

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

operamission will present '*Così fan tutte: Some Assembly Required*' at the Gershwin Hotel in New York, August 17-22, 2010.

NEW YORK, New York (July 26, 2010) – A one-of-a-kind event, '*Così fan tutte: Some Assembly Required*,' will be presented by **operamission** and Neke Carson at the Gershwin Hotel on Tuesday, August 17; Wednesday, August 18; and Friday, August 20, at 7:00 PM; and on Sunday, August 22, at 4:00 PM. This unique series of events will add up to a complete presentation of *Così fan tutte* (All Women Do It), divided into four public sessions during which four expert 'instigators' will animate Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Lorenzo Da Ponte's Italian comic masterpiece in a free-form amalgam of a lab, a jam session, and a cabaret, the shape of which will be determined partly by audience participation.

Jennifer Peterson, director of **operamission**, will conduct a full orchestra, unrehearsed, assembled on the spot with an internationally-acclaimed cast. In this unprecedented format, she will be joined by Dramaturg **Cori Ellison**, Stage Director **Ned Canty**, and Italian baritone **Marco Nisticò** in leading the artists and the audience through the assembly process.

The opera will be divided into four parts, with between 30 and 40 minutes (1/2 of each of the two acts) of music being examined in each session, resulting in the entire opera being assembled in its entirety, uncut, over the course of the four sessions. The artists singing the principal roles will share in the casual presentation with 'tag-team' style casting set in advance.

Audiences are invited to attend any or all of the sessions to observe and join in the discussion as the orchestra is being prepared. During the sessions, the use of music scores as well as electronic devices such as laptops and iPhones will be encouraged, as well as live contact with social media networks and non-flash photography. Twittering musicologists will be in attendance to facilitate access to pertinent sources such as manuscripts, letters, and memoirs of both Mozart and Da Ponte via social media. **operamission** is also utilizing social media networks in its advance preparation of the event by tweeting production details at <http://twitter.com/operamission>.

The stellar cast will feature sopranos **Kerri Marcinko** and **Caroline Worra** as Fiordiligi; mezzo-sopranos **Jennifer Berkebile** and **Toby Newman** as Dorabella; tenors **Brian Anderson**, **John Carlo Pierce**, and **Asitha Tennekoon** as Ferrando; baritones **James Bobick** and **Gregory Gerbrandt** as Guglielmo; sopranos **Jennifer Aymer** and **Kristen Plumley** as Despina; and baritone **Dennis Blackwell** and bass-baritone **Andrew Nolen** as Don Alfonso.

'*Così fan tutte: Some Assembly Required*' brings **operamission**'s first and resoundingly successful season to a close. **operamission**, bringing the art "from the composer to the audience," has quickly established its presence in the New York classical music scene by presenting opera both of today and of the past. Productions to date have ranged from concerts of Handel opera with period instruments to cabaret (Keith Jameson) to operatic world premieres (Clint Borzoni's *Margot Alone in the Light*).

The Gershwin Hotel is located at 7 East 27th Street in New York. General admission is \$10, or \$5 per session if attending more than one.

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