An Italian Straw Hat (1958)

San Jose State University, Theatre Arts

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TECHNICAL CREWS

Stage Manager: Joan Paine  Assistant: Richard Rosomme
Stage Crew: Gerard E. Des Roches, Robert George, Samuel Harisfield, David Hurlburt, George J. Ivancovich, Andrew Soldo, Ed Wocten, Terry Simerly
Light Crew: Jack Acord, Daniel Box, Theodore Johansen
Property Manager: Sally Cotton
Property Crew: Jerry Juhl, Mary Lu Odegard, Angela Rodrigues, Nancy Schaffroth, Byron Walls
Costume Crew: George Ivancovich, Eleanor Kuntz, Paula Miller, Mack Porterfield, Merle Watts
Assistants to the Director: Shirley Ahern, Jean Marsh, Ivan Paulsen
Script Attendant: Louise Englehardt

Settings for the production were designed and painted as a class project by Joseph Markham, senior drama major, under the direction of J. Wendell Johnson.

Lighting was designed by John Hall, as a class project, under the supervision of Kenneth R. Dorst.

House Manager - - - - - - - - - - - - - George Raine
Box Office - - - - - - - - - - - - - Janet Archibald, Susan Panella

DRAMA STAFF

Harold C. Crain - - - - - Executive Head, Playwriting
Rollin E. Buckman - - - - - Scene Construction
James H. Clancy - - - - - Acting, Directing, Dramatic Literature
Paul W. Davee - - - - - Acting, Directing
Kenneth R. Dorst - - - - - Stage Lighting, Scene Construction
Hugh W. Gillis - - - - - Dramatic Literature, Cinema
J. Wendell Johnson - - - - - Scene Design, Play Production
John R. Kerr - - - - - Acting, Children's Theatre
James Lioi - - - - - Scene Construction, Maintenance
Elizabeth M. Loesler - - - - - Acting, Directing
Sylvia Magnani - - - - - Costume Construction
Frank T. McCann - - - - - Radio, Television
Ruth H. McKensie - - - - - Dramatic Literature, Voice and Diction
Berneece Frisk - - - - - Costume Design and Construction
W. Malcolm West - - - - - Radio, Television
John Westfall - - - - - Radio, Television

NOTICE

Parking space is available to our patrons in the college lot at the corner of Ninth and San Fernando Streets.
AN ITALIAN STRAW HAT
A Comedy with Songs in Five Acts
by
EUGÈNE LABICHE AND MARC-MICHEL
English version by Lynn and Theodore Hoffman
Music by Andre Cadou
Direction by James H. Clancy
Settings by Joseph Markham
Costumes by Berneice Prisic
Lighting by John Hall

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Fadinard - Donald West
Nonancourt - Ivan Paulsen
Beauperthuis - Eric Faust
Vézinet - Alden Peterson
Tardiveau - Arthur Conn
Bobin - Lloyd Kearns
Emile Tavernier - Robert McNamara
Félix - Richard Parks
Achille de Rosalba - Jay Michels
Hélène - Judy Blaisdell
Anaïs - Carolyn Reed
Baroness de Champigny - Phyllis Parmenter
Clara - Sandra Lewis
Virginie - Judy Burch
Chambermaid to the Baroness - Jacquie Mundell
Corporal - Richard Rossomme
Manservant to the Baroness - Clyde Phillips
The Wedding Party - Maud Alving, Charles Cook, Christy Gunn, John Nunes, Richard Rossomme, Sandra Ward
Guests at the Musicale - Elizabeth Epps, Richard Goss, Gene Gould, Sara Shaw, George Siler, Barbara Smith, Harry Stephens, Byron Walls
Members of the Guard - Richard Goss, George Siler, Harry Stephens, Byron Walls
Pianist - Jean Marsh

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES
The action takes place in Paris, 1870.
Act One - Fadinard's Apartment
Act Two - Clara's Millinery Shop
Ten Minute Intermission
Act Three - Baroness de Champigny's Music Room
Act Four - Beauperthuis' Bedroom
Ten Minute Intermission
Act Five - Place Baudoyer

ABOUT TONIGHT'S PLAY
The French farce of the 19th century has, in the last few years, regained a good deal of theatrical respectability. As a matter of fact, farce as a whole is being considered in a new light and even the theatrical scholar is beginning to give it his serious attention.

He does not always find this easy, for farce either tends to escape definition, or to make definition as impertinent as the thing it is attempting to define. True farce is non-literary in approach and pays scant attention to theme. It does not attack anything as does the satirical comedy, nor does it attempt to become endearing as does the romantic comedy. Farce at its best is really about nothing at all, and because of this it is often the playwright's despair and the critic's bane. Like modern non-objective painting, farce does not give you anything to "get hold of." It is not "about" anything. But it exists; it exists only in the theatre; and the tremendous vitality of its existence is the measure of its meaning.

But this sort of talk makes Labiche's An Italian Straw Hat sound pontifical and self-conscious, and nothing could sooner spoil the effect of his delightful and light-hearted confection. In it he has produced a technical tour-de-force that concerns itself only with a hat that was eaten by a horse.

NEXT PRODUCTIONS
THE MISANTHROPE, a comedy of manners by Molière, to be shown in the Studio Theatre at 8:15 P.M., May 29 through 31, 1958.

MRS. METTHING by Mary Chase, a play for the entire family, to be shown in the College Theatre, July 10 through 12 at 8:15 P.M. and July 12 at 2:00 P.M.

CHILDE ROWLAND, an original play for children by Olive Engwicht, to be shown in the College Theatre, July 24 through 26 at 8:15 P.M. and July 26 at 2:00 P.M.