



ENGLISH  
TOURING  
OPERA

ALCINA  
HANDEL

AUTUMN TOUR 2005



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OPERA

*Verdi*

FALSTAFF

AUTUMN TOUR 2005

# Autumn 2005 Tour

English Touring Opera is now in its 26th year of presenting high quality, exciting opera at theatres all over the country. Using casts that mix established singers with the young stars of the future, we perform with an accomplished orchestra and some of the best conductors and directors in the country. This autumn, we present two new productions – **Alcina** by Handel, and Verdi's irresistible **Falstaff**. Both shows will be performed in English, so you'll be able to follow the story whether it's the first or fiftieth time you've been to the opera.

With ETO's recent shows garnering 5-star reviews and tickets starting from £10 in many venues, we're sure these new productions will tempt you to your local theatre – and perhaps you can introduce someone new to the magic of opera!

Be sure to also see our **The (Little) Magic Flute** – an opera designed specifically for families which tours to 19 venues throughout the U.K. Please visit our website at [www.englishtouringopera.org.uk](http://www.englishtouringopera.org.uk) for more information.

## Alcina Handel

**Alcina** is Handel's magical opera about an enchantress who enslaves every man she encounters until her own love causes her downfall. Handel's music ranges from the extremely dramatic to the intimate and heartfelt, performed by a stellar cast and a baroque orchestra. Soprano Amanda Echalaz (recently seen in ETO's spring 2005 production of **Così fan tutte**) portrays Alcina and Tamsin Coombs (Mimi in ETO's autumn 2004 production of **La Bohème**) is her sister Morgana. The director is James Conway, whose acclaimed production of Handel's **Ariodante** was hailed as "the best of British of opera" by *The Times*.

## Falstaff Verdi

Verdi's comic masterpiece brings Shakespeare's well-loved Sir John Falstaff to life as no composer has managed before or since, with music full of wit and innovation. Overflowing with vivacious revelry, **Falstaff** is a life-enhancing picture of the human condition. Welsh baritone Anthony Stuart Lloyd portrays the ageing knight, with soprano Julie Unwin (the Countess in ETO's spring 2004 **The Marriage of Figaro**) as Alice. Wendy Dawn Thompson, finalist in both the main and the song prizes at this year's BBC Cardiff Singer of the World competition, plays Meg, the other object of the lascivious knight's affections.

### Tour Schedule:

<b>London</b> Hackney Empire	020 8985 2424
14/10 Alcina	Tickets: £10.00-£27.50
15/10 Falstaff	

<b>Lincoln</b> Theatre Royal	01522 525555
17/10 Falstaff	Tickets: £14.00-£26.00
18/10 Alcina	
19/10 Falstaff	

<b>High Wycombe</b> Wycombe Swan	01494 512000
21/10 Alcina	Tickets: £12.00-£24.00
22/10 Falstaff	

<b>Canterbury</b> Marlowe Theatre	01227 787787
26/10 Alcina	Tickets: £9.50-£24.50
27/10 Falstaff	
28/10 Falstaff	
29/10 Alcina	

<b>Tunbridge Wells</b> Assembly Halls	01892 530613
31/10 Falstaff	Tickets: £10.00-£25.00
01/11 Alcina	

<b>Snapes Maltings</b> Concert Hall	01728 687110
03/11 Falstaff	Tickets: £10.00-£27.00
04/11 Alcina	
05/11 Falstaff	

<b>Cheltenham</b> Everyman Theatre	01242 572573
09/11 Alcina	Tickets: £12.50-£24.50
10/11 Falstaff	
11/11 Falstaff	
12/11 Alcina	

<b>Exeter</b> Northcott Theatre	01392 493493
15/11 Falstaff	Tickets: £16.00-£26.00
16/11 Alcina	
17/11 Falstaff	
18/11 Falstaff	
19/11 Alcina	

<b>Cambridge</b> Arts Theatre	01223 503333
22/11 Falstaff	Tickets: £10.00-£35.00
23/11 Alcina	
24/11 Alcina	
25/11 Falstaff	
26/11 Alcina	

<b>Bath</b> Theatre Royal	01225 448844
28/11 Falstaff	Tickets: £16.50-£32.00
29/11 Alcina	
30/11 Falstaff	

<b>Ulverston</b> Coronation Hall	01229 587140
02/12 Falstaff	Tickets: £14.00-£20.00
03/12 Alcina	

All performances start at 7.30pm. Concessions available.

“Yet again,  
English Touring  
Opera comes  
up trumps”

*The Observer*, March 2005

“\*\*\*\*\* Exceptional”

*The Guardian* on ETO's spring 05  
production of *Mary, Queen of Scots*

# ENGLISH TOURING OPERA



Supported (2005) by



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Images: Alcina – The Three Graces by Antonio Canova. Falstaff – Matt Harris