

PUCCINI

LA FANCIULLA DEL WEST

CONDUCTOR

Marco Armiliato

PRODUCTION

Giancarlo del Monaco

SET AND COSTUME DESIGNER

Michael Scott

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Gil Wechsler

LIVE IN HD DIRECTOR

Gary Halvorson

LIVE IN HD HOST

Susanna Phillips

MINNIE

Eva-Maria Westbroek

DICK JOHNSON

Jonas Kaufmann

NICK

Carlo Bosi

JACK RANCE

Željko Lučić

SONORA

Michael Todd Simpson

ASHBY

Matthew Rose

JAKE WALLACE

Oren Gradus

ACT I The miners gather at the Polka Saloon. All of the men are in love with Minnie, the bar's owner, including the sheriff Jack Rance. A quarrel breaks out, and Minnie herself arrives and restores order. Rance confesses his love to Minnie, but she rejects him. A stranger appears in the bar, introducing himself as Dick Johnson. Minnie recognizes him as a man that she has met before. The miners drag in an outlaw who is part of the bandit Ramerrez's gang. He pretends that he will lead them to their hideout but then whispers to Johnson—who is in fact Ramerrez—that he let himself be captured to trick the miners. Left alone, Minnie and Johnson are instantly attracted to each other, and Minnie shyly invites Johnson to visit her in her cabin.

INTERMISSION

ACT II Johnson arrives at Minnie's home, and she gives in to his declarations of love. When several shots ring out, Johnson hides. Rance appears and tells Minnie that they have discovered Johnson's true identity. Minnie angrily confronts Johnson, who declares that, when he met her, he decided to give up his former life. Minnie sends him away. Another shot rings out. Johnson, wounded, staggers back into the cabin, and Minnie hides him in the attic. Rance returns to search the room. When a drop of blood falls on his hand from above, Johnson must surrender. Minnie challenges Rance to a poker game. If he defeats her, she will give herself to him; if he loses, Johnson goes free. Minnie cheats and wins.

INTERMISSION

ACT III Minnie has nursed Johnson back to health. The miners drag him in and prepare to hang him. When they hear Minnie nearing, the men hesitate. She pleads with them to spare Johnson and reminds the men how much they owe her. The miners finally release Johnson, and the couple leave to start a new life together.

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