

Josef Rixner (1902-1973)

THE VIENNESE MUSICIAN (DER LIEBE AUGUSTIN) [1926/1952]

Operetta in 3 acts by Bruno Hardt-Warden and Rudolf Köller

German

full eve

Count Esterhazy	supporting part
Josias Traunwieser, bell founder	character supporting part
Appolonia, his mother	comic supporting part
Lore, his daughter	soprano
Georg Kolschitzky, coffee boiler	buffo
Peter Wendler, master baker	comedian
Anastasia, his wife	comic old woman
Doctor Risibisius, town clerk	drastic comedian
Heinrich Rundgasser, a young musician	tenor
Dear Augustine.	tenor
Hanni, waitress at Kolschitzky's	soubrette
Marika, housemaid at Traunwieser's	comic supporting part
Steffl, innkeeper	supporting part

People, soldiers, citizens, ladies and gentlemen of the nobility, servants, ballet

2(picc).2.2.2 – 4.3.3.0 – timp. perc (timp, whip, bass dr, cym, bells). harp. cel. org (on stage). strings (1/1/1/1/1)

In Vienna after the second Turkish siege, the beautiful Lore mourns her Heinrich, who went as a soldier to fight the Osmons and has been missing ever since. Meanwhile, the coffee-boiler Kolschitzky, master baker Wendler and town clerk Risibisius are all competing for Lore's hand. Urged by her father, she promises to decide on one of the admirers by the time the vesper bells ring, but the only one who awakens her sympathy is the poor Augustine, a street poet, who plays the violin at dances.

They all gather under the tree in front of Kolschitzky's coffee house "The Blue Bottle" to find which one Lore has decided on. Just when the girl wants to open the note in which she has written the name of the lucky one, horns proclaim approaching soldiers, among them Heinrich, long thought to be dead. Overjoyed by this unexpected turn of events, the bell-founder Traunwieser, Lore's father, invites everyone to a festival in honour of the happily returned Heinrich. They are all on the way to the bell-founder's house and Lore regretfully bids Augustine farewell with the words "fate wanted it otherwise..." Remaining alone, the vagabond discovers Lore's letter on the ground, which he opens after some hesitation. First affected, then overjoyed, he reads his own name "Augustine" – and decides to fight for Lore's love ...