At the opening of the opera, Tim is sitting on a park bench writing in a notepad. A stranger, Hawk, starts a conversation with him; learning that Tim is an intern reporter, Hawk impresses him with insider's knowledge of D.C. politics. Both men feel a strong connection, but neither comments directly on it. Hawk makes gentle fun of Tim's drinking milk but gives his shoulder an affectionate squeeze when he leaves.

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Middle-aged, successful lawyer Fredrik Egerman has recently married an 18-year-old trophy wife, Anne, a naive girl who loves Fredrik but isn't attracted to him. The two have been married for eleven months, and Anne still protects her virginity. Upon coming home from work, Fredrik surprises Anne with tickets to a play starring Desiree Armfeldt, a glamorous actress whom Anne greatly admires. Anne giddily fantasizes about what it would be like to be as beautiful and beloved as Desiree, and starts talking at Fredrik about her day. Fredrik, distracted by his lust, considers various ways he might seduce his wife but ultimately rules each one out and elects to take a nap instead (“Now”). Meanwhile, his moody son Henrik, a seminary student a year older than his stepmother, practices the cello to express his own feelings of frustration (“Later”). Anne promises her husband that shortly she will consent to consummate their marriage even though she can't help recoiling at his touch (“Soon”) and all three of them lament at once. The number concludes with Fredrik sighing Desiree's name in his sleep, which Anne overhears.

"Mimi!...Speravo di trovarvi qui" from La bohème

Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)

Marcello: John Drake
Mimi: Kaitlyn O'Gaibtheachain

Mimi, having found Marcello at the tavern where he lives, tells him of her difficulties with Rodolfo, who abandoned her the night before, and of Rodolfo's terrible jealousy. Marcello expresses concern about their relationship and Mimi’s cough, then reveals that Rodolfo is asleep inside.

"Ach Belmonte, ach mein Leben!" from Die Entführung aus dem Serail

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Konstanze: Wonyoung Seo
Belmonte: Connor Husa
Pedrillo: Joshua Myers
Blonde: Lucianna Astorga

Two couples reunite after Belmonte and Pedrillo plan to rescue their respective spouses, Konstanze and Blonde, from a kidnapping. After their initial expressions of love and joy, Belmonte and Pedrillo both question anxiously whether their respective fiancées have remained faithful during their forced separation; to their delight, the women respond with indignation and dismay, and Blonde slaps Pedrillo. The two men apologize for their lack of confidence, the women forgive them for their offensive questions, and all celebrate the power of love.

“Pourquoi vouz tenez vous ainsï” from Dialogues des Carmélites

Francis Poulenc (1782-1868)

Chevalier de la Force: Weizhong Ding
Blanche de la Force: Katrina Dignum
Mother Marie: Felicity Davis

Blanche's brother, the Chevalier de la Force, arrives to announce that their father thinks Blanche should withdraw from the convent, since she is not safe there (being both an aristocrat and the member of a religious community, at a time of anti-aristocracy and anti-clericalism in the rising revolutionary tides). Blanche refuses,
saying that she has found happiness in the Carmelite Order. Later she admits to Mother Marie that it is fear (or the fear of fear itself, as the Chevalier expresses it) that keeps her from leaving.

"Bella Italia, alfin ti miro" from Il Turco in Italia

Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)

Selim: Sihan Jin
Fiorilla: Wonyoung Seo

When Selim, a Turkish prince, arrives in Italy, Fiorilla is immediately attracted to the handsome Turk, and a romance rapidly develops.

"Andrò ramingo e solo" from Idomeneo

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Idamante: Andrea Lucaciu
Ilia: Sarah Petko
Idomeneo: Weizhong Ding
Elettra: Kaitlyn O'Gaibtheachain

In exchange for being saved by Neptune, Idomeneo vowed to sacrifice the first living creature he should meet; unfortunately for him, this turns out to be his own son, Idamante. When Idomeneo realizes the youth that he must sacrifice for the sake of his vow is his own child, he orders Idamante never to seek him out again. Meanwhile, Elettra is consumed with jealousy because of her unrequited love for Idamante. In this quartet, Idamante explains to his beloved, Ilia, that he must leave. While Idamante and Ilia bid a sorrowful farewell to each other, Idomeneo is overcome with grief, while Elettra fumes, craving revenge.

“Che imbarazzo è mai questo!... Crudel! Perchè finora” from Le nozze di Figaro

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Il Conte: Daniel Laverriere
La Contessa: Katrina Dignum
Susanna: Lucianna Astorga

While the Count processes the chaos of the Act II finale, the Countess urges Susanna to give a false promise to meet the Count later that night in the garden. Susanna obliges and reluctantly approaches Count Almaviva.

“Un financier... Et un poète” from L’heure espagnole

Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)

Gonzalve: Nick James
Don Iñigo Gomez: Timothy Hurtt
Concepción: Andrea Lucaciu
Torquemada: Joshua Myers
Ramiro: John Drake

Concepción is a vivacious Spanish woman who juggles multiple lovers while her husband Torquemada, a clock maker, is away for the hour. This is the final scene of the opera, in which the singers step out of character to
intone the moral of the tale, paraphrasing Boccaccio: “Among all lovers, only the efficient succeed. The moment arrives, in the pursuit of love, when the muleteer has his turn!”
Program

“Nous sommes assaillis...” from *Cendrillon*  
Pauline Viardot (1821-1910)

*Cendrillon* (Marie): Morgan Lucero  
Maguelonne: Jess Corrigan  
Armelinde: Ali Crosley

A beggar (who is actually the Prince) calls at the house asking for food and money, but he is looking for a wife among common folk. Marie returns from asking her sisters for money to no avail, but offers the beggar the few coins she has before her sisters enter the living room to shoo away the beggar.

“God, it’s windy!” from *Three Decembers*  
Jake Heggie (b. 1961)

Bea: Marlena St. Jean  
Charlie: Chase Côté

Siblings Bea and Charlie reminisce on their upbringing. Charlie is in San Francisco and Bea is in Hartford, while their famous mother, Madeline (Maddy) Mitchell, is working in the Caribbean for the holiday. Charlie resents his mother for her homophobia. Bea admits that she hardly remembers their dad, since they were both very young when he died, but they miss him, nonetheless.

“Cosa mi narri?...sull'aria” from *Le Nozze di Figaro*  
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

La Contessa: Jess Corrigan  
Susanna: Faith Crossan

Susanna enters and updates her mistress regarding the plan to distract the Count from the wedding. The Countess dictates a love letter for Susanna to send to the Count, which suggests that he meet her (Susanna) that night, "under the pines". The letter instructs the Count to return the pin that fastens the letter.

"Alfin siam liberati... Là ci darem la mano” from *Don Giovanni*  
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Zerlina: Morgan Lucero  
Don Giovanni: Benjamin Chen
Don Giovanni is attracted to Zerlina, the wife of Masetto. Don Giovanni tries to remove the jealous Masetto by offering a wedding celebration at his castle. On realizing that Don Giovanni wants to remain behind with Zerlina, Masetto becomes angry but is forced to leave. Don Giovanni and Zerlina are soon alone and he immediately begins his seductive arts.

"The Kiss!" from *Patience and Sarah*  
Patience and Sarah share their love with each other in their first kiss.  

Patience: Faith Crossan  
Sarah: Ali Crosley

“A Weekend in the Country” from *A Little Night Music*  
Directed by Sarah Petko

Anne: Marlena St. Jean  
Petra: Jess Corrigan  
Charlotte: Ali Crosley  
Henrik: Roberto Guevara  
Carl Magnus: Benjamin Chen  
Fredrik: Chase Côté  
"Quintet": Morgan Lucero & Faith Crossan

Madam Armfeldt is asked to host a party for Fredrik, Anne, and Henrik. Madam Armfeldt reluctantly agrees and sends out a personal invitation, which sends Anne into a jealous frenzy over Fredrik. Anne does not want to accept the invitation, but is convinced to do so. Carl-Magnus plans to challenge Fredrik to a duel. All characters head to Madam Armfeldt's estate.