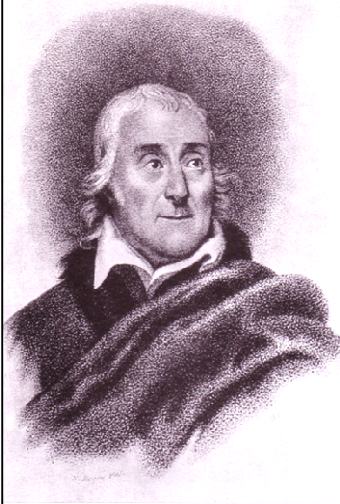


Altri un vizio lo chiama, ed altri un uso,
Ed a me par necessità del core.
L'amante che si trova alfin deluso,
Non condanni l'altrui,
Ma il proprio errore,
Giacchè giovani, vecchie e belle e brutte,
Ripetete con me:
Così fan tutte!



Lorenzo da Ponte

The School for Lovers



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Discussion of Louis Nowra's *Così* and the inspiration for his play, Mozart's opera *Così fan Tutte*. Provides an introduction to Mozart, his approach to opera, and the background to *Così*. Considers the themes of arcadian romance and a "school for lovers", and presents the concept of "words versus music" in relation to the characters in Nowra's play.

Act 1 Scene 1 Don Alfonso questions the men's confidence

TERZETTO

DON ALFONSO
È la fede delle femmine
Come l'araba fenice,
Che vi sia ciascun lo dice,
Dove sia nessun lo sa.

FERRANDO
La fenice è Dorabella.

GUGLIELMO
La fenice è Fiordiligi.

DON ALFONSO
Non è questa, non è quella,
Non fu mai, non vi sarà.

RECITATIVO

FERRANDO
Scioccherie di poeti!

GUGLIELMO
Scompaggiati di vecchi!

DON ALFONSO
O' bene, uditte,
Ma senza andar in collera:
Qual prova avete voi, che ognor costanti?
Vi sen le vostre amanti:
Chi vi fe' sicura, che invariabili
Sono i lor cori?

DON ALFONSO
Woman's constancy
is like the Arabian Phoenix;
everyone swears it exists,
but no one knows where.

FERRANDO
The phoenix is my Dorabella.

GUGLIELMO
The phoenix is my Fiordiligi.

DON ALFONSO
It's neither one nor the other.
It never existed, and never will.

RECITATIVE

FERRANDO
Poets' nonsense!

GUGLIELMO
Old men's drivel!

DON ALFONSO
Well then, listen,
but without flying into a rage:
what proof have you
that your loves are always true to you?
what makes you so sure
that their hearts are steadfast?



Woman's constancy
is like the Arabian Phoenix;
everyone swears it exists,
but no one knows where.



SAMPLE SLIDES

Music or words?

Cherry
It's easy to see that Fiordiligi's
Not like Dorabella, who was a bit
Of a tart giving in so easily. At
Least one can say that most
Women aren't like her.

Roy
Whether women can remain
true is a tragedy...
This *Così* condones the corruption
of innocence. Women are told to
be tramps. First love. Women are
not to be trusted.
My wife was like Dorabella...
...She was a temptress.

Lewis
I don't like men's double
standards, I guess. Men want
women to deceive them
because it will prove their
worst thoughts about women.
And then they become so
righteous, like Guglielmo
and Ferrando.

Henry

Ruth

Lucy

Julie