

Edge, Dexter. 2014. "A report on the premiere of *Le nozze di Figaro* (7 May 1786)." In: *Mozart: New Documents*, edited by Dexter Edge and David Black. First published 12 Jun 2014; updated 16 Apr 2018. [direct link]

## 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

[308]

G E R M A N I A  
VIENNA 7. Maggio.

[...]

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[310]

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[translation:]

G E R M A N Y  
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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