



COSI FAN TUTTE

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Libretto by L. Da Ponte

Opera in two acts

Sung in Italian

From Opéra de Paris (Palais Garnier)

Recorded February 2017

Running Time: 3h 10min

Detailed running time: TBA

CREATIVE TEAM

Conductor	Philippe Jordan
Staged by	Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker
Choreography	Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker
Sets and lighting	Jan Versweyveld
Costumes designs	Dries Van Noten
Chorus Master	Alessandro Di Stefano

Orchestra and Chorus of the Opéra de Paris

ARTISTIC TEAM

Fiordiligi	Jacquelyn Wagner
Dorabella	Michele Losier
Ferrando	Frédéric Antoun
Guglielmo	Philippe Sly
Don Alfonso	Paulo Szot
Despina	Ginger Costa-Jackson

PRESENTATION

Prompted by Don Alfonso, a cynical old philosopher, two young idealists decide to put their lovers' fidelity to the test. But love will teach them a bitter lesson: those who believe themselves phoenixes and goddesses will discover the desires of the flesh... In 1790, one year after the French Revolution, in what would be their final collaboration, Mozart and Da Ponte conduct a scientific investigation of love. The music of *Così fan tutte* is truly extraordinary – complex in its symmetry, jovial and yet infused with an almost sacred melancholia. An extraordinary score where each note seems intended to make us accept a loss – lost paradise, lost youth, or a lost loved-one – and portray a world where all is in a constant state of flux. This laboratory of eroticism could but inspire choreographer Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker, who excels in revealing a work's innermost geometry on stage. With six singers doubled by six dancers, she depicts the desire which unites and separates human beings, like the interactions between atoms that, once broken, make new bonds possible.

SYNOPSIS

ACT I

Ferrando and Guglielmo are convinced of the fidelity of Fiordiligi and Dorabella, the two sisters to whom they are betrothed. Don Alfonso, on the other hand, claims all women are fickle and wagers that he can prove it. The young men agree to take Alfonso's test, and he tells the sisters that their husbands-to-be have been enlisted into the army. Once the men have departed, the sisters' maid Despina is persuaded by Alfonso to introduce two young Albanian friends (Ferrando and Guglielmo in disguise) to Fiordiligi and Dorabella. Each "stranger" then begins to court the other's fiancée, and they begin to make progress after pretending to take poison. Despina disguises herself as a doctor and successfully cures the Albanians.

ACT II

When Ferrando learns that Dorabella has yielded to Guglielmo, he becomes yet more determined to win Fiordiligi's heart. Eventually, she too succumbs and a double wedding is planned - with Despina, again in disguise, as the notary. Just as the army is heard returning, the Albanian newlyweds disappear and Ferrando and Guglielmo appear in their place. Producing the marriage contract, they remonstrate with the sisters, who soon confess their deceit. After paying Alfonso his wager, Ferrando and Guglielmo forgive Fiordiligi and Dorabella.