

## Approximate timings

Live cinema relay begins at 6.30pm

Act I 95 minutes

**Interval 25 minutes**

Act II 90 minutes

The live relay will end at approximately 10.15pm

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## 2016/17 LIVE CINEMA SEASON

**ANASTASIA** WEDNESDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2016

**LES CONTES D'HOFFMANN** TUESDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2016

**THE NUTCRACKER** THURSDAY 8 DECEMBER 2016

**IL TROVATORE** TUESDAY 31 JANUARY 2017

**WOOLF WORKS** WEDNESDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2017

**THE SLEEPING BEAUTY** TUESDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2017

**MADAMA BUTTERFLY** THURSDAY 30 MARCH 2017

**JEWELS** TUESDAY 11 APRIL 2017

**THE DREAM/SYMPHONIC VARIATIONS/  
MARGUERITE AND ARMAND** WEDNESDAY 7 JUNE 2017

**OTELLO** WEDNESDAY 28 JUNE 2017

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ROYAL  
OPERA  
HOUSE

## THE ROYAL OPERA

MUSIC DIRECTOR SIR ANTONIO PAPPANO  
DIRECTOR OF OPERA KASPER HOLTEN

# COSÌ FAN TUTTE

OSSIA LA SCUOLA DEGLI AMANTI

OPERA BUFFA IN TWO ACTS

MUSIC WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART  
LIBRETTO LORENZO DA PONTE

THE EDITION OF COSÌ FAN TUTTE USED IN THESE PERFORMANCES IS PUBLISHED BY  
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CONDUCTOR SEMYON BYCHKOV

DIRECTOR JAN PHILIPP GLOGER  
SET DESIGNER BEN BAUR  
COSTUME DESIGNER KARIN JUD  
LIGHTING DESIGNER BERND PURKRABEK  
DRAMATURG KATHARINA JOHN

ROYAL OPERA CHORUS  
CHORUS DIRECTOR WILLIAM SPAULDING

ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE  
CONCERT MASTER PETER MANNING  
FORTEPIANO CONTINUO MARK PACKWOOD

LIVE FROM THE  
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE  
MONDAY 17 OCTOBER 2016 AT 6.30PM

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# Synopsis

## Act I

Ferrando and Guglielmo discuss the fidelity of women with Don Alfonso. They claim that their own fiancées, Fiordiligi and Dorabella, are immune to any temptation. Don Alfonso insists that all women are unfaithful, and his two friends demand that he prove it. So Don Alfonso challenges them to a wager. He wants to show them both that even their girlfriends are no exception to the rule. The two of them agree to follow Don Alfonso's instructions for the next 24 hours.

Fiordiligi and Dorabella are waiting for their lovers. But in their place, Don Alfonso arrives to announce that Guglielmo and Ferrando have been called up for military duty at short notice. They are just coming back to say their farewells.

Despina tries to comfort the two women over their loss and urges both Dorabella and Fiordiligi to find new lovers in the meantime. They are shocked at the idea.

Ferrando and Guglielmo return, disguised as foreigners. They remain unrecognized, and now begin to woo the two women. Despina helps them, but their efforts are in vain. The friends are rejected brusquely, and already begin to celebrate winning their wager. But they are too soon, as the agreed 24 hours are not yet over. While Ferrando ponders his love for Dorabella, Despina is preparing the next steps with Don Alfonso, raising the question as to the true nature of love.

The two spurned 'foreigners' now pretend to commit suicide. They succeed in impressing Dorabella and Fiordiligi, awakening their pity. The two men are seemingly saved from death by Despina, now disguised as a healer. The women's display of compassion encourages the men to try another attempt at courtship; this confuses Dorabella and Fiordiligi and they depart, furious.

## Interval

## Act II

Despina shares her own experiences of love's variety with the two women. Dorabella and Fiordiligi decide to engage with the two men, just for the fun of it. Each already has her own favourite – namely the fiancé of the other. A crisscrossing game ensues. Dorabella responds enthusiastically to Guglielmo's courtship, while Fiordiligi struggles with conflicting feelings and desperately tries to find a way to preserve her honour and innocence. Guglielmo reports to Ferrando his experiences with Dorabella. Despite her betrayal, Ferrando still feels deeply committed to her, though she meanwhile seems to have taken on Despina's views wholesale. Ultimately, the despairing Fiordiligi also follows her on this path, falling in love with Ferrando. Don Alfonso sees his beliefs confirmed: 'Così fan tutte – that's how all are!'.  
Fiordiligi and Dorabella are ready to marry their new lovers. Despina pretends to be a notary and issues the marriage contracts. The new couples sign them. Don Alfonso now unexpectedly announces the return of the women's original fiancés. Guglielmo and Ferrando reveal their true identities. The irritation is considerable; the experiment has succeeded, and nothing is how it was before.

Synopsis by Katharina John (Translation by Chris Walton)

# Cast

FERRANDO     DANIEL BEHLE

GUGLIELMO     ALESSIO ARDUINI

DON ALFONSO     JOHANNES MARTIN KRÄNZLE

FIORDILIGI     CORINNE WINTERS

DORABELLA     ANGELA BROWER

DESPINA     SABINA PUÉRTOLAS

CASTING IS CORRECT AT TIME OF PRINTING. DETAILS OF THE LIVE PERFORMANCE ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. REFER TO YOUR DIGITAL PROGRAMME TO VIEW THE LATEST INFORMATION.