



DON GIOVANNI: ESSENTIAL OPERA

February 27, 2021

Don Giovanni: Essential Opera

Presented by the Jesse and Caryl Philips Foundation

Music by WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

Libretto by LORENZO DA PONTE

in Italian with English surtitles

DAYTON OPERA

THOMAS BANKSTON Artistic Director

GARY BRIGGLE Stage Director

DAYTON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

NEAL GITTLEMAN Artistic Director and Conductor

NORMAN GARRETT baritone – Giovanni, a playboy

KARA SHAY THOMSON soprano – Anna, an heiress

KASIA BOROWIEC soprano – Elvira, a former nun

JOSHUA WHEELER tenor – Ottavio, Anna's fiancé

NATHAN STARK bass – Leporello, Giovanni's valet

HAROLD WILSON bass – The Commander, Anna's father

OLIVIA YOKERS soprano – Zerlina, a new bride

ANDRÉ CHIANG baritone – Masetto, Zerlina's husband

Don Giovanni: Essential Opera presents this essential work of the opera repertory in a way that responds to the needs of our current times and to our artists and audience. The performance will focus on the essence of the music and drama in an abridged, 90-minute production (with no intermission) that captures all of Mozart's greatness in an exciting and 21st century way. This compact format will adhere to social distancing and other health parameters for a welcomed and safe experience for both our artists and audience.

Don Giovanni is one of opera's most compelling anti-heroes. Based on legends of the infamous Don Juan, the tale follows the title character through seduction, deception, ominous foreshadowing, and irreverent reveling, all the way to a hair-raising ending where things get a little "heated," and our rascalion gets his just rewards! It's no wonder that Don Giovanni is one of Mozart's supreme musical achievements and is considered one of the greatest operas of all time.

[Click here](#) for cast bios.

[Click here](#) for program notes.

[Click here](#) for director's notes.

[Click here](#) for a program synopsis.

**SELECTED PHOTOGRAPHS FROM
DAYTON OPERA'S FEBRUARY 2021 PRODUCTION OF
ESSENTIAL OPERA: MOZART'S *DON GIOVANNI***



Nathan Stark as Leporello



Norman Garrett as Don Giovanni



Kara Shay Thompson as Donna Anna



Olivia Yokers as Zerlina and André Chiang as Masetto
with Don Giovanni & Leporello



Uninvited Guests Crash a Private Party
in Don Giovanni's Penthouse



Joshua Wheeker as Don Ottavio (center) and Kasia Borowiec as Donna Elvira (right)
with Masetto and Zerlina in a Garden



Donna Anna & Don Ottavio with Harold Wilson as The Commander
at The Commander's Funeral



Harold Wilson as The Commander's Ghost (center)
Confronts Leporello and Don Giovanni in a Graveyard



The Commander's Ghost is Don Giovanni's
Invited (and Combative) Dinner Guest



Don Giovanni Vanishes into the Flames of Hell
as Leporello, Zerlina, Donna Anna and Donna Elvira Look On