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MSU Opera Theatre presents story of love, betrayal and consequence.

Mozart's Don Giovanni comes to Fairchild Theatre.

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EAST LANSING, Mich. – MSU Opera Theatre is proud to announce its final production of the season, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's timeless masterpiece, *Don Giovanni*. The performances will take place at the Fairchild Theatre of the MSU Auditorium in March on Wednesday the 20th, Friday the 22nd, and Saturday the 23rd at 7 PM; and Sunday the 24th at 3 PM.

Directed by <u>Melanie Helton</u>, MSU Professor of Voice and a seasoned veteran with over 40 years of dedicated creativity to the art form, this contemporarily staged and costumed rendition of *Don Giovanni* promises to captivate audiences with its compelling storytelling, exceptional vocal performances, and breathtaking music performed by members of MSU's Symphony Orchestra conducted by <u>Katherine Kilburn</u>.

Based on the escapades of libertine Don Juan, the story is set against a backdrop of intrigue, passion, and moral dilemmas. The opera weaves a theatric portrayal of the antics of *Don Giovanni*, an arrogant and sexually promiscuous nobleman who commits murder and dupes nearly every character in the cast. Mozart's masterful score, renowned for its depth and beauty will be brought to life by the talented student vocalists and musicians from the MSU College of Music.

"We are thrilled to present 'Don Giovanni' as part of our opera theatre season," said Melanie Helton, Director of MSU Opera Theatre. "This opera is a timeless classic, and our talented cast and crew have worked tirelessly to bring Mozart's masterpiece to life. Our patrons can expect an unforgettable experience filled with drama, passion, and exquisite music."

Don't miss this extraordinary opportunity to experience the magic of Mozart's *Don Giovanni* as interpreted by the MSU Opera Theatre with set design by Thalia Pearce, MSU Department of Theatre MFA Design candidate. A special preview lecture will be held 45 minutes before each performance by Ms. Helton who also produces the entire season of opera with the MSU College of Music.

The entire MSU Opera Theatre season is generously supported by the Worthington Family Foundation with additional support thanks to sponsors James and Susan Bonfiglio and Susan Davis.

Tickets for *Don Giovanni* at the Fairchild Theatre are available through the MSU Music box office at <u>music.msu.edu/events</u> or by phone at 517-353-5340. Reserved seating tickets are \$22 for adults, \$20 for seniors (age 60 and older) and \$7 for students. Information about other concerts, recitals and performances in the 2023-2024 MSU Music Season can be found online.

About MSU Opera Theatre: Presenting two fully staged and costumed productions each season along with a winter concert showcasing the vocal arts, the program offers students the opportunity to engage with the rich tradition of opera through performance, study, and collaboration. Under the guidance of experienced faculty and staff, students develop their vocal and dramatic skills while bringing world-class productions to the stage.

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