

THE GIACOMO VARIATIONS



Photo credits: Nadja Klier

A chamber opera-play by Michael Sturminger & Martin Haselböck in collaboration with

JOHN MALKOVICH

<http://thegiacomovariations.musikkonzept.org>

**Keep silent.
Love is divine and clairvoyant;
Love knows everything.**

*Giacomo Girolamo Casanova, (1725 - 1798),
Chevalier de Seingalt*

Giacomo Casanova received a doctorate as jurist, scratched along as violinist in a theatre, dabbled in the role of a lieutenant and was co-founder of France's lottery.

As an adventurer and due to his reputation as lover of innumerable women and globetrotter, he became world famous.

His memoirs from 1790, "Histoire de ma vie", fascinate to date, and declare Casanova as symbol for the art of seduction!

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Michael Sturminger and Martin Haselböck adapt Casanova's themes and create with their new chamber-opera play „The Giacomo-Variations“ a dramatic and humorous rapprochement to a phenomenon.

We meet Casanova - alternately played by Hollywood star John Malkovich and baritone Florian Boesch – in various exciting encounters, and are witness to his very personal retrospection on his life in the face of his approaching death.

Somewhere in the midst of these encounters, bursting with desire and passion for numerous women, Casanova has to confront his biggest fear: to die, before discovering what he has lived for.

The „Soundtrack“ for this exceptional play of human feelings is provided by Casanova's contemporaries Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart und Lorenzo Da Ponte, drawing on some of the most beautiful arias from their operatic collaborations.

The „Giacomo-Variations“ is the second project in collaboration with acclaimed stage and screen actor John Malkovich, following the sensational worldwide success of „The Infernal Comedy“.

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PROJEKTDDETAILS

Concept for a chamber opera play in two acts

Written by Michael Sturminger

Music concept by Martin Haselböck

Based on works by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Lorenzo Da Ponte

Director: Michael Sturminger

Conductor: Martin Haselböck

Stage and Costume designer: Renate Martin and Andreas Donhauser

John Malkovich (Giacomo 1)

Ingeborga Dapkunaite (Isabella 1)

Eva Liebau / Martene Grimson, Soprano (Isabella 2)

Florian Boesch / Andrei Bondarenko, Baritone (Giacomo 2)

Orchester Wiener Akademie

Executive Director, Musikkonzept/Orchester Wiener Akademie: Dean Kustra

Stage manager: Christiane Lutz

Art director's assistant: Nina Ball

Tourmanager: Teresa Lehner

Light design: Jürgen Ertl

Stage technician: Martin Salat

Duration: 2'15 plus one interval