

## A report on the premiere of *Le nozze di Figaro* (7 May 1786)

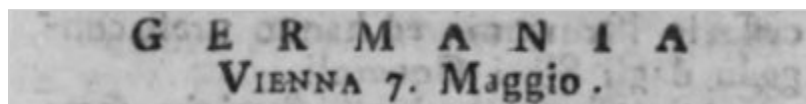
Dexter Edge

*Gazzetta universale*, vol. 13, no. 39, Tue, 16 May 1786

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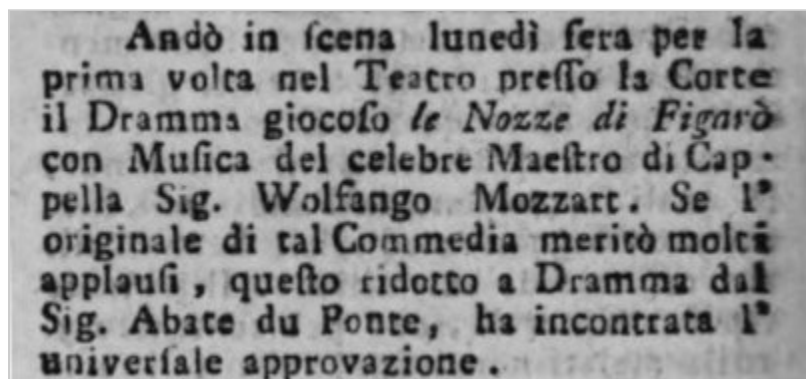
GERMANIA  
VIENNA 7. Maggio.

[...]



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Andò in scena lunedì sera per la prima volta nel Teatro presso la Corte il Dramma giocoso *le Nozze di Figarò* con Musica del celebre Maestro di Cappella Sig. Wolfgang Mozart. Se l'originale di tal Commedia meritò molti applausi, questo ridotto a Dramma dal Sig. Abate du *[sic]* Ponte, ha incontrata l'universale approvazione.



[translation:]

GERMANY  
VIENNA 7 May.

Last Monday evening at the court theater, the *dramma giocoso* *Le nozze di Figaro* was performed for the first time, with music by the famous *maestro di cappella* Sig. Wolfgang Mozart. If the original comedy received much applause, its adaptation as a drama by Sig. Abate da Ponte has met with universal approval.

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### Commentary

This is one of three previously unknown newspaper reports on the premiere of Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro*. For the general background, see our commentary to [3 May 1786](#).

This brief report, although dated Sunday, 7 May 1786, refers back to the previous Monday evening ("lunedì sera"), thus to the premiere of *Figaro* on 1 May. In contrast to the reports in the *Münchener Zeitung* ([3 May](#)) and the *Bayreuther Zeitung* ([16 May](#)), which claim that the reception of Mozart's opera was less than enthusiastic, the report in the *Gazzetta universale* claims that the opera was met with "universal approval."

We are grateful to Matteo Magarotto for his translation of this item.

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