

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Images: Attached.

## Sarasota Opera Opens 2025 Fall Season with Mozart's Così fan tutte on October 31

**Sarasota, Florida**— Sarasotans strolling down Pineapple Avenue this month will hear the music of Mozart filling the streets outside the Opera House as rehearsals started for Sarasota Opera's fall opera production, *Così fan tutte*. There will be only five performances of the fall production, performed at the Sarasota Opera House, Friday, October 31 through Saturday, November 15.

This beloved comic opera, with music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte, is a masterful blend of humor, disguise, and emotional depth, set to some of Mozart's most exquisite music. Set in 18<sup>th</sup> century Naples, *Così fan tutte* follows two young officers, Ferrando and Guglielmo, who wager with the skeptical philosopher Don Alfonso that their fiancées, sisters Fiordiligi and Dorabella, will remain faithful in their absence. To test their theory, the men disguise themselves and attempt to seduce each other's beloveds, setting off a chain of comic and evocative events. With the help of the sisters' clever maid Despina, the ruse deepens, revealing the fragility of trust and the complexity of desire. Though lighthearted in tone, the opera explores deeper themes of fidelity, identity, and emotional vulnerability. Mozart's music elevates the story with moments of breathtaking beauty, including the famous trio "Soave sia il vento," which captures the bittersweet tension between hope and heartbreak.

The production is conducted by Victor DeRenzi, with stage direction by Stephanie Sundine, scenic design by David P. Gordon, costumes by Howard Tsvi Kaplan, and live orchestral music by the Sarasota Orchestra. The internationally acclaimed cast of principal artists features Hanna Brammer as Fiordiligi, Olivia Vote as Dorabella, Filippo Fontana as Guglielmo, Luke Norvell as Ferrando, Virginia Mims as Despina, and Jake Stamatis as Don Alfonso. Sung in Italian with English supertitles, *Così fan tutte* continues Sarasota Opera's tradition of presenting world-class opera on Florida's Gulf Coast.

Patrons can prepare for their performance by <u>watching the promo video</u>, listening to the <u>production's podcast episode</u>, and exploring the production's featured music on a curated <u>Spotify playlist</u>. To access this digital content, plus a full list of performance dates, cast information, synopsis and program notes, visit <a href="https://www.sarasotaopera.org/event/cosi-fan-tutte-0">https://www.sarasotaopera.org/event/cosi-fan-tutte-0</a>

Tickets are available at www.sarasotaopera.org or by calling the Box Office at 941-328-1300.

## **Performance dates:**

Friday, October 31, 7:30 PM (Opening Night) Sunday, November 2, 1:30 PM (Matinee) Tuesday, November 11, 7:30 PM Thursday, November 13, 7:30 PM Saturday, November 15, 1:30 PM (Matinee)

## About Sarasota Opera

Sarasota Opera is entering its 67th season of bringing world-class opera to Florida's Gulf Coast and is celebrating 100 years of the historic Sarasota Opera House. The company was launched in 1960 in the historic 320-seat Asolo Theater on the grounds of Sarasota's Ringling Museum of Art. In 1984, the company moved into the former A.B. Edwards Theater — now the Sarasota Opera House. Since then, the company has gained an international reputation as one of the leading regional opera companies in the U.S. through initiatives such as the Masterworks Revival Series and the Verdi Cycle. The company's Sarasota Youth Opera is the most comprehensive youth opera program in the U.S. The Sarasota Opera House, which underwent a \$20 million renovation and rehabilitation in 2007, has been called "one of America's finest venues for opera" by Musical America. Since 1983, the company has been under the artistic leadership of Victor DeRenzi and the administrative leadership of General Director Richard Russell since 2012. Sarasota Opera is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture and the National Endowment for the Arts. Programs are paid for in part by Sarasota County Tourist Development Tax revenues.

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