

EASTMAN OPERA THEATRE

TWENTY-FOUR (OR, THE CURE FOR LOVE)

February 5-7, 2026 | 7:30 PM
February 8, 2026 | 2:30 PM
Opera Studio A804



Eastman School of Music

TWENTY-FOUR (OR, THE CURE FOR LOVE)

A NEW OPERA/PASTICHE IN TWO ACTS, BASED ON
**“TWENTY-FOUR ITALIAN SONGS & ARIAS
OF THE SEVENTEENTH AND
EIGHTEENTH CENTURIES”**

CONCEIVED BY **TONY BOUTTÉ**

ORIGINAL SCENARIO & ENGLISH DIALOGUE BY
CHAS RADER-SHIEBER & TONY BOUTTÉ

NEW MUSICAL ARRANGEMENTS & ORCHESTRATIONS
BY **TONY BOUTTÉ**

ALISON D'AMATO, MUSIC DIRECTOR
LINDSAY WARREN BAKER, STAGE DIRECTOR

ARTISTIC TEAM

Artistic Director

Timothy Long

Scenic Design

Mark Houser

Lighting Design

Nic Minetor

Costume Coordination

Nicole LaClair

Props Design

Mary Reiser

CAST

I GELOSI

Thursday, February 5, 7:30PM

Saturday, February 7, 7:30PM

I FEDELI

Friday, February 6, 7:30PM

Sunday, February 8, 2:30PM

Sophie Hilger

Arianna

Julia Drover Crane

Evan Anderson

Ninetta (Nina)

Christine Kelly

Caroline Barata

Amarilli (Milli)

Isa Apodaca

Kai Harrington

Lady Clizia

Xiaoge Zhang

Marlena St. Jean

Silvio

Benjamin Coudriet

Liam Blecha

Florindo

Konstantina Gotouhidis

Max Foreman

Lord Tirsi

Alex Nunley

Benjamin Jackson, violin

Anastasia Wilson, cello

Alison d'Amato, piano

COVERS

Mira Belanger for **Nina**

Maya Watters for **Milli**

Lucas Mann for **Silvio**

Evan Sercombe for **Florindo**

Duration: 85'

SETTING, SYNOPSIS, & CHARACTERS

Eastman Opera Theatre's production of *Twenty-Four* is inspired by the popular Italian theatrical tradition of *commedia dell'arte* that flourished during the 16th – 18th Centuries – the same time period as the composition of the original twenty-four Italian songs and arias! *Commedia* troupes toured throughout Europe performing stock characters and comical scenarios, many of which still influence modern opera and theatre characters and plots. Some of the *commedia* traditions featured in our production include: a make-shift stage constructed in a “town square” (i.e. the opera studio); specialty masks, makeup, and costumes; heightened physicality and speech; comical “lazzi” (routines, gags, or jokes); and audience interaction. We invite you to join in the fun with your laughter, cheers, boos, and applause as the *Gelosi* and *Fedeli* perform Chas Rader-Shieber & Tony Boutté's original scenario: “The Cure for Love.”

THE SCENARIO: Lord Tirsi is haunted by the loss of his one true love, Arianna, who died 24 years ago. Having soured on the concept of love, Tirsi decides to “cure” anyone who seeks his help with magical love potions. As a result, hijinks ensue and everyone falls in love with everyone else. The spirit of Arianna helps to set everything aright by encouraging Tirsi to move on and realize that love doesn't need a cure.

THE CHARACTERS: (in order of appearance)

- ◆ **Troupe Leader / Arianna:** The spirit of Lord Tirsi's long-lost love. They have been apart now for 24 years.
Stock Character – La Signora: Pantalone's wife. Tough, calculating, and beautiful.
- ◆ **Lord Tirsi:** A nobleman of multiple talents, both scientific and magical. Owner of an emporium that specializes in medicines and potions. Bitter, jaded, and skeptical about love.
Stock Character – Pantalone: An elderly, cunning, and miserly merchant. Often a widower, he seeks to keep lovers apart.
- ◆ **Florindo:** A smart and crafty young man. Friend, confidant, and part-time valet for Silvio. Single, but interested in finding love with Milli.
Stock Character – Arlecchino: A mischievous, acrobatic servant. Childlike, impulsive, and driven by basic instincts (food, lust, money). Eternally optimistic and sympathetic, yet easily distracted and forgetful. In love with Columbina.

SETTING, SYNOPSIS, & CHARACTERS

- ◆ **Ninetta (Nina):** Daughter of Lady Clizia. Charming and lively. Had a wealthy but absent father (now deceased). She is looking for someone who she believes loves her for herself, not her money. Currently, that is Silvio.

Stock Character – Innamorata: A young, beautiful, unmasked romantic ingenue, obsessed with vanity and the idea of love. Elegant and melodramatic while full of genuine feeling.

- ◆ **Amarilli (Milli):** Maidservant to Nina and Lady Clizia. Quick-witted, passionate, and independent. Protective of Nina and wary of attention from suitors.

Stock Character – Columbina: A clever maidservant who acts as a confidante and go-between for the innamorati (lovers). Witty, sassy, independent, rational, and self-sufficient, often the most intelligent character. Lover or companion to Arlecchino.

- ◆ **Silvio:** A young, true-hearted nobleman. Infatuated with Nina but very insecure.

Stock Character – Innamorato: Counterpart to the Innamorata. A young, love-obsessed leading man prone to extreme lamentation, poetic sighs, and emotional shifts. His romantic entanglements, separations, and desires create central conflicts and subplots for other characters to navigate.

- ◆ **Lady Clizia:** A widowed noblewoman. From humble beginnings but married into wealth. Takes nothing for granted. Devout, modest, and concerned for her daughter Nina's future.

Stock Character – La Signora / Vecchia: A virtuous and strict older innamorata, upholding moral standards.

Twenty-Four had its first workshop performances on August 2 – 6, 2021 at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas with support from the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs and the School of Music.

The first full production with piano was performed on October 27 – 28, 2022 at University of West Georgia in Carrollton, Georgia.

The world premiere with orchestra was on March 23 – 25, 2023 at Sam Houston State University with support from the School of Music and the College of Arts and Media.

This production features new arrangements for a piano, violin, and cello trio by Tony Boutté.

SONGS/ARIAS

All songs are based on

Twenty-Four Italian Songs & Arias of the Seventeenth & Eighteenth Century

A familiar vocal book for classical singers

- Sinfonia in D, Op. 1, No. 1** Giuseppe Antonio Brescianello
- Lasciatemi morire!** Arianna
- Già il sole dal Gange** Florindo, Tirsi
- O del mio dolce ardor** Nina, Milli
- Tre ore son che Nina** Silvio
- Sebben, crudele** Florindo, Milli
- Se Florindo è Fedele** Milli
- Che fiero costume** Tirsi
- Danza, danza, fanciulla** Nina, Milli
- Pietà, Signore** Clizia, Milli, Nina
- Tu lo sai** Silvio
- Pietà, Signore (Reprise)** Instrumental
- Il mio bel foco... Quella fiamma** Silvio

SONGS/ARIAS

- Lasciatemi morire! (Reprise)**Tutti
- O cessate di piagarmi**Nina, Arianna
- Amarilli, mia bella**Florindo
- O cesatte di piagarmi (Reprise)**.....Milli, Arianna
- Le violette**Milli
- Come raggio di sol** Nina
- Che fiero costume (Reprise)**Tirsi
- Nel cor più non mi sento**Milli, Silvio, Nina
- Caro mio ben**Silvio
- Alma del core**Silvio, Florindo
- Se tu m'ami**Milli
- Pur dicesti, o bocca bella**Florindo, Milli, Nina, Silvio, Tirsi
- Vergin, tutto amor**Clizia
- Non posso disperar**Milli, Florindo
- Per la gloria d'adorarvi**Tutti

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director of Production
Pat Diamond

Technical Director
Mark Houser

Stage Manager
Amy Krutsch

Assistant Stage Managers
Mariana Iguavita*
Josh Lau
Jingning Lin*
Christine Sheng

Properties
Mary Reiser

Carpenters
Robert DiCandia
Jose Maisonet
Steven Woznick

Scenic Artist/Painter
Shelbie Colombo

Assistant Scenic Painter
Katherine Duprey

Costume Coordinator
Nicole LaClair

Costume Shop Supervisor
Megan Lancy

Costume Construction
Leah Camilleri
Naomi Chad*
Claudette Hercules
Andrea McGaugh
Jessamyn Slon
Elizabeth Wager
Emma Wilansky*

Lighting Designer & Photography
Nic Minetor

Light Board Programmer & Operator
Katherine Duprey

Electrician
Brodie McPherson

Wardrobe Run Crew
Shelbie Colombo
Claudette Hercules
Megan Lancy
Andrea McGaugh
Jessamyn Slon
Elizabeth Wager

Rehearsal Pianists
(Graduate Assistants for Opera)
Haniel Anugerah
Bolai Cao
Andrew Chen
Xi Huang
Chaeun Lee

*denotes student production
assistants

This production is made possible in part by the generous support of the Friends of Eastman Opera.

UPCOMING EASTMAN OPERA THEATRE EVENTS

Tickets for all opera performances can be purchased at EastmanTheatre.org

Sparks & Wiry Cries presents: songSLAM Eastman

Saturday, February 7, 2026 at 4:00 PM

Sproull Atrium at Miller Center

*This event does not require tickets.

Friends of Eastman Opera Voice Competition

Friday, February 20, 2026 at 7:30 PM

Kilbourn Hall

*This event does not require tickets.

Die Fledermaus

April 9 – 12, 2026

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

Music by Johann Strauss II

Libretto by Karl Haffner and Richard Genée

Sung in German with English dialogue and supertitles

We acknowledge with respect the Seneca Nation, known as the “Great Hill People” and “Keepers of the Western Door” of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. We take this opportunity to thank the people whose ancestral lands the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester currently occupies in Rochester, New York.



For the most up to date information on Eastman concerts and events, scan this code to visit our online calendar.



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