

THE  
DANGEROUS  
LIAISONS  
An Opera in Three Acts

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Marquise de MERTEUIL (*mezzo-soprano*).....a wealthy widow  
La Vicomte de VALMONT (*baritone*).....a notorious rake-hell  
Madame de ROSEMONDE (*soprano*).....his aunt  
Presidente de TOURVEL (*soprano*).....her friend, a judge's wife  
Madame de VOLANGES (*mezzo-soprano*).....another widow, cousin to Merteuil  
CECILE de Volanges (*soprano*).....her daughter, betrothed to a Monsieur de Gercourt  
Chevalier de DANCENY (*tenor*).....a young gentleman in love with Cecile

also:

EMILIE (*soprano*).....a whore  
AZOLAN (*baritone*).....Valmont's chasseur  
JULIE (*soprano*).....Tourvel's maid  
VICTOIRE (*mezzo-soprano*).....Merteuil's maid  
MONSIEUR BERTRAND (*baritone*).....Valmont's and Rosemonde's family solicitor  
FATHER ANSELME (*mute*).....Tourvel's confessor  
and other servants, nuns, seconds, le beau monde etc. (at least 12, to double as backstage chorus).

*An historical note*

We are in the world of the recently enobled, upwardly mobile  
upper class of mid-eighteenth century France.  
It is the world of Paris, not Versailles; a world where the cadet branches  
of the old aristocracy meet the socially conscious noblesse de robe;  
a cafe society far too vigorous to be decadent; brilliant,  
experimental and just beginning to feel the first sweet stirrings  
of the Romantic and the Sentimental.

Family comes first, then money, and love is your own business.

ET IN ARCADIA EGO