

VIAGGIO A REIMS

Music by Gioachino Rossini

Libretto by Luigi Balocchi

First Performed on June 19, 1825, in Paris

Characters

Corinna (soprano)

Madame Cortese (soprano)

Marquise Melibea (mezzo-soprano)

Countess de Folleville (mezzo-soprano)

Cavalier Belfiore (tenor)

Count Libenskof (tenor)

Lord Sidney (bass)

Don Alvaro (baritone)

Don Profondo (bass)

Baron Trombonok (bass)

Maddalena (mezzo-soprano)

Don Prudenziò (bass)

Antonio (bass)

Modestina (mezzo-soprano)

Don Luigino (tenor)

Zefirino (tenor)

Gelsumino (tenor)

Delia (actor)

At the Hotel of the Golden Lily in Plombières, Madama Cortese and her staff prepare their international assemblage of guests for their journey to the coronation of Charles X at Reims. Among the elegant travelers are the celebrated Roman poetess Corinna; Don Profondo, an antiquities scholar; Lord Sidney, an English colonel; Countess de Foleville, a fashionable widow, and her admirer, the young French officer Cavalier Belfiore; Marchesa Melibea, a Polish widow desired by both Count Libenskof of Russia and Don Alvaro of Spain; and the German Baron Trombonok. Political and romantic rivalries break out among the colorful guests, but all is ultimately reconciled in the spirit of pan-European harmony. Before their departure for more celebrations in Paris, the guests propose festive toasts in their national idioms. The entertainments are capped by an elaborate improvisation by Corinna and a gala finale in honor of the French royal family.