count Almaviva in disguise. He secretly passes Rosina his own note. Bartolo claims an official exemption from billeting soldiers, and a fight breaks out between them. The civil guard bursts in to arrest Almaviva, who quietly reveals his true identity to the Officer and is released. Everyone is taken aback by this turn of events – except Figaro.

Executive Director Carolyn Chard AM
Artistic Director Chris van Tuinen

ACT TWO

Count Almaviva returns to Bartolo's house, this time disguised as Don Alonso, a music teacher. He claims that Don Basilio is ill and he is here to give Rosina a music lesson in Basilio's stead. Bartolo is suspicious, and Almaviva improvises an alibi. He convinces Bartolo that Don Alonso is his ally, and Rosina's 'music lesson' proceeds until Basilio shows up looking perfectly healthy. After 'Alonso' bribes Basilio to agree that he is sick and leave, Figaro gives Bartolo his scheduled shave, surreptitiously pocketing a key to Rosina's quarters, allowing the lovers some time to plot their elopement that night. Bartolo overhears them and realises he has been tricked. During the commotion, Bartolo's servant Berta laments that they are all crazy except her. Bartolo orders Basilio to bring a notary to marry him and Rosina that night. Bartolo shows Rosina her letter which convinces her that she has been deceived. Heartbroken, she agrees to marry Bartolo.

During a thunderstorm, Figaro and Count Almaviva let themselves in with the key that Figaro procured earlier. Rosina confronts 'Lindoro', who finally confesses his true identity and love for her. Rosina forgives him and together with Figaro they try to escape. Basilio turns up with the Notary. Basilio accepts a bribe for the Notary to marry Rosina to Almaviva instead of Bartolo. Bartolo arrives with soldiers, but he is too late. He accepts his defeat, and Figaro and the happy couple rejoice.

*Duration 2hrs and 40 minutes with one 20-minute interval
Sung in Italian with English Surtitles
Casting correct at time of publication but may be subject to amendment.*

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



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