

# Theatre – Opera North's Kiss Me Kate at The Festival Theatre



The cast has been announced for the return of Opera North's award-winning touring production of Cole Porter's classic musical comedy, *Kiss Me, Kate*, which comes to The Festival Theatre from 4-7 July 2018.

Cole Porter's riotously inventive homage to the sparkling wit of Shakespeare, *Kiss Me, Kate* is an irresistible celebration of the joy and madness of working in theatre.

On the opening night of a musical version of *The Taming of the Shrew* in 1940s Baltimore, the tempestuous love lives of actor-manager Fred Graham and his leading lady (and ex-wife) Lilli Vanessi are set to collide.

Throw in Fred's current paramour Lois Lane and her gambler boyfriend Bill – plus a couple of gun-toting gangsters who somehow get caught up in the show – and the stage is set for a funny and farcical battle of the sexes!

Stephanie Corley joins the cast of *Kiss Me, Kate* for the first

time, in the role of Lilli Vanessi/ Kate. Stephanie has previously sung the title role in Opera North's *The Merry Widow*, and has most recently played Tina in Jonathan Dove's *Flight* at Scottish Opera.

In a role which he made his own in the original 2015 production, Quirijn de Lang is back as Lilli's ex-husband and tormentor-in chief, Fred Graham/Petruchio. His many recent roles at Opera North include Sam in Bernstein's *Trouble in Tahiti* and Count Almaviva in *The Marriage of Figaro*.

Includes many of Cole Porter's greatest hits, including – *'Another Op'nin, Another Show,' 'So In Love, Always True to You (In My Own Fashion)'* and *'Too Darn Hot.'*

[Tickets here.](#)

