

“Durch Zärtlichkeit und Scmeichein” (With gentleness and pleading) *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* (*The Abduction From The Seraglio*), Act II, music by W.A. Mozart; libretto by Gottlieb Stephanie, 1792. Based on *Belmont und Constanze oder Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, by Christoph Friedrich Bretzner.

SYNOPSIS: Konstanze and her maid, Blonde, have been captured and are prisoners in the harem of Pasha Selim, where they are overseen by the cruel Osmin. When the Pasha gives Blonde to Osmin to be his slave and he attempts to seduce her, she responds with this advice.

BLONDE

Durch Zärtlichkeit und Schmeichein
gefälligkeit und Scherzen,
erobert man die Herzen
der guten Mädchen leicht.
Doch mürrisches Befehlen
und Polter, Zanke, Plagen
macht dass in wenig Tagen,
so Lieb' als Treu' entweicht.

With gentleness and pleading,
benevolence and laughter,
the maiden's heart you're after
you'll win without delay.
But if you are unheeding,
and treat the lady crudely,
abuse her or act rudely,
her love will fly away.

--From Recital 3 in the *Young Artists Series*, sponsored by Santa Cruz Opera Society, Inc. (SCOSI), ©1980