

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Daniel Zillmann, 612.342.1612 or dzillmann@mnopera.org

Minnesota Opera's 49th season opens September 24 with a delightful new production of Mozart's *Così fan tutte*

Award-winning Twin Cities director Peter Rothstein makes debut

- What:** Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *Così fan tutte*
Sung in Italian with English captions projected above the stage.
- Where:** Ordway, 345 Washington Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102
- When:** Saturday, September 24, 8pm Tuesday, September 27, 7:30pm
Thursday, September 29, 7:30pm Saturday, October 1, 7:30pm
Sunday, October 2, 2pm
- Tickets:** \$20 – \$200. Call the Minnesota Opera Ticket Office at 612.333.6669,
Monday–Friday, 9am–6pm, or purchase online at mnopera.org.
- Media:** An online press kit is available now at mnopera.org/cosifantuttekite,
which includes full artist bios, links to view set and costume design renderings
and other useful resources.
- Contact Communications Manager, Daniel Zillmann, to take advantage of the
following interview, photo and video opportunities: **Wednesday, September
21, 7:30pm**, and **Thursday, September 22, 7:30pm** (Dress Rehearsals at
Ordway, 345 Washington Street, Saint Paul, MN)
- Bloggers:** Minnesota Opera will host a **Blogger Preview Night**, including a reception
with conductor Christopher Franklin and exclusive access to the Final Dress
Rehearsal on **Thursday, September 22, 6pm**. Admission by invitation only.

Minneapolis—The battle of the sexes rages on in Mozart's most provocative comedy. As a philosopher engages a quartet of young lovers in a subversive game that confronts their idealistic views of love, the two men disguise themselves and try to seduce each other's lover. This sublime masterpiece reminds us of love's power to confound reason. For over two centuries this opera was considered risqué, and it was not until after World War II that it gained its place in the standard operatic repertoire.

continued ...

Award-winning Twin Cities director **PETER ROTHSTEIN** makes his main stage debut in this thrilling new production with sets by **ALEXANDER DODGE** and costumes by **ALEJO VIETTI**, who both make their company debuts. Soprano **JACQUELYN WAGNER** makes her Minnesota Opera debut in the role of Fiordiligi opposite fast-rising young baritone **MATTHEW WORTH** also debuting as her lover, Guglielmo. Mezzo-soprano **JENNIFER HOLLOWAY**, in another company debut as Dorabella, is paired with tenor **JOHN TESSIER** (*Cinderella*) as Ferrando. **DANIEL MOBBS** (*Cinderella*) returns as the cynical advisor Don Alfonso and Minnesota Opera Resident Artist **ANGELA MORTELLARO** (*Orpheus and Eurydice*) is the manipulative maid Despina. **CHRISTOPHER FRANKLIN** (*Cinderella*) returns after his much lauded conducting debut in 2010.

THE CREATIVE TEAM

Conductor Christopher Franklin
Stage Director Peter Rothstein*
Set Designer Alexander Dodge*
Costume Designer Alejo Vietti*
Lighting Designer Marcus Dilliard

THE CAST

Fiordiligi Jacquelyn Wagner*
Dorabella, *her sister* Jennifer Holloway*
Guglielmo, *Fiordiligi's lover* Matthew Worth*
Ferrando, *Dorabella's lover* John Tessier
Don Alfonso, *a philosopher* Daniel Mobbs
Despina, *the sisters' maid* Angela Mortellaro+

*Minnesota Opera Debut, +Minnesota Opera Resident Artist

To learn more about *Così fan tutte* ...

Please visit our website at mnopera.org/season or consider the opportunities listed below. On the website you will find casting updates, artist biographies, synopses, background notes, education program information, audio and video clips, suggestions for further reading and listening, ticketing services and other company information.

Minnesota Opera at Concrete and Grass Lowertown Music Festival

Once again, Minnesota Opera participates in Concrete and Grass Lowertown Music Festival on **Friday, September 9, 7-8pm**. **MINNESOTA OPERA RESIDENT ARTISTS** perform onstage at Mears Park in downtown St. Paul. Learn more online at mnopera.org/events.

Opera Up Close: *Così fan tutte*

Join us as we launch an exciting new series of entertaining and informative events featuring the creators, performers and decision-makers of each Minnesota Opera production. Go behind the scenes to explore the artistic and creative process, the performers' perspective, the history of the opera and much more! Visit mnopera.org/operaupclose to view the season's lineup.

The first Opera Up Close, devoted to *Così fan tutte*, will be held on **Monday, September 12, 7pm** at the Minnesota Opera Center, 620 North First Street in the Minneapolis North Loop. Hosted by Minnesota Opera President and General Director **ALLAN NAPLAN**, special guests will include conductor **CHRISTOPHER FRANKLIN**, director **PETER ROTHSTEIN** and the stars of the show, soprano **JACQUELYN WAGNER**, mezzo-soprano **JENNIFER HOLLOWAY**, tenor **JOHN TESSIER** and baritone **MATTHEW WORTH**. Purchase tickets at mnopera.org/events or call the Minnesota Opera Ticket Office at 612.333.6669, Monday–Friday, 9am–6pm.

Tempo Opera Tasting 2011

Tempo, Minnesota Opera's membership program for both new and seasoned opera-goers ages 21–39, presents Opera Tasting 2011 on **Saturday, September 17, at 8:30pm** at the Minnesota Opera Center, 620 North First Street in Minneapolis' North Loop. Join in a five course wine tasting courtesy of **SOLO VINO** with delicious pairings from **TOAST WINE BAR & CAFÉ**, which accompany the **MINNESOTA OPERA RESIDENT ARTISTS**. Learn more and purchase tickets at mnopera.org/operatasting or call the Minnesota Opera Ticket Office at 612.333.6669, Monday–Friday, 9am–6pm. Media sponsors of Opera Tasting 2011 are **CITY PAGES** and **L'ÉTOILE**.

Minnesota Public Radio Broadcast of *Orpheus and Eurydice* (2010)

Minnesota Public Radio will broadcast Minnesota Opera's 2010 production of Gluck's *Orpheus and Eurydice*, starring **DAVID DANIELS** and **SUSANNA PHILLIPS** (who returns in the 2011–2012 season as the title role in *Lucia di Lammermoor*), on **Wednesday, September 21, 8pm**.

Opera Insights

One hour before show time, Minnesota Opera Head of Music **MARY DIBBERN** and artistic staff members present Opera Insights – free, fun and informative 30-minute sessions held prior to each performance in Ordway's Marzitelli Foyer.

Così fan tutte is supported in part by Target and Ascent Private Capital Management.

The 2011–2012 Minnesota Opera season is sponsored by The Private Client Reserve at U.S. Bank.

The Minnesota Opera's mission is to produce opera and opera education programs
at the highest artistic level that inspire and entertain our audiences
and enrich the cultural life of our community.

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