

“Un aura amorosa” (An air of devotion) COSÌ FAN TUTTE (All Women are like that), Act I, music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte, 1790

SYNOPSIS: Ferrando and Guglielmo, two young officers, in love with two sisters, are discussing the faithfulness of their fiancées, when Guglielmo remarks that it's time to dine. Ferrando, the more romantic of the two, suggests that the promise of love is enough to satisfy their hunger.

FERRANDO

*Un aura amorosa
del nostro tesoro
un dolce ristoro
al cor porgerà.*

*Al cor che nudrito
da speme d'amore,*
*d'un esca migliore
bisogna non ha.*

*Un aura amorosa, etc.

An air of devotion
from our dearest treasure
will bring sweetest pleasure
and nourish our hearts.

The heart thus well sated,
by love's promise fêted,
needs no better feeding
than loving imparts.

An air of devotion, etc.

(*The first four lines, then other lines of the text, are repeated.)

--From “An Afternoon of Opera and Song,” a recital sponsored by the Santa Cruz Opera Society, Inc. (SCOSI), 1985