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Cosi Fan Tutte

Opera Chapman

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Spring 2010 Event Highlights

ART:

The PageFeb 1 – Mar 12

THEATRE:

Bus Stop by William Inge, in repertory with

Hedda Gabler by Henrik Ibsen Mar 12 – 14, 16 – 20

Student Directed One-ActsApr 23 – 25, 29 – 30, May 1

MUSIC:

University Choirs Post-Tour Concert.....Feb 5

Chapman Chamber Orchestra and University Singers Mar 5

Stan Kenton Alumni Band with the Chapman Big Band Mar 12

Chapman University Wind Symphony..... Mar 13

Visiting Artist in Recital – Sergei Babayan, piano Mar 23

Opera Chapman presents: Mozart's *Così fan tutte*Apr 23 – 25

Sholund Scholarship Concert: Sacred Music of the

Great Italian Opera ComposersMay 8

DANCE:

Dance Works in ProgressFeb 27

Concert IntimeMar 25 – 27

Spring Dance ConcertMay 12 – 15

To purchase tickets, call 714-997-6812 or visit us online at

www.chapman.edu/copa

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714-997-6519

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

presented by
Opera Chapman
April 23-25, 2010

Chapman
Auditorium,
Memorial Hall

A Classic
Comedic Opera

Peter Atherton, Artistic Director
Daniel Alfred Wachs, Music Director, Conductor

Chapman Auditorium, Memorial Hall: April 23-24 at 8pm; April 25 at 3pm
\$15 general admission; \$10 senior citizens and students

For advance ticket sales
call 714-997-6812 or purchase tickets online at
www.chapman.edu/copa/calendar

COLLEGE OF
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Artistic Staff

Peter Atherton..... Artistic Director
Daniel Alfred Wachs.....Music Director and Conductor
Janet Kao Musical Preparation
Mark Robson..... Musical Preparation
Stephen Coker..... Chorus Master
Stacey Oh..... Assistant Chorus Master
Don Guy..... Scenic / Lighting Design
Jeanine A. Nicholas..... Scenic Design / Artist
Laure Dike..... Costume Design
Katie Schmidt.....Assistant Costume Design
Kathryn Wilson.....Mask Creator / Design Support

Technical Staff

Jennifer KellyStage Manager
Alex Cammarota..... Assistant Stage Manager / Props Master

Stage Crew

Ted Atkins, Mack Robertson

Costume Crew

Peggy Oquist – Costume Construction
Paige Fedor, Breanna Wing - Costume Shop Assistants

Student Costume Construction Crew

Alisha Bice, Lance Frantzich, Katrina Klein, Angeline Mirenda, Heidi Ramee, Emily Samiesz

Hair and Make-up Stylist

Kathryn Wilson

Cast of Characters

Fiordiligi.....Katie Dixon (Fri., Sun.)
Bethany Ascheri (Sat.)

Dorabella.....Rachael Wilson (Fri., Sun.)
Audra Blackner (Sat.)

Despina..... Catherine Brady (Fri., Sun.)
Laura Smith (Sat.)

Ferrando.....Timmy Simpson (Fri., Sun.)
Brett Sprague (Sat.)

Guglielmo.....Efrain Solis (Fri., Sun.)
Cody Morgan (Sat.)

Don Alfonso.....Yannick Lambrecht (Fri., Sun.)
Harrison Zierer (Sat.)

Opera Chapman Chorus:

Brittany Bethurum, Seth Burns, Clara Chung, Megan Donoff, Chris Maze, Eric Parker, Elisa Perez-Selsky, Alfredo Rodriguez, Molly Tomlinson, Lacey Venanzi, Cesar Ventura, & Patrick Zubiate

There will be an intermission between acts

Synopsis

Set in 18th century Naples, the opera opens with Don Alfonso making a wager with his young friends, Ferrando and Guglielmo, that their two sweethearts, Dorabella and Fiordiligi, are no more trustworthy in matters of love than any other women. In their garden the girls sing of their love, interrupted by Don Alfonso, who tells them that their lovers are to be called away to war. The couples part, faithfulness pledged once again. Despina, bribed by Don Alfonso, urges the girls to find other lovers, but they declare their constancy. Guglielmo and Ferrando return, disguised as exotic Albanians, but the girls remain steadfast. When the men pretend to take poison, necessitating the attentions of Despina disguised as a doctor and using the magnetic techniques of Mozart's friend Dr. Mesmer to effect a cure, the ladies seem to waver.

In the second act they agree to Despina's suggestion of harmless flirtation, each unwittingly choosing the other's partner. The success of the two Albanians, in spite of Fiordiligi's more prolonged resistance, leads to a double wedding, with Despina now disguised as the notary. No sooner is the marriage contract signed and we hear the martial music that sent the soldiers off to war, announcing their return. The Albanians run for cover only to appear as themselves and feign shock and horror at proceedings, before revealing their plot. All ends happily, as Don Alfonso urges the power of reason in matters of the heart.

~ Naxos

About the Artists

PETER ATHERTON has had the joy of performing over forty-five roles ranging from Seneca in *The Coronation of Poppea* to Frederick in *A Little Night Music*. His operatic credits include performances with the Los Angeles Opera, Seattle Opera, Baltimore Opera, Lyric Opera Cleveland, Wolf Trap Opera, Virginia Opera, San Francisco Opera Touring Division, Opera Atelier, Cairo Opera and the Operafestival of Rome and Verona. He has performed with such conductors as Leonard Bernstein, Pierre Boulez, Lucas Foss, James Conlon, Kurt Herbert Adler, David Effron and Myung-Whun Chung.

In concert and oratorio he has performed to acclaim with numerous orchestras including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, L'Orchestra de la Suisse Romande, Basel Chamber Orchestra, Los Angeles Master Chorale, Orchestre de Belgique, William Hall Chorale and the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival. Equally popular in recital, he has performed in Vienna, Zürich, Rome, Hannover, Basel, Geneva, New York, Houston, Miami, Las Vegas and Los Angeles. Mr. Atherton's versatility as a singing-actor enabled him to perform six different roles in *The Phantom of the Opera* in New York, Los Angeles and Toronto. He has also recorded a program of French Art Song for the Hannover Radio in Germany.

Mr. Atherton presently holds the Robert and Norma Lineberger Endowed Chair in Music, is Director of Opera and Associate Professor of Voice at Chapman University and Co-Artistic Director of Operafestival di Roma. His students have been admitted to prestigious graduate and apprentice programs across the country, with many performing professionally in Europe, the United States and Canada. This summer Mr. Atherton will direct *Die Fledermaus* for Operafestival di Roma and he has been invited to be a judge for the International Georgy Sviridov Voice Competition in Russia in the fall of 2010.

DANIEL ALFRED WACHS is increasingly recognized as one of the few musicians of his generation successfully balancing the demands of a busy conducting and solo career. His performance with the Minnesota Orchestra “proved a revelation, delivering a technically impeccable, emotionally powerful performance of two Mozart piano concertos and a pair of solo works...” (St. Paul Pioneer Press)

Mr. Wachs recently completed his tenure as an Assistant Conductor of the National Orchestra of France under Kurt Masur. While in Paris, Mr. Wachs served as Assistant Conductor of the French premiere of Bernstein's *Candide* at the Théâtre du Châtelet, a co-production with La Scala & ENO and directed by Robert Carsen. Currently, he is Music Director & Director of Instrumental Studies at the newly designated Conservatory of Music at Chapman University in Orange County, California, and newly appointed Music Director of the Orange County Youth Symphony Orchestra. He served as a juror for the 2007 ASCAP Foundation Rudolf Nissim Award in New York and as Assistant Conductor & Repetiteur for Cincinnati Opera during its 2007 Season. Additional engagements have included a recital with tenor William Burden, soloist with the Boca Raton Philharmonic, and guest conductor of the Pacific Symphony as part of its 8th American Composers Festival.

Equally comfortable on stage and in the pit, Mr. Wachs held the position of Artist in Residence at New York City Ballet, leading performances during the company's Balanchine Centennial as well as during the 50th Anniversary of The Nutcracker. Mr. Wachs has guest conducted such orchestras as the Auckland Philharmonia of New Zealand, The Fort Worth Symphony, the Florida West Coast Symphony, and the National Symphony (as part of the National Conducting Institute). As a soloist, he has performed in such venues as Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Tchaikovsky Hall in Moscow, the Salle Padarewski in Lausanne, and at such festivals as Aspen, Music Academy of the West, Tanglewood and Verbier.

Mr. Wachs was auditioned by Zubin Mehta at the age of eight and began studies with Enrique Barenboim. He subsequently pursued studies at the Zürich Academy of Music and the North Carolina School of the Arts. Mr. Wachs holds a Bachelor's degree in Piano from the Curtis Institute of Music and graduate degrees in piano & conducting from The Juilliard School. He is represented by William Reinert Associates, Inc.

JANET KAO, a native of Taiwan, is an accomplished musician with extensive experience as a solo pianist, vocal/instrumental collaborator, and an opera coach. She has performed on many stages including Alice Tully Hall in New York City, Harris Concert Hall in Aspen, Preston Bradley Hall in Chicago, National Concert Hall of Taiwan. She has been invited to participate in several summer music festivals including Bowdoin Music Festival, the Yellow Barn Chamber Music Festival, and the Music

About the Artists

Academy of the West. She has served as a staff accompanist at the Aspen Music Festival, as a staff coach at Opera in the Ozarks, Arkansas and the American Institute of Musical Arts in Graz, Austria.

She has received teaching fellowships from the Juilliard School and the USC Thornton Opera, working closely with renowned conductors, Judith Clurman and Brent McMunn. Her interests in contemporary music have led her to collaborate on new operas including *Miss Lonelyhearts* by Lowell Liebermann and *Powder Her Face* by Thomas Adès. In addition to opera, she has premiered many contemporary chamber works with the New Juilliard Ensemble, under the baton of Joel Sachs.

Janet received her Bachelor and Master of Music degree in Piano Performance from the Peabody Conservatory with pianist Robert McDonald, and a Graduate Certificate in Collaborative Piano from the Juilliard School under the tutelage of Jonathan Feldman and Brian Zeger. She completed the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Southern California in Keyboard Collaborative Arts in 2009 under Alan Smith and was awarded Gwendolyn Koldofsky Scholarship Award for three consecutive years. Dr. Kao is currently an adjunct professor and a vocal coach at Fullerton College and Chapman University.

MARK ROBSON began his musical pursuits at an early age, first as a pianist and later as a flutist and organist. He began to compose when he was nine. Subsequent studies culminated in degrees from Oberlin College and the University of Southern California, enhanced by several years of study of piano and Ondes Martenot in Paris; he includes among his teachers Lydia Frumkin, Yvonne Loriod, Alain Motard, John Perry and James Bonn. Mr. Robson's talent has been recognized with several scholarships and awards; these include a prize in the International Piano Competition for Contemporary Music of St. Germain-en-Laye, the Corvina Cultural Circle Honorary Hungarian Award, the USC master's student Keyboard Departmental Award and the first Michael Carson Memorial Award given by the Opera Guild of Southern California.

From January 1991 until June 2005, Mr. Robson worked on the music staff of the Los Angeles Opera as a répétiteur and eventually as Asst. Chorus Master/Asst. Conductor. He often provided recitative accompaniment at the harpsichord for their productions and performed onstage in the role of virtuoso Boleslao Lazinski in *Fedora*. As a conductor he has appeared with the Brentwood-Westwood Symphony Orchestra and has assisted at the renowned festivals in Salzburg and Spoleto (Italy). He is a founding member of Piano Spheres, a collective of pianists which has been presenting new and unfamiliar keyboard works in the Los Angeles area since 1994. His playing has been hailed by the Los Angeles Times as “massively virtuosic” and noted for its “display of dazzling speed, exquisite control and surprising delicacy”. As a recitalist, he has concertized at the Salle Marguerite Gaveau and Salle Cortot in Paris, the Paleis Het Loo in the Netherlands, the L.A. County Art Museum, the Kennedy Center, James Madison University and the Spoleto Festival. He has given multiple performances of Messiaen's *Vingt Regards sur l'Enfant-Jésus* and presented a cycle of the complete Beethoven sonatas. As a chamber performer he has also appeared at Disney Hall in Los Angeles and for the Santa Monica-based Jacaranda series.

As a composer, Mr. Robson has been programmed on concerts in Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, Barcelona and Paris. The Brentwood-Westwood Symphony Orchestra has premiered two of his orchestral works, *Apollo Rising* and *Christmas Suite*. Other works include a trio for piano, cello and clarinet entitled *Dances and Dirges*, works commissioned for the synagogue, a piano cycle *24 Preludes for the Left Hand*, the melodrama *Initiation* for speaker, piano and percussion, a Trio for Three Bassoons and several song cycles. One of these, *A Child of Air*, has been recorded by soprano Patricia Prunty (accompanied by the composer) and performed several times in New York, Los Angeles, Minnesota and at the winter Ravinia Festival.

STEPHEN COKER is the newly appointed Director of Choral Activities at Chapman University. Prior to this appointment, Dr. Coker served in the same capacity at Portland State University (OR) from 2006-2009 and also taught on the faculties of the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) from 2000-2006 and Oklahoma City University (OCU) from 1975-2000.

At both CCM and OCU, Coker was awarded the “Outstanding Teacher Award” (2002 and 1991, respectively), and he was given the "Director of Distinction Award" by the Oklahoma Choral Directors Association in 1995. In frequent demand as a clinician and guest conductor across the nation, Dr. Coker

About the Artists

has worked in roughly half of the fifty states. Internationally, he has conducted choirs, workshops and festivals in Portugal, South Korea, Israel, Sweden, and Taiwan.

Coker received his Bachelor and Master of Music Degrees from OCU and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Choral Music from the University of Southern California, having studied with Rodney Eichenberger, James Vail, and David Wilson. An avid enthusiast of choral-orchestral performance, Coker has conducted much of that major repertoire including works of Bach, Mozart, Haydn, Brahms, Dvorak, Vaughan Williams, Durufl , Poulenc, Orff, and Bernstein, and has prepared choruses for James Levine, James Conlon, and Erich Kunzel. As a professional chorister, he has sung for conductors Helmuth Rilling, Krzysztof Penderecki, Dennis Russell Davies, and the late Robert Shaw.

DON GUY is an Assistant Professor of Theatre in Entertainment Technology and the Production Manager for the College of Performing Arts. He received an MFA in Design from the University of California, Irvine and a BA in Theatre from the University of Alabama. In addition to his work at Chapman, he is a prolific designer for dance, theater, industrials, themed entertainment and architecture. He has designed numerous shows from Off-Broadway to Tony Award-winning regional theaters. Dance design credits include: *Swan Lake*, *Cinderella*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Giselle* and *The Nutcracker* for the St. Louis Ballet, *Cinderella*, *The Nutcracker*, *ETC!*, and *Fiesta* for choreographer David Allan, *The Nutcracker* for Ballet Pacifica, *Ash*, *Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder*, *Games*, *Songs of the Disinherited*, *Delicious Obsession/Sweet Bondage* and *District Storyville* for choreographer Donald McKayle, *Swan Lake*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Giselle*, and *The Nutcracker* for Festival Ballet and well over 300 dance pieces for numerous choreographers and dance companies across the country. Theatre design credits include: The 19th Annual NAACP Awards at the Directors Guild of America, *Booth! The Musical* at the Skirball Performing Arts Center, *Return* directed by Donald McKayle, *The Grand Tour*, *Grand Hotel*, *Rounding Third*, *Master Harold ... and the boys*, and *The Immigrant* at the Colony Theatre, *A Picasso* at the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, *La Posada Magica* at the Tony Award-winning South Coast Repertory, *The Tempest* for the Shakespeare Festival of St. Louis, *Jubilee* at Radio City Music Hall, and *Carnival of Wonders* at the Trump Plaza in Atlantic City and the Reno Hilton in Reno, NV for award-winning magicians Kalin and Jinger. Themed Entertainment and Architectural Design credits include: Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Universal Studios Japan, Universal Studios Orlando, Universal Studios Hollywood, Master Card, Warner Bros. Movie World Madrid, TV Guide Building, South Coast Repertory, Anheuser Busch, Lincoln Center, Madison Square Garden, and Morgan Stanley Dean Witter Production Studios at the World Trade Center.

JEANINE A. NICHOLAS is an LA based designer who is balancing her time between designing for theater and film. She's spent her first year out of grad school working on many interesting projects including painting multiple sets for Chapman University and designing the set for Syzygy Theater's production of *Chesapeake*. Her first feature as the production designer just premiered at the prestigious South by Southwest Festival. (*The Myth of the American Sleepover*.) www.jnicholasdesigns.com

LAURE DIKE holds a BFA in Dance from the University of California, Irvine, where she studied under Eugene Loring and Olga Maynard. She choreographed over thirty musical theater productions – her favorites include *Anything Goes*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, and *Oklahoma*. Laure performed in California Riverside Ballet's *The Nutcracker* as Frau Silberhaus and *Cinderella* as Step Mother, under the direction of David Allen. Laure enjoyed a long career with the Walt Disney Company as a corporate trainer for New-hire Orientation, The Management Intern Program, and Disneyland Ambassador Program. Laure currently teaches dance and music at Conlin Dance Academy and is the choreographer and creative consultant for the Norco High School Choral Association.

KATHRYN WILSON received her MFA from UC Irvine, and is currently adjunct faculty at Chapman University. She has designed costumes for both the Fall and Spring Dance concerts at Chapman since 2007. Her most recent designs have been for *Hedda Gabler*, *American Celebration* and *Lend Me a Tenor*. Past productions at Chapman University include *Trojan Women*, *School for Scandal*, *The Tempest*, *The Nob Plays*, and *Our Country's Good*. Since 2007 she has designed for Shakespeare Orange County during the summer. Shows include *Romeo & Juliet*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Henry V*, *The Tempest*, *As You Like It*, and *The Merchant of Venice*. Kathryn has worked at South Coast Repertory Theater on numerous productions as craftperson/dyer, and was the design assistant on *Deadman's Cell Phone*, *James and the Giant Peach*, and *Shipwrecked*. In 2006, she won the Costume Design award from LA Weekly for her design of *Machiavelli*.

Chapman Chamber Orchestra

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Music Director & Conductor

Violin I

Philipp Claucig •
Lydia Dutciuc
Elizabeth Lee
Tiffany Liu
Maria Myrick

Violin II

Tanya Dorsey
Winston Lacuesta
Daphne Medina †
Anna Munakata

Viola

Courtney Giltz
Katie Kroko †
Jillian Marriage
Jarrett Threadgill • †
Jonathan Wooldridge

Cello

Conrad Ho
Eli Kaynor
Victoria Leach
Jake Wiens
Elizabeth Vysin •

Bass

Kevin Baker
Ann Marie Kawai •

Flute

Kelsey Steinke •
Mary Young

Oboe

Tamer Edlebi •
Garrett Smith

Clarinet

Laura Lascoe
Daphne Wagner • †

Bassoon

Cameron Dominques
Charity Potter • †

Horn

Stephen Sanders †
Rebecca Walsh • †

Trumpet

Joshua Huihui • †
Christopher Nario

Timpani

Craig Shields •

Harpsichord

Janet Kao (4/24) §
Mark Robson (4/23 & 4/25) §

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Jillian Marriage
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- *Principal*
 - † *Senior*
 - § *Faculty*

*Names are listed in
alphabetical order*

Acknowledgements

William D. Hall..... Dean, College of Performing Arts
Dale A. Merrill..... Associate Dean, College of Performing Arts
Rick ChristophersenDirector, Conservatory of Music
Margaret Dehning Chair, Conservatory of Music
Peter WestenhoferConservatory Operations Supervisor
Don Guy Production Manager, College of Performing Arts
Pat Cavins.....Costume Shop Manager
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Neblett—Artist-in-Residence

Keyboard Collaborative Arts Faculty:

Louise Thomas—Director, Tony Cho, Cheryl Lin Fielding, Lisa Kaminaga, Janet
Kao, Hye Young Kim, Beverly Min, Mark Robson

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