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The Miser

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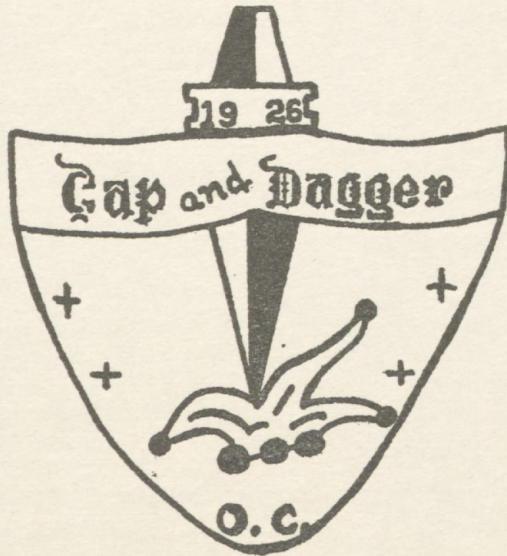
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Moliere's
**The
Miser**

Directed by Marion Chase



OCTOBER 25th and 27th, 1951

COWAN MEMORIAL HALL
OTTERBEIN COLLEGE

Cast of Characters

Harpagon, <i>the miser</i>	Dr. E. W. E. Schear
Elise, <i>his daughter</i>	Virginia Hill
Cléante, <i>his son</i>	Kenneth Kohn
Valère <i>in love with Elise</i>	Donald Skelton
Frosine, <i>a match maker</i>	Anita Shannon
Mariane, <i>in love with Cléante</i>	Mary Anne Ross
Master Jacques, <i>coachman and cook</i>	Larry Tirnauer
La Flèche, <i>Cléante's valet</i>	Louis Gray
Master Simon, <i>Harpagon's agent</i>	Richard Rosensteel
Magistrate	Dean Saddler
Mistress Claude, <i>servant</i>	Sally Bodge
La Merluche, <i>servant</i>	Gwen Copening
Monsieur Anselme, <i>Valère's father</i>	Pat Daly

PLACE: Harpagon's House.

TIME: 1668.

Synopsis of Scenes

ACT ONE: Harpagon's house, Paris. Morning.

ACT TWO: The Same. Afternoon.

ACT THREE: The Same. Evening.

Music Used in "The Miser"

Waltz (from Suite for Two Pianos)	Arensky
Till Eulenspiegel (Part II)	Strauss
Overture to Zampa (Part II)	Herold
Eine kleine Nachtmusik (3rd movement)	Mozart
Polka and Gallop	Strawinsky
Orpheus in Hades—Overture	Offenbach
William Tell Overture (the Storm)	Rossini
The Sorcerer's Apprentice (Part I)	Dukas

About the Play

Comedy, as distinguished from farce, was slow to develop in France. Not until 1630 did French playwrights, studying Plautus, Terrence, and Italian Renaissance comedy, begin to write imitative plays dealing with intrigue and romance. A very few touched on the manners and characters of the day.

In 1659, however, Molière's "Les Precieuses Ridicules" effected the rise of comedy with social pointing and its success determined the future objective of Molière's art. For his age offered the perfect subject for the comic spirit. French society under Louis XIV mirrored with extraordinary clarity the follies, vanities, and lusts of men. Molière, then, turns to these absurdities of contemporary humanity and their exposure to write the high comedy (comedy developed from personality rather than situation) for which he is unexcelled.

To Molière, mankind was an incurable child, to be corrected a little, but above all, to be entertained. There is no rancor or indignation in his dramas, only a thoughtful, but gay detachment.

"The Miser" was presented for the first time on September 9, 1668 at the Theatre du Palais Royal. In the cast at its première performance were Molière himself as Harpagon, his wife as Marianne, and his sister-in-law as Frosine. It is interesting to note that the lines in reference to Harpagon's catarrh were written for a specific purpose. Molière was suffering from the tuberculosis which eventually caused his death and used these lines to excuse his coughing on stage.

"The Miser" is one of the most popular of Molière's comedies for like Shakespeare, he has written plays which are ageless and for all time.

COMMITTEES

PROPERTIES	Sally Bodge, <i>Chairman</i> Phyl Brockett Gloria Howard Lew Bell Bill Lehman
COSTUMES	Mary Lou Poorman, <i>Chairman</i> Helen Herwick Wilma Reed Edie Gruber
LIGHTING	Mike Phillips, <i>Chairman</i> Albert Sanders J. Grissinger Rudy Fedorchak Bob Myers Ted Kelly
STAGE MANAGER	Tom Hammond
STAGE CREW	Kenny Hanes Dale Pitts Harry Hull
SOUND TECH.	Cashal Burris, <i>Chairman</i> Evelyn Stump
MAKE-UP	Bobbie Finkle, <i>Chairman</i> Jane Lockwood Delores Koons
BUSINESS MGR.	John Hammon
PUBLICITY	Phyl Shultz, <i>Chairman</i> Lloyd Lewis
TICKETS	John Matthews, <i>Chairman</i> Dotie Miles Lou Jenni Joyce Anglin Lynn Bergman
HOUSE MGR.	Lloyd Lewis
PROGRAMS	Dick Rosensteel, <i>Chairman</i> Bob Dunham