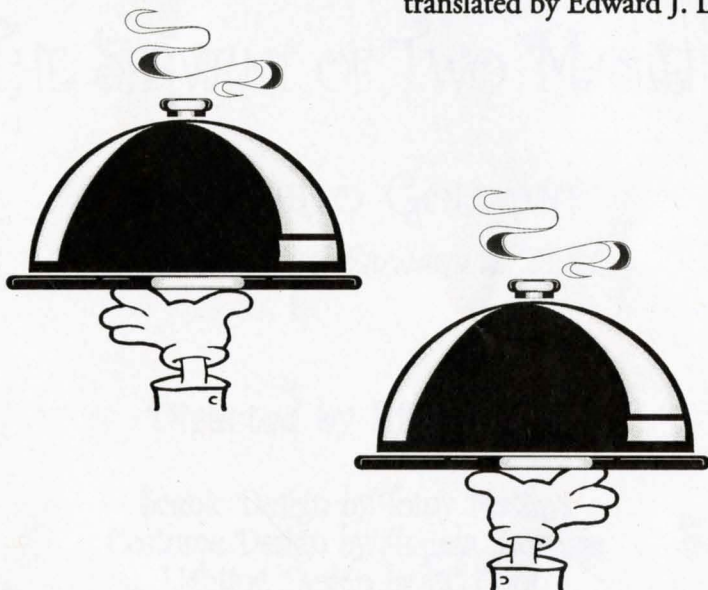


Stephen F. Austin State University College of Fine Arts,  
Mainstage Series and School of Theatre present

# The Servant of Two Masters

by *Carlo Goldoni*  
translated by Edward J. Dent



October 3-7, 2006  
7:30 p.m.  
W. M. Turner Auditorium

SIFA  
*School of Theatre*  
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

Sponsored in part by



SFA SCHOOL OF THEATRE  
and the  
COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS  
present

# THE SERVANT OF TWO MASTERS

By CARLO GOLDONI

TRANSLATED BY EDWARD J. DENT

Directed by Rick Jones

Scenic Design by Tomy Matthys

Costume Design by Angela Bacarisse

Lighting Design by CC Conn

Hair & Makeup Design by Amber Talley

Sound Design by Eric Franklin

Movement and Fight Choreography by Juanita Finkenberg

Stage Manager: Ashley Nicole Douglas

Assistant Director: Justin Urias Bauer

Dramaturg: Kevin Scholtes

OCTOBER 3-7, 2006

7:30 P.M.

W.M. TURNER AUDITORIUM

## About the Cast

**Lorenzo Belpassi** (Dr. Lombardi) is an American Theatre Arts student from Rose Bruford College. His acting credits at Rose Bruford include *All Powers Necessary and Inconvenient*, *Angels in America*, and *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*.

**Lauren Renee Bielski** (Clarice) is a freshman from Cinco Ranch High School in Katy. Her acting credits there include *Annie Get Your Gun*, *The Man Who Came To Dinner*, and *The Elephant Man*.

**Sara Boland-Taylor** (Smeraldina) has appeared at SFA in *The Tempest*, *Sideways Stories from Wayside School*, *The Open Meeting*, *Shooting Simone*, *Quake*, and *The Vise*. This fall she will be assistant directing *How I Learned to Drive*.

**Austin Chason** (Silvio) is a freshman from Spring who is making his debut on the SFA Mainstage. At Klein Oak High School he appeared in *Aida*, *All My Sons*, and *Bye Bye Birdie*; he also assistant directed *Dearly Departed*.

**Alicia Earls** (Zanni) a junior from Bay City, was last seen as a puppeteer in *China Dolls* and has worked backstage on *Raised in Captivity* and *The Open Meeting*. Alicia is a Black Belt in Honto Ryu Karate.

**Samuel W. Flash** (Zanni) is a transfer from Cy-Fair Junior College who began working at SFA as Props Master for Summer Rep. Before coming to SFA he was the Director's Apprentice for AD Players in Houston.

**Nashanna Gates** (Zanni) is a sophomore from Garland who played a Props Mistress in *Anton in Show Business*. She has also worked on wardrobe crew for *La Périchole* and props crew for *The Night of the Iguana*.

**Micah Goodding** (Pantalone) acted in *China Dolls*, *Changing*, *The Tempest*, *Harvey*, and *Hair*. He has also worked at the Texas Shakespeare Festival, and he has appeared in commercials for Brookshire Brothers. Micah is sorry to announce this is his farewell to the Mainstage.

**Xzavien Hollins** (Truffaldino) appeared most recently in the Summer Rep production of *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*. Other SFA acting credits include *The Tempest*, *The Open Meeting*, and *Open Admissions*.

## About the Cast (cont.)

**Nadaha McCullough** (Zanni) has performed in *The Tempest* on the SFA Mainstage and *Bonjour, Là, Bonjour* in Summer Rep. Her other SFA credits include *Gander Sauce* and *Escape by Moonlight*. This semester she will be directing *Oedi*.

**Chad McElveen** (Zanni) is a sophomore from Lufkin High School. He was last seen on stage as Wolfgang in *The Night of the Iguana*. He has also worked on crews for *La Périchole* and *The Tempest*.

**Nate Reid** (Brighella) is a sophomore from McNeil High School in Austin. At SFA, Nate has appeared in *States of Grace* and *The Night of the Iguana*. He was also on the run crew for *Raised in Captivity*.

**Savannah Seilheimer** (Beatrice) is no stranger to the mainstage. Her SFA acting credits include *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, *A Cheever Evening*, *The Night of the Iguana*, *Anton in Show Business*, and *Harvey*.

**J Alan Spence** (Zanni) has been seen on the SFA Mainstage in *Trudi and the Minstrel* and *Six Characters in Search of an Author*. His other SFA acting credits include *The Informer* and *The Devil's Karma*.

**Guy Vizard** (Florindo), a senior from Austin, has performed in *Women in Flames*, *Pericles*, *The Seagull*, *A Dead Man's Apartment*, and *Thanks*. He also wrote *The Devil's Karma*, produced at SFA in Fall, 2004.

## About the Artistic Staff

**Angela Bacarisse** (Costume Designer) has designed over 200 productions in academic and professional theatres across the country. Her most recent SFA costume designs include *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, *A Cheever Evening*, *China Dolls*, *The Night of the Iguana*, and *The Tempest*.

**Justin Urias Bauer** (Asst. Director) assistant directed *Shooting Simone*; this fall he will direct *The Valentine Fairy*. JUB has acted in *Bonjour, Là, Bonjour*, *The Tempest*, *Six Characters...*; *Goodbye, Oscar*, *The Yellow Boat*, and *The Fifth Sun*.

## The Cast

Silvio .....	Austin Chason
Pantalone .....	Micah Goodding
Clarice .....	Lauren Renee Bielski
Doctor Lombardi .....	Lorenzo Belpassi
Brighella .....	Nate Reid
Smeraldina .....	Sara Boland-Taylor *
Truffaldino .....	Xzavien Hollins
Beatrice .....	Savannah Seilheimer *
Florindo .....	Guy Vizard
Zanni/Porters/Waiters .....	Alicia Earls
	Samuel W. Flash
	Nashanna Gates
	Nadaha McCullough
	Chad McElveen
	J Alan Spence

## The Setting

The play is set in Venice.  
Not today or yesterday.  
There will be two 10-minute intermissions.

*The Servant of Two Masters* is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc. The text of the play is to be found in Eric Bentley's Dramatic Repertoire, Applause Theatre Book Publishers.

\* Designates a member of the Beta Phi cast of Alpha Psi Omega, the National Honorary Dramatics Fraternity.

## Dramaturg's Note

Renaissance men and women in Italian acting troupes practiced a version of theatre known as *Commedia dell'Arte*. There are no masterpieces of *Commedia* for the modern world to study in literature classes for one simple reason: it was never written down. The performance of any *commedia* show would be entirely improvised using only stock characters and scenarios. *The Servant of Two Masters* is one of the few ever scripted shows in the style of *Commedia dell'Arte*.

You may be more familiar with *Commedia dell'Arte* than you think. The most recognizable quality of *Commedia* is the masks. All of the characters except the *Inamorata*, or "lovers," wear masks. The masks of the stock characters have become the base of Masquerades; even today they can be seen on the faces of many European circus performers, such as Cirque du Soleil. On stage tonight you will see a character called *Truffaldino*, but you might recognize him by another name, *Harlequin*. This character became the link between the court jester and the modern clown, and is likely one of the most romanticized characters of the theatre.

*Commedia* was one of the most popular forms of theatre ever, eventually being performed across the whole of Europe. Actors were slave to the audience demands, though, and as a result their taste in humor decayed over time. What started as mere improvisation turned into dirty jokes, racial slurs, and a less than savory taste in humor. All of this came with the excuse of making people laugh. Carlo Goldoni was intent on curbing this trend in humor. In his opinion, comedy was meant solely to be a moral teaching guide:

*"...Comedy was created to correct vice and ridicule bad customs; when the ancient poets wrote comedies in this manner, the common people could participate, because, seeing the copy of a character on stage, each found the original in either himself or in someone else. But when comedies became merely ridiculous, no one paid attention anymore, because with the excuse of making people laugh, they admitted the worst and most blatant errors. But now that we have returned to fish comedies from nature's Mare Magnum, men feel with their hearts touched again. They can identify with the characters or passion and discern whether a character is well observed and developed, and whether a passion is well motivated."*

--excerpt from *The Comic Theatre*, by Carlo Goldoni

The year is 1752. An Italian by the name of Carlo Goldoni has produced yet another play in his private attempt to change the face of theatre: *The Servant of Two Masters*. While in its present form the show you will see tonight may not appear to be a grand sweep at social reform, in the 1700s it was very anti-culture.

--Kevin Scholtes

## About the Artistic Staff (cont.)

**Barbara Blackwell** (Costume Shop Supervisor) holds a BFA in Art from SFA. This is her seventh year as Costume Shop Supervisor. She has also designed or co-designed *China Dolls*, *The Member of the Wedding*, and *Trudi and the Minstrel*; she was Costume Illustrator for *The Land of the Dragon*.

**Rebecca Carey** (Movement Assistant) is an ATA student from Rose Bruford College, where she danced in 'Willkommen' from *Cabaret*. She has trained in ballet, tap, modern, and jazz dance since she was five years old.

**Amanda Chandler** (Assistant Stage Manager) stage managed *A Cheever Evening* and *Open Admissions*. She also assistant stage managed *Anton in Show Business*, and is currently the Properties Manager for the School of Theatre.

**CC Conn** (Lighting Designer) holds an MFA from Indiana University. At SFA she has designed lighting for *A Cheever Evening* and *The Tempest*, and both lighting and sound for *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, *The Night of the Iguana*, and *Anton in Show Business*.

**Ashley Nicole Douglas** (Stage Manager) is a sophomore from Jacksonville High School. At SFA she has been Stage Manager for *Changing* and *Diatribes*, and Assistant Stage Manager for *The Tempest*.

**Juanita Finkenberg** (Movement and Fight Choreographer) earned her MA from California State University in Los Angeles. She is a dancer and certified fight choreographer. Her SFA credits include all five seasons of the New Plays Festival, *La Périchole*, *The Night of the Iguana*, and *The Tempest*.

**Eric Franklin** (Sound Designer) was the Sound Designer for the 2006 Play Reading Festival. He appeared in *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, and has crewed *Bobby Gould in Hell*, *The Yellow Boat* and *Shooting Simone*.

**Rick Jones** (Director) directed the SFA productions of *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, *The Two Maples*, *The Increased Difficulty of Concentration*, *The Land of the Dragon*, and *Ghosts*. He has also appeared on stage (most recently in *La Périchole*), and has provided dramaturgical support for such plays as *China Dolls* and *Women in Flames*.

## About the Artistic Staff (cont.)

**Tomy Matthys** (Scenic Designer) has taught for over 40 years at SFA, where he has designed over 200 productions. His most recent scenic designs include *The Night of the Iguana*, *The Tempest*, *Anton in Show Business*, *The Shadow Box*, *Trudi and the Minstrel*, *Sylvia*, and *The Member of the Wedding*.

**Kevin Scholtes** (Dramaturg, Fly Rail) worked as the Assistant Technical Director for Summer Rep 2006, and has been on many wardrobe crews. He appeared on stage in *Write Me a Love Scene* and *Welcome to the Moon*.

**Steven H. Shirey** (Technical Director) holds a BFA from SFA and an MFA in Lighting Design from USC. He has been Technical Director at SFA since 2001. Steve has designed scenery for the 2004 Festival of New American Plays, and lighting for both Mainstage productions and operas at SFA.

**Amber Talley** (Hair & Makeup Designer, House Manager) has worked frequently in stage management on Mainstage productions, and she has a host of design credits in the Downstage. Amber worked as an Intern with New York Stage and Film this past summer.

**Jason Zednick** (Swordplay Assistant & Weapons Master) is a sophomore from Jacksonville High School. At SFA he has appeared in *Welcome to the Moon*, and he was the light board operator for the 2006 Festival of New American Plays.

## Director's Note

Comedy has always been about the superiority of the audience to the characters: we know what they don't, we relax while they labor, we are safe when they are in peril. We don't need Brighella to tell us that "Federigo Rasponi" is really a woman; we understand that Truffaldino's ruse will eventually be found out but everything will be all right, anyway; we know that while the path of true love may not run smooth, this is a comedy, and there will be more than one imminent marriage at the end of the play. In this production we have attempted to re-create the style and flavor more than the details of 18th-century comedy... we hope you enjoy it.



# The Technical Staff

Technical Director .....	Steven H. Shirey
Costume Shop Supervisor .....	Barbara Blackwell
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Amanda Chandler
Master Electrician .....	Sarah Blake
Properties Mistress .....	Heather McCormick
Mask Construction .....	Jessica Tinker
Scenic Charge Artist .....	Stephanie Rhoades
Wardrobe Head .....	Alana Anthony
Movement Assistant .....	Rebecca Carey
Swordplay Assistant & Weapons Master .....	Jason Zednick
Lightboard Operator .....	Courtney Outlaw
Soundboard Operator .....	Lauren Glass
Wardrobe Crew .....	Julie Glover, Izchel Hernandez, Corey Horn, Quiana Joseph
Fly Rail Operators .....	Xander Brown, Kevin Scholtes
Floor Run Crew .....	Tony Douglas, Vincent Johnson, Christian Lara, Chris Matragos, Katie McBroom, Michael Morrison, Wes Temple, Zane Whitney, Blake Weir
Paint Crew .....	Xander Brown, Jennifer Damsa, Laura Dial, Natalie Dickinson, Jordan High, Shawna Lynch *, Charlie Naughton-Rumbo
Properties Crew .....	Holly Adair, Faye-Ann Austin, Brittany Djie *, Cody House, Lisa Hunter, David Nedde, Allison Ostrander, Kaitlin Wieseman
Light Hang Crew .....	Elizabeth Davis, Aslan Hollier, Kayla McMurry, Brandon Polanco, Josh Real *, Theatre 242
Load-In Crew .....	Thomas Brazzle *, Devin Collins *, Jason Harris, Jason Zednick
Scenery & Costume Construction .....	Theatre 150 and 350
House Manager .....	Amber Talley *
Ushers .....	Theatre majors and minors
Programs .....	Lauren Glass, Rick Jones
Box Office Supervisor .....	Diane Flynn
Publicity .....	Sylvia Bierschenk, Office of Arts Information

## Acknowledgments & Special Thanks

Geoffrey Gibson, Kyle Kennedy, Aaron McDaniel, Alan Nielsen

**SFA School of  
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College of Fine Arts*

Dr. Clarence W. Bahs  
*Professor & Director of the  
School of Theatre*

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*Associate Professor*

Ms. Carolyn Conn  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Richard Jones  
*Associate Professor*

Mr. Kyle Kennedy  
*Assistant Professor*

Mr. Tomy Matthys  
*Associate Professor*

Dr. Alan Nielsen  
*Professor*

Mr. Allen Oster  
*Professor*

Mr. Jack Heifner  
*Playwright-in-Residence*

Ms. Shari Ellsworth  
*Lecturer*

Ms. Juanita Finkenberg  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Mr. Brad Maule  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Mr. David Raine  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Ms. Barbara Blackwell  
*Costume Shop Supervisor*

Mr. Steven Shirey  
*Scene Shop Supervisor*

Ms. Nelda Hartley  
*Administrative Assistant*

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Justin Cole, Chad Kinsman,

Boni Newberry

**Regents Scholars**

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Sara Jones, Meaghan Rosenberger,

Kristopher Thomas, Brenda Truett

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Tony Douglas, Samuel Flash,

Jessee Foudray, Christopher Gamel,

Nashanna Gates, Lauren Glass,

Micah Goodding, Ella Haag,

Xzavien Hollins, Lisa Hunter,

Katherine Jones, Quiana Joseph,

Christian Lara, Ashleigh Lubeck,

Susan Ly, Shawna Lynch,

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