THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
AT MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO
PRESENTS

Cosi fan tutte
By W. A. Mozart

FRIDAY
APRIL 30, 2010
7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY
MAY 2, 2010
3:00 P.M.

DR. KIMM JULIAN
Producer

Halling Recital Hall
320 Maywood Ave.
Minnesota State Mankato
Cosi Fan Tutte

By
W. A. Mozart

An Opera in Two Acts
Libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte
First Performance – Vienna – January 26, 1790

Cast

Don Alfonso          Alex Barnett
Guglielmo               Joe Fine
Ferrando            Matthew Coffman
Fiordiligi           Lauren Parsons
Dorabella          Jen Coffman
Despina              Christina Oanes

There will be a ten-minute intermission between Act I and Act II.
Synopsis

Act I

In an attempt to convince the star-crossed lovers Guglielmo and Ferrando that women are inherently unfaithful, the older and more jaded Don Alfonso makes a wager that they’ll be able to prove their lovers’ infidelity within the day.

Fiordiligi and Dorabella gaze adoringly at pictures of their lovers, but soon discover that Guglielmo and Ferrando have been called away on duty and may not return for a while. They mourn and say farewell. Their maid, Despina, advises that there are plenty of other men to love, observing that since men are chronically unfaithful, women should not be expected to remain loyal to them.

Guglielmo and Ferrando soon return, disguised as Albanians, and attempt to woo each other’s lovers. The women remain steadfast despite Despina’s advice. Pretending to be hurt by this rejection, Guglielmo and Ferrando threaten suicide and pretend to take poison, from which Despina, disguised as a doctor, “cures” them.

Act II

Despina again advises the sisters to take up the Albanians’ offers of marriage, and praises herself for her independence and worldly knowledge. Dorabella begins to change her mind, advising her sister that they must avoid boredom. Guglielmo quickly wins her over. Fiordiligi eventually gives into Ferrando, but curses her heart for its inconstancy.

Upon hearing that their lovers have been unfaithful, Ferrando and Guglielmo decide to continue with the charade. Despina, disguised as a notary, produces marriage contracts for the new couples. After the marriage contracts are signed, however, they pretend that the soldiers are returning, and the “Albanians” hide. Ferrando and Guglielmo confront their lovers, then reveal the charade. Don Alfonso advises them to laugh and reunite, as they are now wiser, aware of the other’s true nature.
Dr. Kimm Julian, Stage Director and Conductor

Dr. Kimm Julian, Director of Opera and Voice professor joined the Minnesota State University, Mankato Music faculty in the fall of 2005. His great passion at Minnesota State Mankato is teaching voice and the creation of the Opera Program. Since arriving he has produced and directed Mozart’s Abduction from the Seraglio and Humperdinck’s Hansel and Gretel, a joint production with the Mankato Symphony Orchestra. In 2008, in addition to director and producer, Dr. Julian also took on the role of conductor in Bizet’s Carmen; followed by the Marriage of Figaro, Mozart; and Dominick Argento’s Christopher Sly in 2009.

Dr. Julian is an accomplished and versatile baritone who has appeared in more than 100 opera, oratorio and musical theater roles in six languages. He continues to sing professionally on national and international stages creating interestingly “bad boy baritone roles ” such as Scarpia in Tosca, Jack Rance in the Girl of the Golden West, title roles in Rigoletto and Macbeth. Musical Theater roles include the King in The King and I, Emile De Becque in South Pacific and Don Quixote in Man of La Mancha. This title role is how he introduced himself to the campus in the fall of 2005 in a Theater department production. His performances have taken him to Japan, Australia, Brazil, Ireland, Italy and Austria. Most of his experience has been in the States where he has been a regular at Minnesota Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera and Washington Opera, He has sung at New York City Opera and many regional companies across the nation. A highlight of his career was in the Kennedy Center with the Washington Opera production of Le Cid where he performed with Placido Domingo.

A native of Minnesota he received his BM in Education from Simpson College and earned his MA and DMA at The University of Iowa. His Doctoral Thesis is titled Giuseppe Verdi’s Macbeth: An analysis of the title role.

Barbara Brooks, Coach/Accompanist and Harpsichord

Barbara Brooks is an active coach, pianist and music director in the Twin Cities area. She has served as coach/pianist for several opera companies including Canadian Opera, Minnesota Opera, New Orleans Opera, Opera Banff, Kentucky Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Berkshire Opera and the Wesley Balk Opera/Music Theater Institute, as well as for university opera programs at the University of North Texas, University of Colorado, and the University of Minnesota. She currently teaches at Macalester College, St. Cloud State University and is the artistic advisor/pianist for the Minnesota Chorale, the official chorus of the Minnesota Orchestra.
**Cast**

**Don Alfonso** – Alex Barnett – Grad Student  
B.S. Vocal Music Education Minnesota State Mankato 2006  
Major: MM Vocal Performance  
Hometown: New Richland, MN  
Experience: Minnesota Opera Chorus; Faust, Il Trovatore, Romeo et Juliet, L’Italiani in Algieri, Un Ballo in Maschera, Figaro – The Marriage of Figaro, Christopher Sly – Christopher Sly, Mankato Symphony Orchestra Bass Soloist – Messiah

**Guglielmo** – Joe Fine – Alumni  
Major: BA in Vocal Music  
Hometown: Blaine, MN  

**Ferrando** – Matthew Coffman – Graduate Student  
B.A. Music Bethel College, Indiana 1999  
Major: MM Vocal Performance  
Hometown: Elkhart, IN  

**Fiordiligi** – Lauren Parsons – Graduate Student  
Lecturer of Vocal Music – Western Wyoming Community College – 2006-2009  
BMA Vocal Performance – University of Oklahoma – 2005  
Hometown: Waco, TX  

**Dorabella** – Jen Coffman – Graduate Student  
B.A. Music Bethel College, Indiana 2000  
Major: MM Vocal Performance  
Hometown: Souix Falls, SD  
Despina – Christina Oanes – Junior  
Major: BA Vocal Music  
Hometown: Fairmont, MN  
Experience: Page, Christopher Sly, Chorus – Carmen

Fiordiligi (Understudy) – Lauren B. Prine – Junior  
Major: BA Art History  
Hometown: Hillsdale, WI  
Experience: Petra Turf – Christopher Sly

Ferrando (Understudy) – Tyler Bush – Senior  
Major: Vocal Music Education  
Hometown: Owatonna, MN  
Experience: Chorus – Guys and Dolls, Chorus – Once Upon a Mattress

Despina (Understudy) – Samantha McCune – Junior  
Major: Vocal Music Education  
Hometown: Buffalo MN  
Experience: Director – St. John’s Episcopal Church Children’s Choir

Guglielmo (Understudy) – Beau Marchwick – Junior  
Major: Communication Studies  
Hometown: Owatonna, MN  
Experience: Pedrillo – The Abduction from the Seraglio

Dorabella (Understudy) – Jennifer Moeller – Junior  
Major: BFA Art  
Hometown: Parkers Prairie, MN  
Experience: Second Lady – Christopher Sly

Andrew Kurkowski – Assistant Director  
Major: Vocal Performance  
Hometown: New Hope, MN  
Experience: Earl of Mountararat – Iolanthe, Second Servant – Christopher Sly
Orchestra

Violin I
Tavis Riederer - Concertmaster
Adam Scheid

Violin II
Andrea Carlson
Jerusha Mecredy
John Zehner

Viola
Melanie Cordell
Josh Erhardt

Cello
Nichole Gilbert
Ruth Normandin

Bass
Dan Nonweiler

Oboe
Jacob Best
Sarah Hess

Clarinet
Amelia Schaller
Hunter Ellis

Bassoon
Shaina Sieh
Erin Meyer

Trumpet
Christine Thomas
Evan Collins

Flute
Erika Koenig
Melissa Hood

Timpani
Mark Fier

Acknowledgements

Department of Music
Department of Theatre and Dance
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