



For Immediate Release
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**OPERA COLORADO PRESENTS MOZART'S ROMANTIC COMEDY
COSÌ FAN TUTTE
4 PERFORMANCES ONLY: APRIL 25—MAY 3**

Opera Colorado presents
Così fan tutte
by **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

Ellie Caulkins Opera House,
Denver Performing Arts
Complex, 14th and Curtis,
downtown Denver

Saturday, April 25, 7:30pm
Tuesday, April 28, 7:30pm
Friday, May 1, 7:30 pm
Sunday, May 3, 2:00pm

Prices: \$29-\$157

Tickets online:
www.OperaColorado.org

Tickets by phone:
800-982-ARTS (2787)

Così fan tutte is sponsored by
Mike and Julie Bock and
Tanya R. Mathews.

Opera Colorado's 2008-2009
Season is sponsored by
Ellie Caulkins,
Charles and Ursula Kafadar, &
Susan and Jeremy Shamos

DENVER, CO—The age-old battle of the sexes heats up when two sisters get fooled into falling for each other's boyfriends in Opera Colorado's production of Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, playing for four performances only at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House, April 25 through May 3. Tickets, ranging in price from \$29 to \$157 are available at www.operacolorado.org or by calling 800-982-ARTS.

Italy in the 1950s sets the scene for this opera, staged by **James Robinson** and conducted by **Carlo Montanaro**. Two young naval officers make a bet that their fiancées, two naïve sisters, will remain faithful when tempted. To test their theory, the young men disguise themselves as "Albanians" and attempt to seduce each other's girlfriends.

One of the three great operas Mozart composed with librettist Lorenzo Da Ponte (the other two being *Don Giovanni* and *The Marriage of Figaro*), *Così* includes some of Mozart's most beautiful and popular melodies. *Così fan tutte* stars some of America's finest young singers creating Mozart's vivid characters. Four of the artists will be making their Opera Colorado debuts with this production. Sets for the production are designed by **Allen Moyer**. Costumes are by **David C. Woolard**.

The cast of *Così fan tutte* ...

Nicolle Foland as Fiordiligi (Opera Colorado debut)

The San Francisco Chronicle praises Nicolie Foland as “a singer who boasts a beautiful tone—accurate and clear from a lusty lower register up through the crystalline high notes—an eloquent way with a melodic phrase, and, to top it off, a stage presence both elegant and alluring.” Ms. Folland has a long relationship with San Francisco Opera, starting as a member of the prestigious Adler Fellowship program. Since completing the program, she has sung many major roles at the company, including Anna in *Don Giovanni*, Hanna Glawari in *The Merry Widow*, multiple roles in *Harvey Milk*, Tatiana in *Eugene Onegin* and Freia in *Das Rheingold*. She has also appeared at leading companies across the U.S., including Lyric Opera of Chicago, Houston Grand Opera and Santa Fe Opera among many others.

Leah Summers as Dorabella (Opera Colorado debut)

Ms. Summers recently performed with New York City Opera in the roles of Cherubino in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Maddalena in *Rigoletto* and Melina in Deborah Drattell’s *Central Park*. She has also appeared in leading roles with Pittsburgh Opera, Berkshire Opera, Vienna Staatsopera and the Opera Orchestra of New York among others. Equally at home on the concert stage, Ms. Summers has appeared as a soloist with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, New York Chamber Orchestra, Richmond Symphony, Ensemble Musica Sacra, the New York Festival of Song and many others.

Norman Reinhardt as Ferrando

American tenor Norman Reinhardt returns to Opera Colorado after recent appearances here in *The Magic Flute* and *Don Pasquale*. A graduate of the Houston Grand Opera Studio, he has sung many major roles with Houston Grand Opera, including *Boris Godunov*, *Don Pasquale* and *The Coronation of Poppea*. At Wolf Trap Opera, he sang Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni*. He has also appeared with Aspen Opera Theatre Center and the Santa Fe Opera.

Jacques Imbrailo as Guglielmo (Opera Colorado debut)

South African baritone Jacques Imbrailo makes his Opera Colorado debut performing Guglielmo, a role he performed with Classical Opera Company in Great Britain. He has performed extensively throughout South Africa and Great Britain with roles such as Tarquinius in *The Rape of Lucretia* and Mercutio in *Romeo et Juliette*. A former member of the Jette Parker Young Artists Program, Mr. Imbrailo has appeared with the Royal Opera House Covent Garden in roles such as Morales in *Carmen*, Scythian in *Iphigenie en Tauride* and Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*.

Susanne Mentzer as Despina (Opera Colorado debut)

Introduced to opera as a teenage usher in Santa Fe, New Mexico, Susanne Mentzer has gone on to become one of today’s foremost mezzo-sopranos. She has appeared with many of the great opera companies and orchestras in North America and Europe as well as the Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires and on tour to Japan with the Metropolitan Opera. *Opera News* praised her work: “The mezzo’s vocally impeccable, emotionally compelling performance proved that she is among the premier art-song interpreters of our day. Her rich, vibrant sound retains its warmth from top to bottom and throughout its broad dynamic range, and she draws the listener into the spirit of each song with a deep internal connection that creates distinctive characters with a minimum of outward display.”

Kevin Glavin as Don Alfonso

A winner of the Luciano Pavarotti Competition, Kevin Glavin is one of the most impressive talents singing in the Americas today. His incredible versatility as a performer has quickly established a reputation for brilliant and innovative interpretations of comedic opera roles. He returns to Opera Colorado after recent engagements with Glimmerglass Opera, New York City Opera, Opera Columbus, Opera Company of Philadelphia, Opera Theatre of St. Louis, San Francisco Opera and Pittsburgh Opera where a local critic dubbed him “possibly the funniest man in opera.”

Creative Team

James Robinson, Stage Director

Mr. Robinson served as Opera Colorado’s Artistic Director from 2001 through 2008. He currently holds the post of Artistic Director of Opera Theatre of St. Louis. His extensive directing career includes productions for San Francisco Opera, Seattle Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Los Angeles Opera, Santa Fe Opera, The Dallas Opera, New York City Opera, Minnesota Opera, Boston Lyric Opera, Canadian Opera Company, Opera Australia, Opera Ireland, Royal Swedish Opera, and Deutsche Staatsoper Berlin.

Carlo Montanaro, Conductor

Maestro Montanaro made his Opera Colorado and U.S. debut with Opera Colorado’s 2007 production of *The Elixir of Love*. Internationally, he has conducted for Florence’s Teatro Comunale, Arena di Verona, Rome’s Teatro dell’Opera, Berlin’s Deutsche Oper, Staatsoper Stuttgart, Palermo’s Teatro Massimo, Parma’s Fondazione Arturo Toscanini, Trieste’s Teatro Verdi, Orchestra del maggio musicale Fiorentino, Orchestra Filarmonica marchigiana and the New Israeli Opera.

Allen Moyer, Set Design

Internationally, Mr. Moyer has created productions for opera companies such as The Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco Opera, Seattle Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Santa Fe Opera, New York City Opera, Opera National de Paris, Scottish Opera, Minnesota Opera, The Dallas Opera, and Canadian Opera Company. On Broadway, recent productions include *Grey Gardens* and *The Little Dog Laughed*.

David C. Woolard, Costume Design (Opera Colorado debut)

In addition to Santa Fe Opera, Mr. Woolard’s design credits include Boston Lyric Opera and extensive design work for regional theatres across the country such as La Jolla Playhouse. On Broadway, his credits include the fiftieth anniversary production of *West Side Story*, *Dividing the Estate*, *The Farnsworth Invention*, *Old Acquaintances*, *Ring of Fire*, *All Shook Up*, *700 Sundays*, *The Smell of the Kill*, *The Rocky Horror Show* (2001 Tony Award nomination), *Voices in the Dark*, *The Who’s Tommy* (1993 Tony and Olivier Award nominations), *Bells are Ringing*, *Marlene*, *Wait Until Dark*, *The Young Man from Atlanta*, *Damn Yankees* and *A Few Good Men*.

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