

THE MARRIAGE

ŽENITBA
19 ♥ 53
comic chamber opera

BOHUSLAV MARTINŮ

by original creation
PAMELA HOWARD

OCT 4:5:7 2009

MOZART SÁL Rejta
NÁRODNÍ DIVADLO BRNO





THE MARRIAGE PROMO PACK

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1 | ABOUT THE PIECE

The Marriage / Ženitba

(Bohuslav Martinů, 1953)

Libretto by Bohuslav Martinů
based on the play by Nikolai Gogol.

Comic Chamber Opera approximately
1 Hour 10 minutes no interval.

The action is updated from St. Petersburg 1850
to New York 1953 and depicts a group
of Russian émigrés living in America as if they were
in the old country.

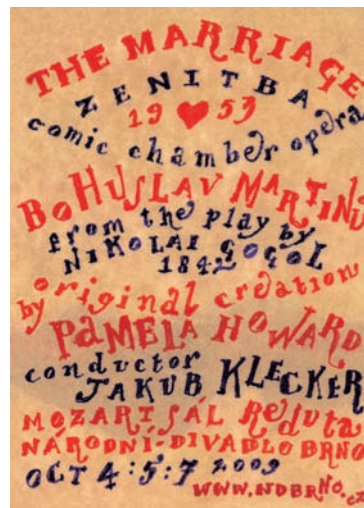
World premiere sung in English as Martinů
wrote it. October 4th, 2009
Brno, Reduta Theatre, Czech Republic

Co-production
of the Brno International Music Festival
and National Theatre Brno.

Contact: National Theatre Brno
Rocc – Deputy Opera Director
Rocc@ndbrno.cz www.ndbrno.cz

Brno International Music Festival
Zdenka Kachlová – Director
ARS/KONCERT spol. s r.o.
kachlova@arskoncert.cz
www.arskoncert.cz

The project is officially part of the Martinů Revisited
Project organised by the Martinů Institute Prague,
and is subtitled by Martinů in America.



The Marriage – Characters:

Podkolyosin

Jakub Tolaš

Stepan, Podkolyosin's servant

Mojmír Starý

Agafya

Tereza Merklová

Fyokla Ivanovna, The Marriage Broker

Jitka Zerhauová

Arina, Agafya's aunt

Adriana Hlavsová

Kochkaryov, Podkolyosin's friend

Petr Levíček

Anuchkin, Agafya's suitor

Tomáš Krejčířík

Zhevakin, Agafya's suitor

Zoltán Korda

Ivan, Agafya's suitor

Ladislav Mlejnek

Dunyashka, Agafya's servant

Zlatoslava Beňová

2 | TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR TOUR

This version is part a gallery installation of 1000 objects that could optionally be open to viewers during the day, and a performance that takes place within the installation space in the evening. It also can simply be an evening performance with the audience viewing the installation at the end. It is composed of a series of old odd pieces of furniture put together the vignettes... There is no conventional scenery.
See www.pamelahoward.co.uk/director/martinu for image of layout.

17 Musicians plus a Conductor

who is also required to minimally “perform”
The musicians can be recruited locally for each venue with the Conductor, or,
The Czech conductor can travel with the singers.

10 Performers:

8 singers in English plus 2 spoken ‘ acting ‘ parts
See www.pamelahoward.co.uk/director/martinu for Gallery of Characters

Lighting Design:

Each ‘ vignette ‘ is lit separately. Minimal lighting cues.
Lighting equipment and lighting technician to be supplied by host venue.

Director/Scenographer /Project Creator:

Pamela Howard (GB): pamela@pamelahoward.co.uk

Assistant Director: To be included with Czech Artists.

A Company Manager/Stage Manager: To be included with Czech Artists

Wardrobe maintenance: Czech wardrobe assistant plus 1 local maintenance person.

Rehearsal pianist / performance pianist

Included in 17 musicians above

Loan of objects:

The objects in the vignettes are the property of The National Theatre Brno. They must be re-packed as delivered, checked off the packing list

Playing Spaces:

The Opera plays in one large open space or chamber minimum 20metres X 11m . Can be a converted factory, warehouse, industrial space, concert salon, or similar. Needs to have some facilities to hang lights.
One more or less central entrance through the spectators needed for singers. This can be the same as the public entrance. If possible a separate entrance for orchestra is desirable.

Seating:

Standard Platforms (normally built on 2 m x 1m steeldeck or similar with + 20 cms risers) to be provided by host venue. 200 assorted old chairs complete the installation. If possible (to avoid excessive transport costs) these should be provided by the host venue. The seating is not numbered. It is part of the visual installation and represents the immigrants reception waiting area on Ellis Island USA in 1907. The larger the space, and the higher the platforms can be built, the more seats can be fitted in, but 300 is the maximum.

The Exhibition:

The Art work for The Marriage has been on exhibition at the National Museum of Music Prague “Le Phenomene Martinů”. The exhibition and production photographs are the property and copyright of Pamela Howard, and need a space approximately 5m x 3m.

The exhibition must be sent and returned by courier to Pamela Howard in Great Britain, and separate insurance cover taken by the host venue, unless other arrangements are agreed in advance. Contact: Pamela@pamelahoward.co.uk

Sponsorship:

Carnegie Mellon University for the development of The Marriage at the Regina Miller Gouger Gallery of Contemporary Art Pittsburgh 2006

Graphics:

All Graphics and printed material must be passed to the co-producers and the creator of the project for approval prior to printing.

Rocc: Rocc@ndbrno.cz Zdenka Kachlová: kachlova@artskoncert.cz

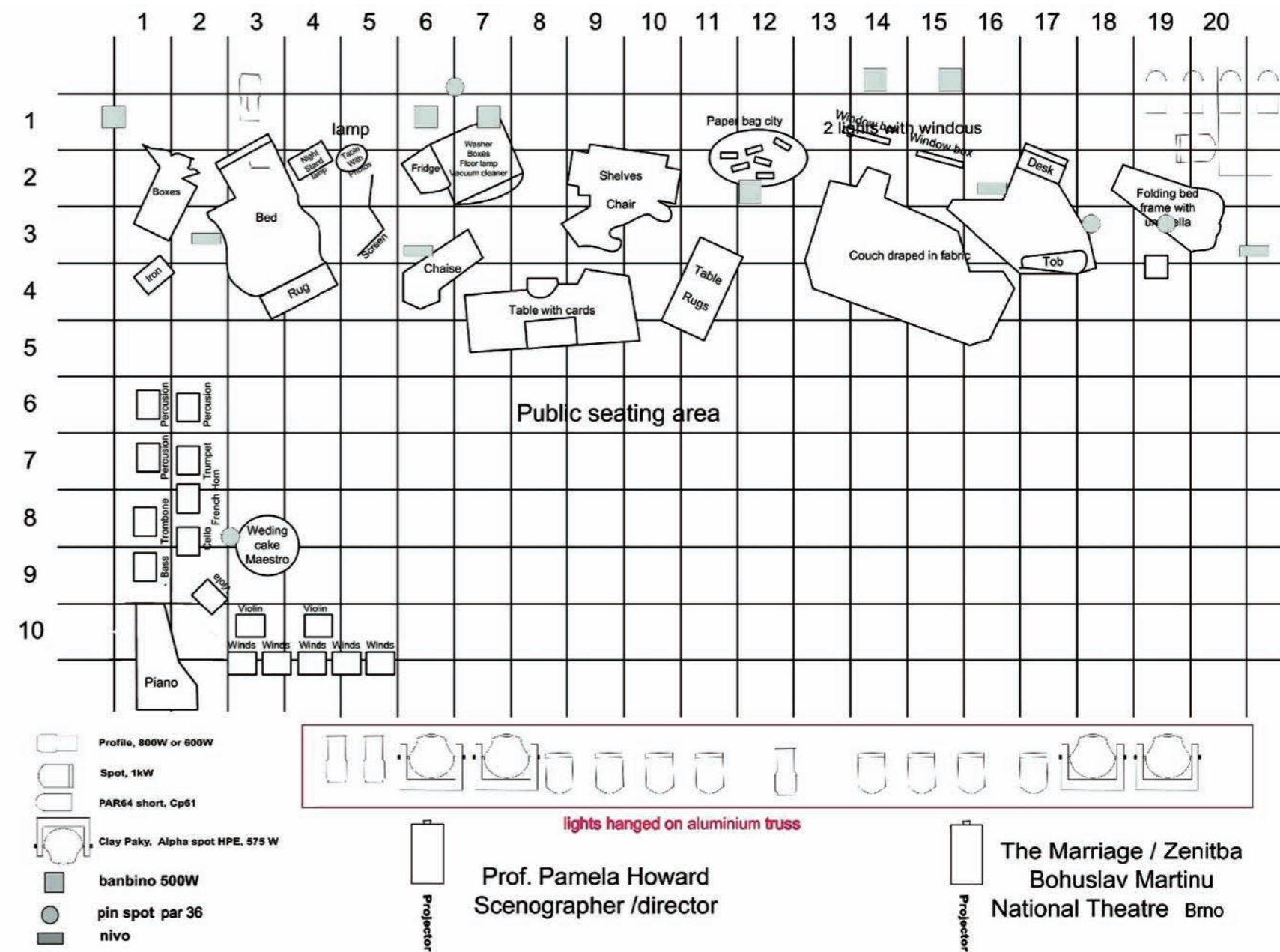
Pamela Howard: pamela@pamelahoward.co.uk

Rights:

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LIGHTS

- 4x Par 64 short, Cp61
- 9x Spot, 1 kW
- 4x Profile, 800 W or 600 W
- 4x pin spot par 36
- 7x Strand Bambino 500 W
- 4x Clay Paky, Alpha spot HPE, 575 W
- 1x dimmed AC power socket (Schuko type) for Wedding cake
- 2x dimmed AC power socket (Schuko type) for lights in Window box
- 1x dimmed AC power socket (Schuko type) for lamp
- 2x data projector for subtitles, with VGA input (resolution 1024 x 768, min. 7000 ANSI , according to luminary room conditions and screen surface), or LED Headliner for captions
- 2x telescopic towerlift up to 6,5 m height
- 2x tripod for light bar up to 3 m height
- 10 metres aluminium truss
- 32 channel DMX standard controled dimmer (48 channel better)
- 1x lighting console (we bring our console)



AUDITORIUM

Elevation constructed from rostrums, capacity up to 200 theatre-goers.

8x rostrum at height 20 cm

8x rostrum at height 40 cm

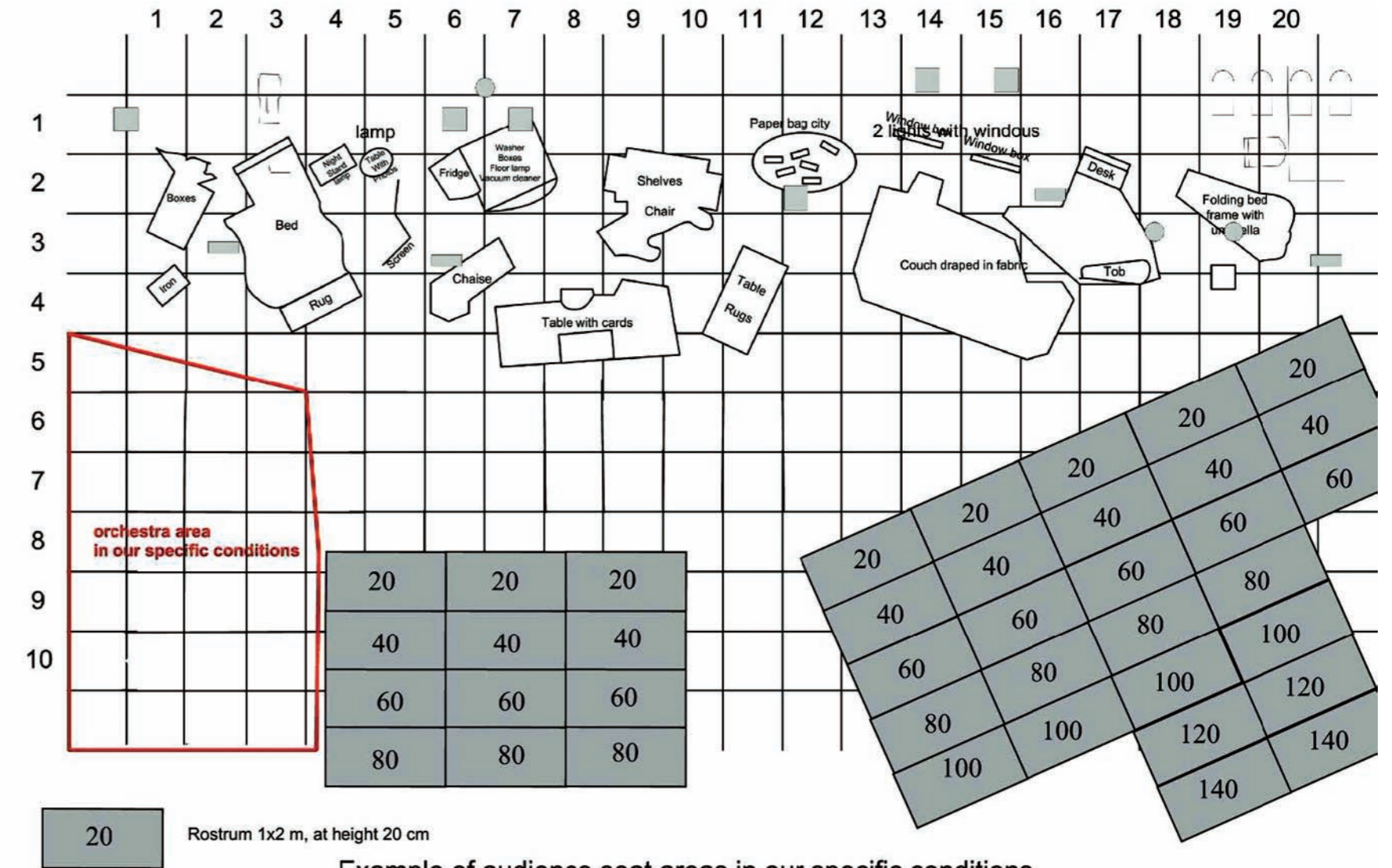
8x rostrum at height 60 cm

7x rostrum at height 80 cm

4x rostrum at height 100 cm

2x rostrum at height 120 cm

2x rostrum at height 140 cm



20 Rostrum 1x2 m, at height 20 cm

Example of audience seat areas in our specific conditions.

Prof. Pamela Howard
Scenographer /director

The Marriage / Zenitba
Bohuslav Martinu
National Theatre Brno



3 | GENERAL TOURING INFORMATION

A) Number of visiting participants: 38 – 39 pax

- 17 musicians
- 1 conductor
- 10 soloists (8 singers + 2 spoken roles)
- 1 stage director
- 1 ass. stage director or interpreter
- 1 stage manager
- 1 group manager
- 6-7 technicians (1-2 lighting technicians, 1 props, 1 stage manager, 1 costume-lady, 1 wig-lady, custodian)

Local help: 10 pax
(3 lighting technicians, 7 stage loaders or uploaders and stage set up)

B) Schedule:

Day 1: • travel cast + technicians

- Day 2: • unload container (NB Parking required for container)
- stage set up – app. 3 hours
 - lighting – app. 3 hours
(lighting can be done only after the whole stage is completely set up)
 - rehearsal – stage rehearsal, sound check – 1-2 hours
 - performance

In case local orchestra is used schedule is as follows:

- Day 2: • morning – soloists + piano rehearsal
- afternoon – orchestra rehearsal

Day 3: • performance

Visiting company delivers complete stage set, musical instruments (except of piano), conductor podium, costumes.

Total cubic space of the stage set excluding the instruments: 22 m³

Total cubic space of the stage set including the instruments: 29 m³

Packing lists are part of delivery.

C) Conditions:

The host venue / festival / promoter covers:

- 1) return flight tickets / tourist class for all participants
- 2) transport to the place of departure
- 3) visa and passport expenses
- 4) local transport in the place of the host from the arrival until departure
- 5) freight charges – stage set and instrument transport
- 6) per diems for all participants (all days incl, travel ones)
- 7) hotel accomodation breakfast incl.
- 8) author rights and music material rental costs
- 9) Producers fee NET / 1 performance in total of EUR

Fee covers the fee of the visiting company incl. conductor and stage director.

The host venue / festival / promoter supplies on its own costs:

- 1) agreed venue equipped with the lights (lighting requirements as per attachment No. 1) (lighting mix panel is provided by the visiting company, weight 10 kg brought by the lighting technician)
- 2) chairs + platforms (app. 200 – 300 psc – as per technical drawings and pictures s required – attachment No. 2)
- 3) piano (need not to be the grand one)
- 4) subtitles equipment
- 5) technical support – local help: 10 pax, 3 lighting technicians, 7 stage loaders or uploaders or stage set up





4 | PHOTO GALLERY

1. Podkolyosin (Jakub Tolaš), Kochkaryov (Petr Levíček)
2. Podkolyosin's Room, Kochkaryov (Petr Levíček)
3. Kochkaryov (Petr Levíček), Zhevakin (Zoltán Korda), Anushkin (Tomáš Krejčířík), Ivan (Ladislav Mlejnek)
4. Agafya (Tereza Merklová)
5. Kochkaryov (Petr Levíček), Fyokla Ivanovna (Jitka Zerhauová)
6. Agafya (Tereza Merklová), Arina (Adriana Hlavsová)
7. Agafya (Tereza Merklová), Podkolyosin (Jakub Tolaš)
8. Conductor (Jakub Klecker)
9. Podkolyosin's Room
10. Agafya's Room
11. Fyokla Ivanovna (Jitka Zerhauová), Agafya (Tereza Merklová), Arina (Adriana Hlavsová)

5 | GALLERY OF CHARACTERS



FYOKLA A Marriage Broker



AGAFYA TELLS HER FORTUNE unmarried girl of 29



AGAFYA MEETS HER SUITORS



AGAFYA IN HER WEDDING DRESS



ARINA Agafya's elderly aunt



THE CONDUCTOR Agafya's fantasy bridegroom



IVAN a retired government official



ANUSHKIN a retired military bureaucrat



ZHEVAKHIN a retired naval functionary



PODKOLYOSIN a dissolute bachelor of 45



KOCHKARYOV friend to Podkolyosin



PODKOLYOSIN the reluctant suitor



DUNYASHKA an old Russian servant to Agafya



Visualisation of the installation/performance space for "The Marriage"

6 | PRESS

Skvělá Ženitba v Americe

„...Dramaturgickým i uměleckým vrcholem festivalu bylo uvedení opery Bohuslava Martinů Ženitba...“

„... Silný důraz byl kladen na gogolovský realismus, komičnost vyplynula z jednotlivých situací sama o sobě přesto (nebo snad právě proto), že na ni nebyl kladen prvoplánový důraz...“

„... Celá scéna byla postavena s maximálním smyslem pro detail a celkovou stylizaci zároveň. To samé platí i o kostýmech, z nichž bylo možno přesně odhadovat, kdo je myšlenkami ještě stále v Rusku a kdo se snaží stát pravým Američanem...“

„... Ženitba publikum nadchla a nutno říci, že právem...“

Boris Klepal (Opus musicum 5/2009, str. 47–48)

„...Inscenace neměla „hluchých míst“; působila bezprostředně, posluchač ani nevnímal přechody od zpěvu k mluvené řeči a naopak...“

Alena Borková (Opus musicum 5/2009, str. 51)

„... Nastudování nechyběl nutný humor, ani veselost...“

Markéta Jůzová (Harmonie, listopad 2009, str. 38)

„... příběh o nerozhodném staromládeneckém ženichovi a třech směšných nápadníků rozehrála režisérka úsměvně a v lehké nadsázce, uvolněným, charakterizačně přesným způsobem, bez jakýchkoli rušivých momentů, které by přinášela necitlivá aktualizace...“

„... Prostor bez jeviště současně využívá možností a výhod těsné blízkosti účinkujících a diváků. Publikum se baví, svižná hudba lyriky a drobných žertů plyne v souladu s dějem...“

Petr Veber (http://www.rozhlas.cz/vltava/zaznamenali/_zprava/642741)

The Brilliant Marriage in America

“... The dramaturgic and artistic summit of the festival was performance of opera by Bohuslav Martinů The Marriage...”

“... Strong emphasis was put on Gogol's realism, humor emerged from particular situations by itself even if (or perhaps that's just it) it was not artificially emphasized...”

“... The whole scene was built with maximal sense for detail abreast with complete stylization. We can say the same about the costumes, the audience could exactly decide from them who are still in their minds in Russia and who are trying to be the real American...”

“... The audience was thrilled by The Marriage and we have to say, that there is reason why...”

Boris Klepal (Opus musicum 5/2009, p. 47–48)

“... The performance had no “dead place”; it acts per saltum, an auditor could not possible hear changes between singing and spoken word...”

Alena Borková (Opus musicum 5/2009, p. 51)

“... The performance has necessary humor and festivity...”

Markéta Jůzová (Harmonie, November 2009, p. 38)

“... The story about purposeless old bachelor and three silly suitors was presented by director Pamela Howard smilingly and with light exaggeration, loosely in exact characteristic style, without any disturbing elements, that could be brought in by insensitive up – dating...”

“... The space without stage can use possibilities and advantages of close distance between audience and performers. Audience has a fun, the agile music, petite jokes and lyricism float according to the action...”

Petr Veber (http://www.rozhlas.cz/vltava/zaznamenali/_zprava/642741)



