

FALL 2019

Operas and Plays (M510, #8525)
Professor Kristina Muxfeldt
kmuxfeld@indiana.edu

Fridays, 9:30-12:05 in M267

We will spend a semester studying operas and spoken theater side-by-side, considering plays that were adapted for libretti, as well as plays that may otherwise shed light on the language, contemporary psychology, or recurring situations in opera plots. Among issues we will consider are: how operatic conventions, genres, and performance shaped stories; how the relationship between music and words was negotiated; how contemporary politics, censorship, and social structures affected interactions between audiences and the operatic stage. Operas by Gluck, Gazzaniga, Mozart, Cherubini, Schubert, and Rossini; plays to include works by Aristophanes, Euripides, Beaumarchais, Lessing, Molière, and Shakespeare. Other works will be added as class size and time permit.

