

The Affamati Company



“a gap in generations”

LOS ANGELES CITY COLLEGE
THEATRE ARTS DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS AN ORIGINAL SCENARIO

"a gap in generations"

CREATED AND PERFORMED IN
commedia dell'arte style

This production was the Los Angeles City College entry in the American College Theatre Festival sponsored by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, American Airlines, Smithsonian Institution, American Educational Theatre Association, and American National Theatre and Academy. The production has been selected to open the Festival at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D. C., playing April 28 and 29, 1970.



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CREATED AND PERFORMED IN
COMMEDIA DELL'ARTE STYLE

By The *Affamati* Company
(The Hungry Ones)

Presented April 17 and 18, 1970 by the Associated Students
as Production 484 in the Forty-first Season
of the Theatre Arts Department

CAST

PANTALONE DI BESIGNOSI,
A MERCHANT OF VENICE ANTHONY DEFONTE

ARLICCHINO, HIS SERVANT ROBERT ARMAND

LELIO DI BESIGNOSI, HIS SON PHIL KELLARD

DOCTOR GRAZIANO ROD L. GIST

TOFANO DI SCATTORELLI,
A MERCHANT OF BOLOGNA STEVEN PRINGLE

ISABELLA DI SCATTORELLI, HIS DAUGHTER CYNTHIA CARLE

FLAVIO DI SCATTORELLI, HIS SON MICHAEL SIMS

COLOMBINA, HIS SERVANT JADE JESTINY

PEDROLINO, HIS SERVANT SANFORD ROBBINS

VITTORIA, A COURTESAN KARENE FREDERICK

FRANCESCHINA, MAID TO VITTORIA KATHI LIGHTSTONE

SERVANTS DORIS DUTTON, GWEN STOKES
CHRISTOPHER REED, MARK E. WOODALL

OTHERS SHIRLEY HANSEN, RICHARD S. HERON
CHRISTOPHER KOON, ANTHONY MASCERA

A TOWN OFFICIAL
CAPITANO SPAVENTO JOSEPH HOFFMAN

FACULTY STAFF

DIRECTOR MR. JERRY BLUNT
SET AND LIGHT DESIGN MR. BARRY MC GEE
COSTUME DESIGN MRS. JO JONES
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR MR. RANDALL EDWARDS
PUBLICITY DIRECTOR DR. FRED MARTIN
DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN MR. J. R. MC CLOSKEY

STUDENT STAFF

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SANFORD ROBBINS
STAGE MANAGER SHIRLEY HANSEN
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER ANTHONY MASCERA
ELECTRICIAN LINDA WILSON
SOUND CHRIS DIAZ
MASTER CARPENTER RICHARD S. HERON
PROPERTY MASTER CHRISTOPHER KOON
WARDROBE MASTER MARK B. WOODALL
ASSISTANT WARDROBE MASTER CHRISTOPHER REED
WARDROBE MISTRESS DORIS DUTTON
ASSISTANT WARDROBE MISTRESS GWEN STOKES
HOUSE MANAGER RONALD N. DEMUNBRUN

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Theatre Arts Department wishes to thank our consultants: Professors Mario Tartaglia, Stanford Miller, and Evelyn Mohr. The songs for the production were written by Betty Andrews. All the costumes and sets were constructed by the staff and students of the Theatre Arts Department.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

PLACE A SQUARE IN BOLOGNA, ITALY
TIME MID SIXTEENTH CENTURY

ACT I

SCENE I PANTALONE'S HOUSE
SCENE II TOFANO'S HOUSE
SCENE III A SQUARE IN BOLOGNA

INTERMISSION

ACT II

SCENE I THE DUKE'S GARDEN
SCENE II PANTALONE'S HOUSE

Coming Attractions

“The Birthday Party”

By Harold Pinter

Caminito Theatre

April 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, May 1 and 2, 1970

“Little Mary Sunshine”

A New Musical About an Old Operetta

By Rick Besoyan

Camino Theatre

May 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 1970

PROGRAM NOTES



The production you are about to witness is a product of the American Educational Theatre, where research into the past aids us in our search for a better understanding of the present.

COMMEDIA DELL'ARTE

In all theatrical history there has never been a dramatic style like the *commedia*. Performed in full slapstick, with stylized costumes and masks, the *commedia* emphasizes certain universal character types, composed mostly of old men, lovers, and zanies or servants, all of which were portrayed to the point of caricature.

With the beginning of the Renaissance in Italy, small bands of strolling players moved from town to town in search of whatever audience they could find. Performing out-of-doors, in city squares and market places, they depended upon the sheer vitality and attractiveness of their improvisational playing to compel non-captive audiences to pay attention, and to pay for that attention. When a company of actors depends upon such a chancy means of livelihood, it is obvious that they must truly please. That many famous *commedia* companies did just that for several hundred years is proof of the vitality of the genre.

Our group, The *Affamati* Company (The Hungry Ones), pretends to be one of these companies, and as such competes in the free market of entertainment for your approval and favor.

THE SCENARIO

A reading of late Medieval and early Renaissance history, undertaken at the beginning of the Fall term by the members of The *Affamati* Company, revealed such a close parallel between university life then and now that the group felt impelled to draw those parallels to the attention of our audiences. Accordingly, a research project was begun which resulted in this presentation of the original scenario, "A Gap in Generations."

The scenario itself was created by the members of the company in the manner of the *commedia*, all lines and business being improvisationally evolved in rehearsal and performance.

COMMEDIA TERMS

Lazzi—Comic turns or gags.

Maestro—The leader of a *commedia dell'arte* company.

Scenario—A plot outline, scene by scene, posted in the wings, from which the actors take their directions.

Zanni—A comic servant.

Zibaldoni—An actor's notebook of lazzi, oftentimes handed down from one generation of actors to another.

THEATRE ARTS DEPARTMENT STAFF

Beverly Baker
Jerry Blunt
Robert C. Board
Dan Desmond
Randall Edwards
Tiiu Harunk
John Ingle

Jo Jones
Fred Martin
James R. McCloskey
Barry McGee
Norman Mennes
Alice Parichan
Donna Tollefson

David Wells
Barbara Burnett
Scene Shop Mgr.
Angela Huffman
Costume Assistant
Karen Newson
Dept. Secretary