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NC OPERA PRESENTS COSÌ FAN TUTTE THIS OCTOBER IN RALEIGH

RALEIGH, N.C. – Coming to Raleigh’s Fletcher Opera Theater on October 3, 5 and 6 is a fully staged operatic production of Mozart’s *Così fan tutte* (or “The School for Lovers”) presented by the **North Carolina Opera** (Sung in Italian with English supertitles).

Mozart’s entertaining comedy masterpiece *Così fan tutte*, comments on and pokes fun at the disguises we sometimes wear for love. In 18th-century Naples, an old bachelor decides to teach two soldiers a lesson about romantic fickleness, wagering that their fiancées will stray if the young men obey him for just 24 hours. Naïvely taking the bet, the soldiers pretend to go off to war but then sneak back disguised as Albanians and try to woo each other’s women, setting off a dazzling plot full of feigned poisonings, scheming chambermaids, sham weddings, and sudden reversals of fidelity.

"This is Mozart's truest opera, and also his funniest. The audience can expect a smart and funny take on love and infidelity. We can't wait to present this wonderful cast in this incredible piece" says North Carolina Opera General Director Eric Mitchko.

This fully staged performance, directed by North Carolina School of the Arts alum Michael Shell, brings to the Triangle the amazing talents of Elizabeth De Trejo as Fiordiligi, Cecelia Hall as Dorabella, Tyler Nelson as Ferrando, Sidney Outlaw as Guglielmo, Jake Gardner as Don Alfonso, and Hailey Clark as Despina.

North Carolina Opera Artistic Director and *Così fan tutte* conductor Timothy Myers adds “Così is a masterpiece of the classical period, providing many challenges en route to the rewards. I am thrilled to work with such a talented cast, including many North Carolina natives having great careers who will be coming “home” to perform with NCO. This traditional production will be a treat to the eyes and ears!”

The impressive cast list does indeed come with some exciting North Carolina connections. Cecelia Hall is a rising star in the opera world and recent graduate of the Lyric Opera of Chicago young artists program hails from Durham, Sidney Outlaw is from Brevard and Hailey Clark is a Cary native.

Experience this entertaining comedic romp firsthand at one of the upcoming performances on Thursday, October 3 at 8pm, Friday, October 5 at 8pm and Sunday, October 6 at 3pm. All performances of *Così fan tutte* take place at Raleigh’s Fletcher Opera Theater in the Duke Energy Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets and information can be found online at www.ncopera.org or by calling the North Carolina Opera offices at 919.792.3850.

The public is invited to join the North Carolina Opera for their FREE community events leading up to *Così fan tutte* including a POPera live Opera performance at CAM Raleigh (contemporary art museum) during the October First Friday Festivities (October 4) and Inside the Opera Studio, a discussion on

Mozart by General Director Eric Mitchko alongside live opera performances, at Quail Ridge Books and Music on September 18 at 7:30pm.

ABOUT NORTH CAROLINA OPERA

[North Carolina Opera](#) was formed in 2010 from the merger of Capital Opera Raleigh and The Opera Company of North Carolina. It is dedicated to presenting operatic performances at the highest level throughout the Triangle. We also have a robust education program that brings opera to schools across Wake County and surrounding counties. North Carolina Opera brings international level artists to Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill, and also engages the best in local Triangle talent.

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