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Scapin

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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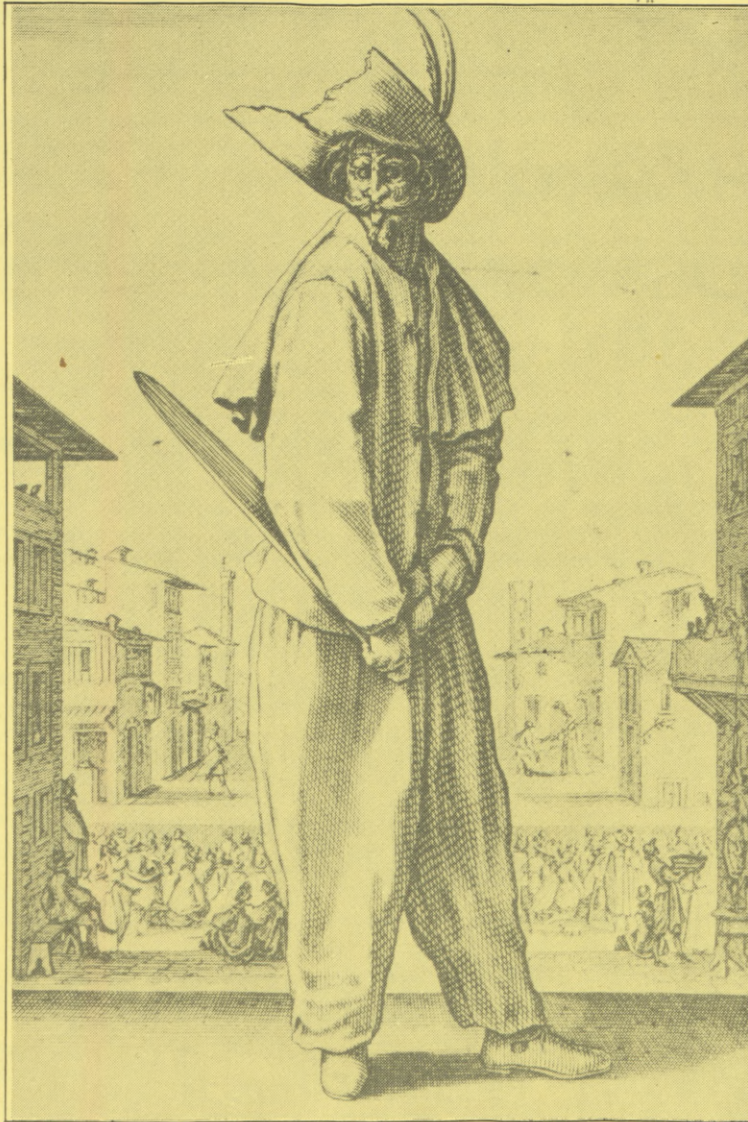
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OTTERBEIN COLLEGE THEATRE

presents

SCAPIN

by Moliere

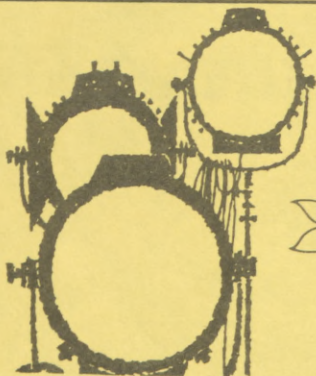


FEBRUARY 5-6-7-8, 1975

Director — PATRICIA L. RYAN

Designer-Technical Director — JAMES AVIDON

Costume Designer — PETIE DODRILL



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NEXT - GUEST ARTIST

We are pleased to announce the preliminary completion of arrangements for the 14th annual guest artist, this year to appear in the role of Stanley in *A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE*, March 5-8.

ROBERT FORSTER, star of stage, screen and TV, who appeared last spring as Stanley in the widely acclaimed New York production (co-starring Lois Nettleton), will be joining Otterbein students for *STREETCAR* rehearsals beginning Feb. 14. Performances are Wednesday through Saturday at 8:15 p.m. with a special student matinee scheduled for Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Recent major movie activities for Mr. Forster include starring roles opposite Elizabeth Taylor and Marlon Brando in *Reflections in a Golden Eye*, opposite Gregory Peck and Eva Marie Saint in *The Stalking Moon* and opposite Dirk Bogarde and Anouke Aimee in *Justine*. Other movies include *Medium Cool* and *Pieces of Dreams*.

Recent major TV activities include the starring role of the *Banyon* series in 1972, *The Death Squad* with Melvin Douglas in 1973, and star of *Nakia* on ABC in 1974.

Tickets will go on sale at the Cowan Hall Box Office, 891-3331, open weekdays from 1 to 4 p.m. beginning February 19.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Patricia Ryan, assistant professor of Theatre and Film at Denison University since 1969, brings an extensive educational and professional background to share with Otterbein theatre students in this production of *SCAPIN*. She received her M.A. in Theatre from Wayne State University in 1967 (additional work through 1969), where she was a member of the Hilberry Classic Repertory Acting Company. Recent summers were spent in Voice Training with Arthur Lessac at Southern Methodist University and Trinity University, and she spent the summers of 1972-73 at the University of Colorado and with the Colorado Shakespeare Festival. In addition to teaching numerous courses and directing at Denison, Ms. Ryan was also Director of Recruiting and Campus Liaison for the Great Lakes Colleges Association New York Arts Program.

Ms. Ryan's extensive resume includes directing and acting at about a dozen professional and educational theatres. A list of representative plays directed includes such plays as *The Three Sisters*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, *The House of Blue Leaves*, *Patience*, *Medea*, *The Cherry Orchard* and *And Miss Reardon Drinks a Little*. A list of representative acting roles includes "Lucience" from *A Flea in Her Ear*, "Lysistrata" from *Lysistrata*, "Maria" from *Twelfth Night*, "Calpurnia" from *Julius Caesar* and "Joanne" from *Company*.



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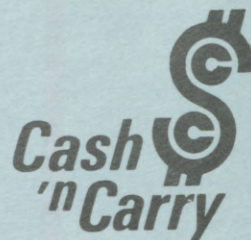
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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Written in 1671 by Moliere, the comic genius of the age, *Les Fourberies de Scapin* was clearly under the influence of the Italian *Commedia dell'Arte* tradition. As a playwright Moliere was an inspired thief. He stole the plot for *Scapin* from a Roman comedy, *Phormio*, by Terence, who in turn stole it from a Greek new comedy by Appolodorus, who in turn undoubtedly stole the plot from an earlier source. This chain of free adaptation continues in the Otterbein production.

The *Commedia dell'Arte* represents a rich theatrical tradition the roots of which go back to the earliest recorded history of the dramatic impulse in man, and the influence of which is seen in such contemporary improvisational groups as *Second City* in Chicago, the *San Francisco Mime Troupe*, and *Story Theatre*. The impulse is to play, to improvise, to allow the creative imagination of the actor a free reign in commenting upon the human condition.

In traditional *Commedia dell'Arte* there was no script or text per se — only a scenario or plot outline that governed the day's performance. Characters were stock types: the scheming servant, the quack doctor, the miserly merchant, the star-crossed lovers. The tradition lingers. We accept the stock characters of the working-class bigot and the scatterbrained wife in Archie and Edith Bunker in "All in the Family".

Moliere's treatment of the Scapin story has delighted audiences, actors and directors for three centuries. Currently in New York one of the hits of the season is a production of *Scapino* by the National Theatre of Great Britain starring a brilliant young actor, Jim Dale, whose solo performance has kept the production running nearly six years. Few texts rely as completely on the imagination of the actor to bring them to life. Invention is the key word. "Everyone knows that plays are written to be acted," wrote Moliere. How essentially true for his own works is this statement.

Our production represents an attempt to recapture the original spirit of the *Commedia* and is based on literal translations from the Moliere text. During the rehearsal period the company was encouraged to improvise on the text and develop "lazzi" or comic business that derived from the madcap situations and characters created by Moliere. Our intention is to invite you into a very zany world, and we hope that the liberties we have taken serve to illuminate and enhance your enjoyment of this classic comedy.

Patricia Ryan

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CAST

(in order of appearance)

Octavio	David Weller
Silvester	Gian Morelli**
Scapin (Scapino)	Jim West**
Hyacintha	Sue Ann Kocks**
Argante	Jerry Confer**
Geronte	John Cain**
Leander	James St. Clair
Carlos	Michael McCleese
Zerbinetta	Nancy Shelton
Nerine	Pamela Hill**
Porters	Dan Hawk*
	Tom Downard

The scene is Naples.

There will be one intermission.

*Indicates membership in Cap and Dagger Dramatics Club

**Indicates membership in Theta Alpha Phi National Theatre Honorary

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THEATRE STAFF

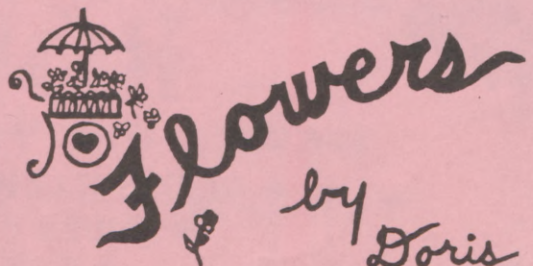
Director of Theatre Dr. Charles W. Dodrill
Designer-Technical Director Prof. Fred J. Thayer
Instructor Prof. James Avidon
Children's Theatre Director — Costume Designer Petie Dodrill
Publicity Fran Bay
Chairman, Department of Speech and Theatre Dr. James Grissinger
Student Assistants Marty Bookwalter, Russ Scull,
Terry Espenschied, James Dooley
John Woodland



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Lights:	Terry Espenschied**, Chm., David Robinson, Russell Scull,
Make-up:	Jenny Herron*, Chm., David Robinson, J. B. Summers
Programs:	Beth Machlan**
Properties:	Jerry Confer**, Chm., Gretta Simmons, John D. Woodland
Publicity:	Beth Kendig*, Chm., Beth Kepple, Cindi Skunza
Scenery:	Terry Espenschied**, Chm., Gordon Ballinger, Fred DeBell, David Robinson, Cindy Snodgrass, James St. Clair, Jon Turner, Tom Downard
Sound:	
Tickets:	Mary Beth Watkins*, Chm., Tom Downard, Jude Jacobs**, Beth Kepple, Cindi Skunza, Sue Ware, Deana Williams

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FACULTY RECITAL — Feb. 9, 8:15 p.m., Hall Auditorium, Carol Marty, Soprano.

RUG CONCERT — Feb. 18, 8:15 p.m., Columbus Quartet in the Campus Center.

MUSIC DEPT. — Otterbein Bands, Feb. 21, 8:15 p.m., Cowan Hall.



MAILING LIST — If you wish to be on our mailing list and receive announcements of college cultural activities, please fill out a card at the Box Office.

REFRESHMENTS — The refreshment stand is located in the lobby for your convenience. We would appreciate your cooperation in not bringing cups into the auditorium. Thank you.

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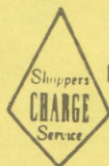
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