



## Costumes For Comedy

Artist's sketch by Petie Dodrill depicts characters and costumes for cast members of the Otterbein College Theatre December production, "Servant of Two Masters."



# PUBLIC OPINION

## ABOUT AND FOR THE WESTERVILLE AREA

**Ticket Sales Open Nov. 29**

## "Servant" Set In Round For Winter OC Offering

The Otterbein College Theatre will present a style of theatre not seen in recent seasons by its patrons when the curtain rises on their December production "The Servant of Two Masters."

TRADITIONALLY, THE pre-Christmas play is presented on the arena stage of Cowan Hall with acting area and audience members both arranged in the space behind the Cowan stage proscenium curtains. Because less than 200 persons are seated for each performance, the December show runs for five performances. This year the dates are Dec. 7-11.

The arena theatre show has become a favorite of Otterbein audiences.

This year, however, in addition to the unique arena stage style, the Otterbein Theatre will perform a work of early theatre days when they present Carlo Goldoni's "Servant of Two Masters." A "commedia dell'arte" work, "Servant" is a perfect vehicle for arena theatre as it is patterned after the popular "people's theatre" of the mid 1600's.

A THEATRE OF BOARDS and trestles with an audience which stood in the public square, "commedia dell'arte" actors delight-

ed their patrons with improvised comedy, the plot outlines for some having been saved over the centuries. "Servant" is based on these early scenarios, "Commedia" impact on subsequent theatre growth with enormous.

The term "dell'arte" was actually a critical accolade earned by the theatre. It signified the professional character of the actors and their comedy.

Interestingly enough, much of the stage business and stock characters that are seen today on our television programs and theatre stages are direct descendants or can be traced to "commedia" productions.

Pictured here are character outfits to be worn by the cast of Goldoni's farce. Modeled after 1700 Italian clothing, the costumes were designed especially for this Otterbein production by Mrs. Petie Dodrill and are being

made by Westerville resident Mrs. Anna Miller.

THE HIGHLY STYLIZED outfits are being made from a wide gamut of colors and materials; the latter ranging from felt and corduroy through velvet with felt cutouts and ball-fringe trim.

Face masks will be worn by such characters as Pantalone to achieve the specific effect of "Commedia" theatre.

The unique staging and style of "Servant" plus the humor of the plot itself promise a total production which should prove to be an exciting and unusual theatre experience.

Tickets sales will open Monday, November 29. Reserved seat tickets will be available for all five performances at the Cowan Box Office, 3601, and at Gifford's.

# "Columbus + Dispatch" Citizen Journal

## Marilou Holford Directs Comedy

Marilou Holford will direct the December 7-8-9-10-11 production of "The Servant of Two Masters."

Miss Holford, who worked this past summer with a professional stock company in New England, has been seen in many lead roles with previous Otterbein productions. Her latest appearance was as Annie Oakley in this fall's musical, "Annie Get Your Gun."

"The Servant of Two Masters" is a part of Miss Holford's "distinction and honors" program at Otterbein and will be produced arena style and in "commedia dell'arte" form. Tickets will go on sale for the five-night run November 29.

## Student Directs 'Servant'

A senior speech major from San Gabriel, Calif., Miss Marilou Holford, will direct the upcoming Otterbein College Theatre production, "The Servant of Two Masters," from Dec. 7-11.

"Servant" will be a part of Miss Holford's "distinction honors" program at Otterbein. It will be staged in full "Commedia dell'arte" form and in arena theater style.

Miss Holford, who worked this past summer with a professional stock company in New England, has been seen in many lead roles in previous Otterbein productions.

Tickets will go on sale for the five-night run Monday. Phone the Cowan Box Office, 882-3601, between 1 and 4 p.m. weekdays for reserved seat tickets.



## GOLDONI PLAY AT OTTERBEIN

The Otterbein College Theater presents "The Servant of Two Masters" this Tuesday through Saturday, Dec. 7 through 11, with performances at 8:15 nightly and a 2 o'clock Saturday matinee. Pictured above is Gwendy Miles as Smeraldina in one of the costumes designed especially for the "commedia dell'arte" show which will be staged arena style. Tickets are currently on sale.

## Otterbein Slates Farce

Carlo Goldoni's comedy, "The Servant of Two Masters" will be the next production of Otterbein College Theatre.

Slated to open a five-night run on Tuesday, Dec. 7, the show will be presented arena style on the stage of Cowan Hall Auditorium. Less than 200 tickets are available for each production due to the "theatre-in-the-round" style which has become a tradition for the pre-Christmas show at Otterbein.

Goldoni's farce will be staged using all the elements which made "commedia" shows so successful in their impact on later theatre development. Specially designed costumes, face masks, traditional slapstick and paraphernalia will add to the arena production. Tickets will go on sale Nov. 29.

## Comedy Due At Otterbein

A wardrobe of commedia dell'arte costumes and masks has been especially designed by Mrs. Petie Dodrill for the Otterbein Theater production, "The Servant of Two Masters."

Slated to be presented Dec. 7-11, the show will be produced with full "commedia" paraphernalia. The wardrobe will feature highly-styled versions of early 1700 Italian clothing.

Tickets for the "Servant," which will be staged arena theater style, and available by phoning 882-3601 between 1 and 4 p.m. weekdays.

## 'The Servant'



## Direct

Marilyn Holford, who worked the December 7-8-9-10 production of "The Servant of Two Masters."

Miss Holford, who worked this past summer with a professional stock company in New England, has been seen in many lead roles with previous Otterbein productions. Her latest appearance was as Annie Oakley in this fall's musical, "Annie Get Your Gun."

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## In Arena Style

Carlo Goldoni's, "The Servant of Two Masters," will be presented arena style as one of the four major productions of the Otterbein College Theater this season. The arena stage of Cowan Hall was selected as the best production area for the witty farce comedy to emphasize the "commedia dell'arte" costumes, masks and traditional farce slapstick which will be utilized in "Servant."

## Ticket Sale

The Cowan Hall Box Office opened Monday for ticket sales to the December 7-8-9-10-11 production of "The Servant of Two Masters," which will be presented in "commedia dell'arte" form and in arena style. Only 200 seats are available for each performance. All seats for the shows are reserved. Phone 882-3601 between 1 and 4 p.m. p.m.



## At Otterbein

The Otterbein College Theatre presents "The Servant of Two Masters," Tuesday through Saturday, Dec. 7-11, with performances at 8:15 p.m. and a 2 p.m. Saturday. Richard Crable wears one of the costumes designed especially for the "commedia dell'arte" show.

## 'The Servant' At Otterbein

The Cowan Hall Box Office opens Monday for ticket sales to the Dec. 7 production of "The Servant of Two Masters," which will be presented in "commedia dell'arte" form and in arena theater style.

Only 200 seats are available for each performance. All seats for the shows are reserved. Phone 882-3601 between 1 and 4 p.m.

## Ticket Sale On

Box Office sales open Monday for the Otterbein College Theater production of Goldoni's "The Servant of Two Masters." Reserved seat tickets will be available at the Cowan Box Office, 882-3601, between 1 and 4 p.m. weekdays, and at Giffords', Westerville. "Servant" which will be produced arena-style, opens a five-night run Tuesday, Dec. 7. Only 200 seats are available for each performance.



# PUBLIC OPINION

ABOUT AND FOR THE WESTERVILLE AREA

## OTTERBEINS "IN ROUND" PRODUCTION

### The "Servant Of Two Masters" Opens Tuesday, Sure To Please

Next Tuesday night, Dec. 7, the Cowan Hall lights will go up on a once-a-year feature for the Otterbein College Theatre -- the annual "theatre-in-the-round" production.

THIS YEAR'S SHOW, a situation comedy rife with traditional wordy wit and farce slap-stick, is a favorite of the late "com-media dell' arte" period, Carlo Goldoni's "The Servant of Two Masters."

In addition to the five performances announced previously, 8:15 p.m., curtain times Dec. 7 through 11, a matinee will be played at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec.

11. Only approximately 200 persons will be seated for each of the six performances. All seats are reserved and tickets are now available at the Cowan Hall Box Office, 882-3601, between 1 and 4 p.m., and at Gifford's.

The plot of "Servant" revolves around the efforts of a young woman, Beatrice, to discover the whereabouts of her lover, Florindo, who fled their city following the death of her brother in a duel. Disguised as a man, Beatrice follows her Florindo to a town where the former fiancée of her brother resides and finds herself reengaged to the girl.

THE HUMOR OF THIS situation, combined with the cases of mistaken identity which ensue as Beatrice hires a servant who is also serving Florindo, unbeknown to her, combine to present a fun-filled evening.

Truffaldino, the servant, will be played by James Granger, a sophomore from Pittsburgh, Pa. Jim has been seen previously in "Sap of Life," and "Annie Get Your Gun." Cast as Beatrice is Judy McNeely, Whippany, N. J., sophomore. Her lover, Florindo, will be played by Greg Sabatino, sophomore from Dayton.

Other cast members include Steve Lorton, Sidney; Wendy Miles, Akron; Don Parssison, Florence, Mass.; Mary Furniss, Westerville; Ward Hines, Mans-

(Continued on page 3A)

## Broadest Humor Mark Of OC Arena Comedy

BY SARAH SKAATES

If you like broad humor with touches of Barnum and Bailey and Soupy Sales, if you like to laugh without having to think, or if you have any appreciation at all for farce of any sort, you will definitely enjoy "The Servant of Two Masters" as presented by the Otterbein Theater.

Under direction of Senior Mari-lou Holford, the production fairly popped Tuesday night with transfusions of bounce, color and enthusiasm. The whole show was brightly and briskly stylized from beginning to end.

There were sight gags and visual puns, antic stage business and outright mugging. However, all would have been much more effective had the show been one half as long.

LITERALLY, THE brightest thing about "The Servant of Two Masters" is the costuming. Since the show is arena style, and there is scarcely any set to speak of, the costumes and make-up carry the job of setting a mood of gaiety

and nonsense.

Special credit must go to Petie Dodrill and Anna Miller for the design and execution, respectively, of these costumes. Without them, the Cowan Hall stage would be very colorless indeed.

Performance wise, "The Servant of Two Masters" couldn't have boasted a better cast. Each actor and actress postured and paraded with precision through the contrived turnings of plot and scene.

NOT ONLY IS the Otterbein Theatre's annual arena show a farce, it is Italian farce, possibly classic farce. This means there is an exorbitant to-do about a young woman masquerading as her brother, a servant doing double duty, and assorted pairs of thwarted lovers.

Too bad there wasn't a roll-licking full house at Tuesday night's show. Wave upon wave of uproarious laughter might have pried this stick-in-the-mud reviewer loose from her usual apathy toward farce.

But I doubt it.

REVIEW





8:15 p.m. curtain times Dec. 7 through 11, a matinee will be played at 2 p.m Saturday, Dec.

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(Continued on page 3A)



**GWENDY MILES, WHO WILL** appear in the Otterbein College Theatre production, "The Servant of Two Masters," models one of the costumes especially designed for the show by Mrs. Pete Dodrill. Miss Miles appears as Smeraldina and is shown in early 1700's Italian serving costume. Tickets are currently on sale for the Dec. 7-11 production.

## Servant

(Continued from Page 1A)  
field; Dick Crable, Circleville;  
and Jim Bruce, Wadsworth.  
"SERVANT" IS BEING direc-

ted by Marilou Holford, senior speech major from San Gabriel, Cal. Miss Holford has appeared in numerous Otterbein Theatre shows with lead roles in "Gli," "Anastasia," and The Boy Friend". Her latest appearance was as Annie Oakley in this fall's musical, "Annie Get Your Gun."

Miss Holford worked this past summer in summer stock at the Monomoy Sunner Theatre in Chatham, Mass., near the Cape Cod area.

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## **'The Servant' At Otterbein**

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