



Wesfarmers Arts

SYNOPSIS & CASTLIST

Executive Director Carolyn Chard AM
Artistic Director Chris van Tuinen

LA TRAVIATA

20, 22, 25, 27, 29 October 2022
His Majesty's Theatre

Composer Giuseppe Verdi
Conductor Christopher van Tuinen
Director Sarah Giles
Assistant Director Janice Muller
Assistant Director Margrete Helgeby Chaney
Set & Costume Designer Charles Davis
Lighting Designer Paul Jackson
Intimacy Director Zoë Warwick
Chorus Master Christopher van Tuinen
Repetiteur Tommaso Pollio

Violetta Valéry Samantha Clarke
Alfredo Germont Paul O'Neill
Giorgio Germont Simon Meadows
Gastone de Letorières Matthew Lester
Baron Douphol Mark Alderson
Marchese d'Obigny Lachlan Lawton
Doctor Grenville Robert Hofmann
Flora Bervoix Fiona Campbell
Annina Brianna Louwen
Giuseppe Ammon Bennett
Messenger Brett Peart
Flora's Servant Lachlan Higgins
Dancers Luci Young, Macon Riley

Casting correct at time of publication but may be subject to amendment.

WEST AUSTRALIAN OPERA CHORUS
WEST AUSTRALIAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Concertmaster Laurence Jackson

Duration 2 hours & 40 minutes.
Sung in Italian with English surtitles.

A co-production between West Australian Opera, Opera Queensland and State Opera South Australia.

ACT ONE

Violetta is unwell. After spending time in a sanatorium to treat her tuberculosis, society's most notorious courtesan marks her return in the heart of Paris with a lavish party, entering on the arm of Baron Douphol.

Alfredo has wanted to meet Violetta for quite some time. He is introduced to her by his confidant Gaston. Upon meeting, she convinces Alfredo to sing a drinking song. He toasts to love. She toasts to freedom.

As the guests make their way to the ballroom to continue the evening, Alfredo confesses his love for her and Violetta considers if a life with financial security is worth risking for true love.

ACT TWO, SCENE I

Three months later, Violetta and Alfredo are now living together in the countryside, madly in love – but at what cost?

Violetta has been selling her belongings to pay for their expenses. When Alfredo finds out, he is wracked with guilt and leaves for Paris to organise money. At the same time, Alfredo's father Giorgio Germont visits Violetta asking her to give up her relationship with Alfredo. He makes it clear that Violetta's involvement with Alfredo will be the undoing of the Germont family. Violetta agrees to sacrifice her happiness for Alfredo's benefit and leaves, writing a farewell message ending their relationship. Returning to find Violetta gone, Alfredo is devastated. Despite his father's attempts to console him, Alfredo leaves to change the mind of the woman who has broken his heart.

ACT TWO, SCENE II

Violetta arrives at an opulent party at fellow courtesan Flora's home on the arm of the Baron.

Alfredo enters and joins the gambling party. Frozen with tension, Alfredo begins to insult the Baron, challenging him to a game of cards where he fails to win a single hand. Violetta begs Alfredo to leave the party before the Baron seeks revenge, but Alfredo won't leave without Violetta. Knowing the danger he faces, Violetta attempts to save Alfredo by declaring love for the Baron. A wounded and humiliated Alfredo retaliates by throwing money at Violetta's feet - a payment for her services. Germont reproves his son for this behaviour, but what's done is done.

ACT THREE

The doctor has given Violetta just a few hours to live.

Violetta reflects on a letter from Germont telling her that the Baron was wounded in a duel with Alfredo and that his son fled the country. Germont has revealed Violetta's sacrifice to Alfredo, and he returns to her side only to find her on the brink of death. To comfort her, Alfredo muses on planning a new life together away from Paris. Violetta's last thoughts are of freedom, hope and love as she dies in Alfredo's arms.

Scan the QR code to read the full program:



GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



West Australian Opera is supported by the State Government through the Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries and Lotterywest, and the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body.