



**Carnegie
Library of
Pittsburgh**

PITTSBURGH **OPERA** EDUCATION

2020–2021 Opera Season Recommended Listening and Reading List

A collaboration of Pittsburgh Opera and the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh Music Department, with special thanks to Rebekah Hill and Julie Hanify.

Please note that there are other books, CDs, and DVDs beyond this list available at the Carnegie Library and for purchase at your favorite store. Call numbers indicate holdings of the Music Department, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, unless otherwise indicated.

As we follow current COVID-19 protocols, we encourage you to call 412-622-3114 or visit the website, www.carnegielibrary.org for more information about borrowing materials. Items can be requested and delivered to your neighborhood library for in-person or curbside pick-up (check with your local library for this information).

The Music Department at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh offers an extensive collection of materials pertaining to opera, from composer biographies, studies of operas, and histories of opera, to opera libretti, opera scores, and performances on CD and DVD. The items listed below constitute a small selection to whet your appetite as you look forward to the live or livestreamed performance. Enjoy!

Così fan tutte by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, 1756–1791

CD & DVD

- CD *Così fan tutte*, Harmonia Mundi France, 1999 (1998).
Gens, Fink, Oddone, Gura, Boone, Spagnoli; Jacobs, Kölner Kammerchor, Concerto Köln
COMPACT DISC Op Moz 24216
- CD *Così fan tutte*, EMI Classics, 2000 (1963).
Schwarzkopf, Ludwig, Steffek, Kraus, Taddei, Berry; Böhm, Philharmonia Orchestra and Chorus
COMPACT DISC Op Moz 23680

Così fan tutte by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, 1756–1791

- CD *Così fan tutte*, London, 1996 (1994).
Fleming, von Otter, Scarabelli, Lopardo, Bär, Pertusi; Solti, London Voices, Chamber Orchestra of Europe
COMPACT DISC Op Moz 15101
- CD *Così fan tutte*, Archiv Produktion, 1993.
Roocroft, James, Mannion, Trost, Gilfrey, Feller; Gardiner, Monteverdi Choir, English Baroque Soloists, on original instruments
COMPACT DISC Op Moz 5659
- DVD *Così fan tutte*, Cmajor, 2013.
Fritsch, Gardina, Avemo, Gatell, Wolf, Shimell; Cambreling, Chorus and Orchestra of the Teatro Real de Madrid
(DVD) M1500.M84 C5 2013x
- DVD *Così fan tutte*, Opus Arte, 2004 (1989).
Dessi, Ziegler, Scarabelli, Kundlak, Corbelli, Desderi; Muti, Orchestra and Chorus of Teatro alla Scala
(DVD) M1500.M84 C5 2004x

Libretto

Seven Mozart Librettos: A Verse Translation by J.D. McClatchy (Libretto of *Così fan tutte* by Lorenzo Da Ponte) New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 2011.
ML49.M83 O64 2011

For further reading

Understanding the Women of Mozart's Operas by Kristi Brown-Montesano. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2007.

Brown-Montesano's work digs into the female characters of Mozart's operas, the true emotional centers of his stage works. The last two chapters of her book explore Fiordiligi, Dorabella, and Despina: three women intertwined by a seduction plot. Brown-Montesano explores the music, libretto text, literary sources, and historical factors in her attempt to reveal the journey of these characters.

ML410.M9 B8195 2007

Mozart and His Operas by David Cairns. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2006.

Cairns' unique biography traces Mozart's life and creative output through his operas. Cairns discusses how Mozart matures as an artist with each opera and writes about how his strength as a composer of great theater influences his instrumental works as well, particularly his piano concertos and string quartets. The chapter that highlights *Così fan tutte* discusses how Mozart and his librettist, Lorenzo Da Ponte, seem to be at odds with one another about the characters in the opera, especially the women. Though the work is a comedy, the opera leaves the audience with many loose ends, perhaps not even a happy ending.

ML410.M9 C253 2006

Così fan tutte by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, 1756–1791

Mozart: The Man Revealed by John Suchet. New York: Pegasus Books, 2017.

John Suchet presents Classic FM's flagship morning program in England but his career as a television journalist serves him well as the author of this biography. Suchet's warm and witty style creates an enjoyable portrait of the man as well as the composer. A perfect biography to introduce someone to Mozart and his works.

ML410.M9 S92 2017x

Mozart's Così fan tutte: A Compositional History by Ian Woodfield. Rochester, NY: Boydell Press, 2008.

Woodfield uses the autograph score to reveal how Mozart composed this opera and how the work evolved and changed before its premiere. Woodfield suggests an interesting hypothesis: Mozart considered not crossing the lovers' pairings but rather to have each man seduce his own fiancée. This could possibly explain the opera's ending as we know it—the original couples are reunited even though the seductions show new possibilities.

ML410.M9 W755 2008

Explore more about opera online!

Operabase

<https://www.operabase.com/en>

This website allows you to search opera performance details of artists and international opera companies, including upcoming schedules. Operabase has documented operatic activity worldwide since 1996, with more than 500,000 performances on file. It records the work of artists in more than 900 theaters, and publishes season information to opera-goers in 23 languages.

OperaGlass

opera.stanford.edu/

A great resource for plot synopses of operas, libretti, discographies, and performance histories. Links to other opera websites are also listed.

YouTube

youtube.com

Though YouTube is not a specific site for opera research, it really does have everything and anything as far as video and sound clips. If you use the title of any opera in a search, you will find several archived performances from stage productions, concerts, and more.

Visit the Pittsburgh Opera website: www.pittsburghopera.org
Visit the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh website: www.carnegielibrary.org