



Administrative: 612-333-2700

Patron Services: 612-333-6669

Fax: 612-333-0869

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Isaac Mayhew, Associate Director of Marketing and Communications; imayhew@mnopera.org; 612-342-1614 (o), 651-272-0070 (m)

MINNESOTA OPERA TO OPEN 2025-2026 SEASON WITH MOZART'S *COSÌ FAN TUTTE*

Brand-new production to showcase Resident Artists and offer audiences the opportunity to vote on one of three possible endings

MINNEAPOLIS (September 9, 2025) – Minnesota Opera will open its 2025-2026 season with a bold new take on Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, a sparkling comedy that playfully exposes the constantly evolving chaos and complexity of human relationships. Featuring a reckless wager, shifting affections, and multiple disguises, this razor-sharp satire explores the fragile boundary between truth and performance. *Così fan tutte* will run **November 1-9, 2025 at the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts** in downtown Saint Paul.

Così fan tutte tells the story of two young men who elect to throw their relationships with their more affluent and professionally successful fiancées into chaos by disguising themselves in order to pursue the other's partner. Love triangles abound in a whirlwind of deceit, temptation, and emotional fallout. Holding up a mirror to the absurd ways in which we sabotage even our closest relationships, this production adds a twist—audiences will vote during intermission to decide which of several possible endings plays out onstage. Mozart and Da Ponte are famously open-ended about which couples (if any) end up together, and Stage Director Doug Scholz-Carlson will lean into that ambiguity by bringing audiences directly into the interpretive process.

MN Opera's production will be a true showcase of the company's Resident Artist Program, which has become one of the most highly regarded training programs in the country. All five Resident Artist singers will be featured in significant roles—first-year soprano **Kylie Kreucher** will make her company debut as Fiordiligi opposite mezzo-soprano **Kara Morgan** (*The Barber of Seville*) as Dorabella; tenor **Ángel Vargas** (*The Snowy Day*) as Ferrando; baritone **David Wolfe** (*The Barber of Seville*) as Guglielmo; bass **John Mburu** (*The Barber of Seville*) as Don Alfonso. Soprano **Lindsay Ohse** will make her company debut as Despina. Morgan, Vargas, Wolfe, and Mburu are returning for their second season in the MN Opera Resident Artist Program, along with program alum **Celeste Marie Johnson** (Principal Coach and Chorus Director) who will underscore the action on stage on fortepiano with the MN Opera Orchestra for all four performances.

"Our Resident Artist Program is at the heart of what we do here at MN Opera and *Così fan tutte* is a brilliant showcase of these artists' talent, versatility, and growth," says President and General Director Ryan Taylor. "The opera's themes—love, identity, and the masks we wear—are as relevant today as they were in Mozart's time. And with the audience helping decide how the story ends each night, no two performances will be quite the same."

MN Opera veteran **Doug Scholz-Carlson** will direct a production that relocates *Così fan tutte* from its original setting in 18th-century Naples to a modern-day environment. Scenic and lighting designs by **Paul Whitaker** and costume designs by **Amber Brown** contribute to a visual language that draws



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inspiration from the Twin Cities and underscore the relatability of the opera's themes—namely the disconnect between societal expectations placed on men and women and the realities of modern relationships. The production will be led by Principal Conductor **Christopher Franklin** at the helm of the MN Opera Orchestra and Chorus.

MN Opera VP, Artistic, Joseph Li will present Opera Insights in the Ordway's Target Atrium one hour prior to each performance, offering audiences the opportunity to learn more about the ways in which Mozart's writing creates moments of comedy and vulnerability for the characters onstage.

Tickets for *Così fan tutte* start at \$35 and are available at mnopera.org/cosi-fan-tutte.

Quick facts:

- What:** *Così fan tutte*
Music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte
- The opera will be sung in Italian with English captions projected above the stage.
- Where:** Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, 345 Washington Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102
- When:** Saturday, November 1, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 8, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, November 9, 2025 at 2 p.m.
- Tickets:** From \$35. Call Minnesota Opera Patron Services at 612-333-6669, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., or purchase online at mnopera.org/cosi-fan-tutte.
- Run Time:** Three hours and seven minutes with one intermission
- Media:** Digital assets are available on our [Online Press Room](#).
- Learn More:** Opera Insights – one hour prior to the show in the Target Atrium at the Ordway



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Creative Team

Principal Conductor | Christopher Franklin
Stage Director | Doug Scholz-Carlson
Scenic and Lighting Designer | Paul Whitaker
Costume Designer | Amber Brown

Cast

Fiordiligi | Kylie Kreucher*
Dorabella | Kara Morgan*
Ferrando | Ángel Vargas*
Guglielmo | David Wolfe*
Don Alfonso | John Mburu*
Despina | Lindsay Ohse

* Resident Artist

To learn more about *Così fan tutte*, please visit mnopera.org/cosi-fan-tutte.

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Minnesota Opera advances the art of opera for today and for future generations
by expanding the circle of musical storytelling.