Amadeus scene-by-scene breakdown

March 9, 2014

Act I								
	Location	Time/weather	Furniture	Characters	Hand props	Entrance/exit	Action	Music
Scene 1	Vienna	In the darkness, after	Silouettes of men and women	Venticelli	Long cloaks and tall hats of the perioud	Go off	Venticelli and citizens of Vienna	Savage whispers fill the theater, snake-like hissing save the word "Salieri"
		1823	hats and skirts of the early 19 th	Salieri	Wheelchair, old red cap, shawl, old stained dressing gown	/	whisper about Salieri's abnormal manners.	
			century, crowded in the Light Box	Valet	(Thin and dry)	Detach from the crowd and walk downstage		and barely distinguishable
				Cook	(Fat)	Detach from the crowd and walk downstage		"Assasin"
Scene 2	Salieri's apartment	3 am, November, 1823	Curtains descend on citizens. Faint images of long windows projected on silk;	Salieri	Wheelchair, fortepiano, cake, sweet biscuit, old dressing gown with buttons; sky blue coat		Salieri announces to the audience (ghosts of the future) his last composition. He	A clock outside in the street strikes three.
			cake-stand	Citizens	/	Covered by the descendence of curtains	tells the story of his life.	
		1780s		Valet		Bow and leave the stage, dissmissed by Salieri's		
				Cook		clapping hands		
Scene 3	Salieri's apartment	During the day, 1781	Table, chair (upstage left); at	Salieri	Wig	/	Salieri introduces the court people	A serene piece for strings by
	Palace of Schön-brunn		the back: blue curtains rise and part: Joseph and	Servants	Dressing gown and cap, wigstand bearing a powdered wig		and hears from the Venticelli of the arrival of	Salieri; (faintly) soprano singing a concert aria; a
			court bathed in golden light,	Joseph	A rolled paper	Hand paper to Strack and exit	Mozart.	grander music
			against a golden background of mirrors and an	Strack Rosenberg Van	/	/		

			immense golden	Swieten				
			fireplace;	Priest	Soutane	Go off		
			fortepiano;	Courtier	Old wigged	Take his place at the		
				Bonno	2 4 4 88 4	keyboard		
				Teresa	Padded, placid	Seat herself uprightly in		
					7.1	the upstage chair, exit on		
						her side		
				Katherina	/	Swirl on from the		
						opposite side, exit on her		
						side		
				Venticelli	Bewigged, dressed	Come on quickly		
					well in the style of	downstage from either		
					late 18 th century	side, glide off		
Scene	The	1781	/	Strack	/	/	Court people and	/
4	Palace of			Salieri			Salieri talks about	
	Schön-			Rosenberg		Stroll on out	a German comic	
	brunn			Van		/	opera to be made	
				Swieten			and the order of	
				Venticelli		Hurry in from either side	Freemason.	
						and go off		
Scene	The	On a cold	Light Box: two	Servants	/	/	Salieri goes to	Offstage noises,
5	Wald-	night, 1781	elegantly	Salieri	Little bowl from the	/	Waldstädten to	a fart noise; <i>The</i>
	Städten		curtained		cake-stand		peek the life of	Adagio from the
	Library;		windows	Mozart	Small, pallid,	Prance off together	Mozart and	Serenade for
	library		surround-		large-eyed, showy		Constanze. He	thriteen wind
	fades into		ed by handsome subdued		wig, showy set of		gets overwhelmed	instruments (K.
	a street scene		wallpaper;	C 4	clothes	-	by Mozart's serenade.	361) (oboe, squeezbox;
	with		downstage left: a	Constanze	Gay party dress	C4-11- :	Scienauc.	music sounded
	small		large table loaded	Majordomo	/	Stalk in, upstage		from the salon
	houses		with cakes and					above
	under a		desserts, a grand					
	rent sky,		high-backed wing					
	dim stars		chair facing out					
			front; fortepiano;					
			door; stairs					

Scene	Salieri's	At night, 1781	Fortepiano;	Salieri	/	/	Salieri receives	Fortepiano
6	apartment		Waldstädten table	Venticelli	Manuscripts	Go off with the music	Mozart's	sonatas, a
			and wing chair	Servants	/	Remove furniture	manuscripts from	Parisian
			(removed				Venticelli and	symphony, a
							feels good about	divertimento in
							himself.	D, a cassazione
								in G, a grand
								litany in Eb
Scene	The	During the	Gilded mirrors	Joseph	/	Revealed in bright light	Salieri plays his	March of
7	Palace of	day, 1781	and fireplace,	Strack		Revealed with Joseph,	march to welcome	Welcome
	Schön-		fortepiano			exit	Mozart. Mozart	
	brunn			Van		Hurry on from opposite	greets the court	
				Swieten		sides downstage	and does	
				Rosenberg]	variations on the	
				Mozart	Extremely ornate surcoat, with dress sword	March happily offstage	march piece.	
				Salieri	Copy of his music	/		

Scene	An 18 th	In the	Backdrop	Servants	/	/	The Abduction	(faintly)
8	century	evening,	projection: a line	Joseph			from the Seraglio	whizzing scale
	theater	1782	of softly	Strack			is first performed.	passages for
			gleaming	Rosenberg			The emperor and	soprano which
			chandeliers,	Van			the courtiers think	end the aria
			chairs and	Swieten			it too ornamented.	"Martern aller
			benches;	Bonno				arten", final
			fortepiano	Teresa				orchestral
				Constanze		Depart delightedly		chords, brilliant
				Mozart	Gaudy new coat	Come on briskly, depart		Turkish finale of
					embellished with	delightedly		Seraglio
					scarlet ribbons (more			
					vulgar than usual), a			
					new powdered wig			
				Salieri	/	/		
				Citizens				

				Katherina	Costume with plumes and flounces			
				Venticelli	Bottle, glass	Come on merrily, as if from some celebration		
Scene 9	Bonno's salon	During the day, 7	/	Mozart	Wine glass	Come in with Strack, hop offstage	Mozart complains about not having	/
		months after		Strack	/	Leave abruptly, much offended	enough pupils and loathes Salieri's	
		Mozart's arrival in		Venticelli	Wine	Talk out of the scene to Salieri	opera. He begs Rosenberg to give	
		Vienna, 1782		Rosenberg	A waistcoat of bright green silk	Enter upstage and stand between Venticelli, exit	him a post but Rosenberg leaves	
				Salieri	/	/	him to Salieri.	
Scene 10	The Wald- Städten Library	New Year's Eve, 1782	Handsome wallpaper, large wing chair, big	Constanze	Mask, ruler	Abruptly run off	Constanze and Venticelli play a game and are	/
	Salieri's apartment		table of sweetmeats; two small gilded	Venticelli	Masks, old fashioned round ruler, plates of sweetmeats	/	yelled at by Mozart. Constanze tells Salieri their	
			chairs center close together	Servants	Old dressing gown and cap		conditions and makes an	
				Salieri	cup		appointment with	
				Mozart	Mask, sorbetto, ruler	Rush on, strut offstage	him.	
Scene 11	Salieri's apartment	3 pm, January, 1783	Thrown projections of long windows on	Cook	Plate piled with brandied chestnuts	Enter from the right, exit the same way, smirking suggestively	Salieri meets Constanze and coaxes her with	The clock strikes three. On the second stroke,
			the curtains, table, chair	Salieri	Box of Roman chestnuts in brandied sugar, mouchoir	/	sweetmeats. She gives him kisses and hits him.	the bell sounds.
				Constanze	A pretty hat, a portfolio	Follow the valet, go out quickly	Salieri gets furious. Constanze	
				Valet	/	Enter from the left, dismissed by Salieri	leaves the portfolio.	

Scene 12	Salieri's apartment	1823	fortepiano	Salieri	Portfolio with a ribbon, scores, powdered wig, old dressing gown and wig	Leave stage chewing a pastry voraciously	Salieri reads Mozart's manuscripts and speaks to God about his discovery of his own ignorance.	(faintly) opening of the 29 th Symphony in A major; Sinfonia Concertante for Violin and Viola; a ravishing phrase in slow movement of Concerto for Flute and Harp; low, faint thundery sound like a distant sea; clear sound of a soprano: Kyrie from the C Minor Mass; long, echoing,
								distorted boom

Act II								
	Location	Time/weather	Furniture	Characters	Hand props	Entrance/exit	Action	Music
Scene 1	Salieri's apartment	The very last hour of S's life in 1823	Gilded upright chairs, table	Salieri	Dressing gown and cap, powdered wig, "Nipple of Venus"	/	Constanze gets the portfolio back. Salieri and	doorbell
				Constanze	Bodice, silk skirts, stockings, manuscripts, portfolio	Enter S's room and runs out	Constanze fight. Katherina sleeps with Salieri.	

Scene 2	The Palace of Schön-brunn	10 pm., 1783-1786 During the day, 1783-1786	Vast fireplace, golden mirrors, fortepiano	Valet Katherina Joseph Salieri Mozart	Peignoir / More natural-looking wig (light chestnut, full and gathered at the back with ribbon)	Enter and exits S's room Enter languidly and amble off Stroll away / Enter from the other side, downstage	Joseph assigns the coaching job for Princess Elizabeth to Herr Sommer, not Mozart.	/
Scene 3	Vienna, and brilliantly colored opera houses	Evening, 1785-1786	Golden furniture	Venticelli Salieri Mozart Viennese Excited audience	Fortepiano /	Glide on	The Viennese audience welcomes Salieri's operas.	(faintly) Rondo from the Piano Concert in A major, K. 488; squeals of the Viennese
Scene 4	Salieri's apartment (salon)	During the day, 1786	Golden chairs upholstered in golden brocade, wooden floor, golden cake-stand with elaborate cakes	Servants Valet Salieri Venticelli Van Swieten Mozart Strack Rosenberg	/ Sky-blue coat, frock coat of gold satin /	Slip away at a discreet sign from Salieri Come on quickly from upstage Enter quickly from upstage; exit with flourishing hand Enter quickly from upstage Bustle in	Mozart howls his distaste of serious operas of this century. People show intolerance with Mozart, and Salieri comes up with an idea to destroy the performance of <i>The Marriage of Figaro</i> .	A fart noise; giggles

Scene	Darkened	During the	Projection of	Rosenberg	Score of Figaro	Exit imperturbably,	Rosenberg tears	/
5	auditoriu	day, 1786	lamps glowing			serenely	the ballet part in	
	m		faintly, gold	Mozart	Bright coat, score of	Come in quickly from	the score of	
			charis, fortepiano		Figaro	the left	Figaro, and	
				Salieri	/	Venture down from	Mozart gets	

Scene 6	Theater	Afternoon, 1786	Gold chairs	Strack Joseph Salieri Strack Rosenberg Joseph Mozart		upstage Enter from the upstage dimness Come on from upstage	furious and requests a rehearsal with Joseph's presence. Joseph allows Mozart to put the ballet part back to The Marriage of Figaro.	The end of the third act of Figaro, just before the dance music starts
Scene 7	Theater	May 1 st , 1786	Two chairs side by side apart from the rest	Joseph Salieri Teresa Rosenberg Strack Mozart Venticelli Kapellmeis t- er Bonno Constanze Katherina	Plumes and sequins	Go out with Strack / Leave with the audience Follow Joseph and Strack Go out with Joseph / Rush on and go off	People watch the first performance of <i>The Marriage of Figaro</i> . Joseph suggests omitting encore in the future because of the extra length. Mozart gets frustrated.	Figaro singing "Non piu andrai"; applause; a bell rings for the end of intermission; solumn closing ensemble from Act 4 of Figaro
Scene 8	The Wald- städten Library	May, 1787	Wing chair	Mozart Salieri Venticelli		Appear quickly and go off	Upon the message of his father's death, Mozart whines, and Salieri show paternal benevolence.	
Scene 9	Theater	1787	Backdrop of light box: silouette of a giant black figure	Salieri	/	/	Salieri realizes the lack of spirit in his work and the	The two grim chords which open the overture to

				Mozart			abundance of godly spirit in Mozart's work and decides to starve Mozart.	Don Giovanni; the exquisite strains of the terzetto "Soave il Vento" from Cosi fan tutte
Scene 10	Vienna and the Palace of Schön- brunn	December, 1787	Emperor's golden space in the light box	Salieri Mozart Joseph Rosenberg Strack Venticelli		And his COURT leave stage for the last time Come in	Joseph assigns Mozart the post of Chamber Composer but with minimum salary.	
Scene 11	The Prater	During the day, 1787-1791	Backdrop: fresh green trees	Mozart Constanze Salieri Venticelli	Masonic apron Poor coat and bonnet /	/ Leave stage Promenade with venticelli Promenade with Salieri	Mozart's health condition worsens, and Salieri shows concern.	/
Scene 12	A Masonic lodge; the Rauhen- steingasse apartment	During the day, 1791	A huge golden emblem encrusted with Masonic symbols hanging at the back; long plain table loaded with manuscripts and bottles, a plain upturned stool; little gilded table bearing a loaded cake-stand and three gilded chairs	Van Swieten Mozart Salieri Servants Constanze Venticelli	A ritual apron over this sober clothes / Masonic apron /	Nod and go out / Step forward; step out of the scene downstage / Appears weariy from the back Appears as soon as the emblem withdraws	Van Swieten offers help by giving Mozart a job of arranging Bach's fugues. Salieri offers financial help, too, but gets rejected. Mozart takes Salieri's advice on applying Masonic rituals into the upcoming German yaudiville.	Mercy dance of Monostatos; hyp-notized slaves from <i>The Magic Flute</i> ; tinckling of glockenspiel
Scene 13	Salieri's apartment	At night, 1791	Gilded chair;	Venticelli Mozart	/ Blanket, bottle of cheap	Go off; hurry in and slip away Move into Salieri's	Constanze gives birth to a boy and leaves. Mozart,	"Non piu andrai"

			wine	room	Salieri and
Mozart's	Table, stool	Constanze	Shawl, manuscripts,	/	Katherina head to the theater in the
apartment		Salieri	skirts, stuffed apron Cake		slum.
		Katherina	Elaborate plumed hat	Enter, freeze and	
				unfreeze into the suberbs with Mozart	

Scene 14	A crowded	During the day/	Two benches (down front), long	Citizens	Smoking pipes, sausages	Disperse	People watch <i>The Magic Flute</i> . Van	Sudden noise; great hymn at the
	music hall in a	evening, 1791	table (pushed horizontally); a	Van Swieten	/	Come in and stand at back; go out	Swieten gets furious and kicks	end of Act 2 of <i>The Magic Flute</i> :
	slum		great sun rises inside the light	Mozart	Bottle	/	Mozart out of the Freemasons.	"Heil sei euch Geweihten"
			box, standing in it a gigantic	Katherina	Mouchoir	Go out a different way from Van Swieten	ricemasons.	Geweinten
ı			silouette of a priestly figure extending arms	Salieri	/	/		
Scene 15	Empty street in	1 am, November,	Worktable, window (street),	Salieri	Gray cloak, hat, gray mask	March upstage to Mozart	Mozart emaciates. Salieri dresses as	The rising and falling scale
	front of Mozart's	1791	door, stairs	Mozart	Blanket	Walk upstage to enter his apartment	the gray figure to appal Mozart for	passage from Don Giovanni repeats
	apartment			Venticelli	/	Come in, dismissed by Salieri	seven nights.	
				Valet	Gray cloak	/		
Scene	Mozart's	After 1791	Table with a	Mozart	/	Manuscripts, body	Mozart dies.	Somber opening
16	apartment		trestle, chair,			thrown into back of	Constanze sits	of the Requiem
			candle, bottle,			stage	beside. Mozart's	Mass; (faintly)
			inkwell, two	Salieri	Mask, hat	Leave the room	body gets thrown.	the Lacrimosa of
			pillows (left hand	Van	/	Come in as citizens	Constanze gathers	the Requiem
			of table),	Swieten		come in, depart after	manuscripts.	Mass (drum
			table=deathbed			Mozart's body is thrown	Salieri and	strokes); the great
				Constanze	Shawl, manuscripts	Appear from the back of	Constanze give	chord of "Amen"
					scattered over the floor	the stage, leaves the stage (a pillar of	monologues.	reverberates

						rectitude)		
				Citizens of	Dressed in black	Come in from the right,		
				Vienna		depart with Van Swieten		
				Servants	/	Come in after citizens'		
						entrance, depart with		
						Van Swieten		
Scene	Salieri's	November	Curtain descends	Salieri	Cloak	/	Salieri reveals the	The last
17	apartment	1823	in a rush	Citizens	/	Walk away indifferently	fact about the	movement of the
						upstage, past Salieri,	requiem and gets	"Jupiter"
						into the Light Box, and	drowned in	Symphony (huge
						off stage	Mozart's	crescendo); clock
				Servant	Old stained dressing gown and cap	/	symphony.	strikes six

Scene	Salieri's	Morning,	Table, desk in the	Servant	wheelchair	Come in quickly	Salieri commits	/
18	apartment	November 1823	cabinet	Salieri	Confession paper, arsenic, clothes with a pocket	Body pulled backward upstage and anchored in the center	suicide with a razor. Valet and cook save him.	
				Valet	Tray bearing a bowl of hot shaving water soap and a razor	Goes upstage right; rush in from a different side from the cook when Salieri cuts throat		
				Cook	A plate of fresh buns for breakfast	Come in when Salieri cuts throat		
				Venticelli	Costume of 1823	Appear after cook and valet		
Scene 19	Salieri's apartment	After May 25 th , 1825	/	Venticelli	Beethoven's Conversation Books (November 1823 and 1824), a newspaper	Go off after reading	Venticelli read articles on Salieri. Salieri comes to life and make	Music stops first; last four chords of the Masonic Funeral Music of
				Salieri Valet Cook	/	Stir and come to life depart	gestures of benediction and self-sanctification.	Amadeus Mozart sound throughout theater