


SARASOTA**OPERA**

2021

Winter & Spring  
Festival

William E. Schmidt  
Opera Theatre



A classical oil painting of Gioachino Rossini, showing him from the chest up. He has dark, wavy hair and is wearing a dark coat with a white cravat tied in a bow. The background is a dark, mottled green.

## Gioachino Rossini

*A Farce in Music  
in One Act*

**LIBRETTO BY  
GIUSEPPE MARIA FOPPA**

Based on the French  
comedy of the same name  
by d'Alissan de Chazet and  
E.T.M. Ourry

Sung in Italian

# *Il signor Bruschino* *or the Son by Chance*

April 9, 13, 16, 18m, 21, 24m

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**CONDUCTOR**  
Victor DeRenzi

**STAGE DIRECTOR**  
Stephanie Sundine

**COSTUME DESIGNER**  
Howard Tsvi Kaplan

**LIGHTING DESIGNER**  
Ken Yunker

**HAIR & MAKE-UP DESIGNER**  
Kellen M. Eason

**ASSISTANT CONDUCTORS**  
Geoffrey Loff  
Lindsay Woodward

**SURTITLE SUPPLIER**  
Words for Music

**SURTITLE TRANSLATOR**  
Victor DeRenzi

## Cast

GAUDENZIO

SOFIA his ward

BRUSCHINO father

BRUSCHINO son

FLORVILLE, Sofia's lover

A POLICE SARGENT

FILIBERTO, the owner of the inn

MARIANNA, a maid

Stefano de Peppo

Hanna Brammer

Alexander Boyd

Robert Gerold \*

Christopher Bozeka

Louis Riva \*

Joshua DeVane

Laurel Semerdjian

\* Resident Artist

Sarasota Opera Orchestra



# Il signor Bruschino SYNOPSIS & BACKGROUND

## Il signor Bruschino Synopsis

This one-act farce by Gioachino Rossini revolves around the love between two young people, Sofia and Florville. Sadly, Sofia has been promised to another. Her guardian, Gaudenzio, has decided she will marry the son of his friend Signor Bruschino. Neither Gaudenzio nor Sofia has ever met the young man. But Florville does not give up—he is determined to marry his beloved. As luck would have it, he hears the news that Bruschino Jr. has been detained by the owner of a local inn, where he has run up a significant debt. Florville cleverly decides to go to Gaudenzio's house and to impersonate the young man in his absence. An out-of-temper Signor Bruschino Sr. shows up

and insists that, despite the young man's protestations, this is *not* his son. The police sergeant is called, but is unable to confirm that Florville is in fact an impostor. To make matters even more complicated, the innkeeper arrives, anxious to receive payment for Bruschino Jr.'s debt. Everyone believes that Signor Bruschino is denying his paternity out of anger. Gaudenzio decides that Sofia and the false Bruschino Jr. (actually, Florville) should be married immediately. As soon as they are joined in marriage, who should walk in, but Bruschino Jr. himself! The ruse is up, but it's too late, Sofia and Florville are already pledged to each other. Gaudenzio accepts the situation. Love wins.

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## Rossini, The Teatro San Moisè, and the Beginning of it All

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Rossini straddled the period between when operas were composed, performed, and forgotten, and the establishment of a standard entrenched repertoire. In many ways his second one-act *L'inganno felice* (1812) is the beginning of this. By far his most popular one-act opera during its time, it still held the public's attention nine years later (an eternity in 19<sup>th</sup> century operatic terms), when it was Rossini's third most produced opera in all of Italy, after *Il barbiere di Siviglia* and *La cenerentola*. This in a year when out of 373 opera productions in Italy, 150 were by Rossini.

The other two one-act operas for the San Moisè in 1812 (*La scala di seta* and *L'occasione fa il ladro*) were

decidedly less successful than *La cambiale di matrimonio* and *L'inganno felice*. His final opera for Teatro San Moisè (*Il signor Bruschino*, 1813) failed completely at the premiere, and yet it is his most widely performed one-act opera today.

Ten days after *Il signor Bruschino* opened at the San Moisè, Rossini's *Tancredi* premiered at La Fenice. Three months later, his *L'italiana in Algeri* premiered at yet another Venetian theater, the Teatro San Benedetto. These last two operas sealed his fate - and his international reputation - a process begun only four years earlier in the Teatro San Moisè with *La cambiale di matrimonio*.

**World Premiere: TEATRO SAN MOISÈ, VENICE, ITALY, JANUARY 27, 1813.**



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Sarasota Opera  
presents

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SBTJ02

703306

## Il signor Bruschino

Mezz Rt

AA 2

Tuesday Evening

Apr 13 2021

7:30 PM

\$145.00

Glenbocki/Tom

Mezz Rt

AA 2

\$145.00

43511 1234841



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Sarasota Opera  
presents

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8

SBTU02

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## Il signor Bruschino

Mezz Rt

AA 4

Tuesday Evening

Apr 13 2021

7:30 PM

\$145.00

Glenbocki/Tom

Mezz Rt

AA 4

\$145.00

43511 1234840

