

JAC ALDER
EXECUTIVE
PRODUCER-DIRECTOR

PRESENTS

THEATRE
IN THE ROUND

THE THEATRE-IN-THE-ROUND AT THE QUADRANGLE
1998-1999 SEASON

LAURENCE
O'DWYER
STARRING IN THE CLASSIC COMEDY
BY
MOLIERE



TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY
JAC ALDER

SHOW FOUR: DECEMBER 3, '98 THRU JANUARY 10, '99

THEATRE THREE PLAYBILL

is a publication of
THEATRE THREE
 THE theatre-in-the-round at the Quadrangle
 2800 Routh Street • Dallas, TX 75201

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 Theatre Three publishes will publish seven Subscription Series playbills this season. This playbill is published for *The Miser*, the fourth show of the Subscription Series of the 1998-1999 season playing from December 3 through January 10. Theatre Three welcomes advertisers in its playbill who can call Kelley Hughes at (214) 871- 2933 for information.

Theatre Three is a 501(c)3, not-for-profit cultural institution incorporated in the State of Texas. Founded in 1961 by Norma Young, Theatre Three has been in continuous production since its founding. It was named for the three equally essential ingredients of significant theatre: gifted theatre artists, talented playwrights and experienced audiences.

IN MEMORIAM

Theatre Three wishes to recognize contributions made in memory of or from the estates of ... **Sam Catter**, Board Member and Supporter; **Bill Dallas**, Scenic Designer; **Scott Everheart**, Actor; **Paula Goodlet**, Supporter and Subscriber; **Oliver Hailey**, Playwright; **Anne Weeks Jackson**, Vocalist and Teacher; **Jim Jackson**, Singer and Actor; **Masha Porte**, Supporter and Subscriber; **Carolyn Ryburn**, Playwright; **Mary Blanche Scales**, Supporter and Subscriber; **Evelyn Wilke**, Supporter and Subscriber. A new fund in memory of Theatre Three's Founding Artistic Director, **Norma Young**, began on her recent death in April of 1998. Contributions are still being received. Beginning with the 1996-1997 season, all memorial gifts, unless otherwise designated, are placed in the theatre's new permanent fund.

FOR THEATRE GOERS WITH DISABILITIES:

- **SEATING** There are wheelchair locations at stage level available for performances. Please advise of need when reserving tickets.
- **RESTROOM** A wheelchair-accessible restroom is next to the box office.
- **RAILINGS** Over half of the seats at Theatre Three can be reached from staircases with a handrail. Please advise the box office of this need when making reservations.

ABOUT PARKING

All parking options for Theatre Three patrons are free, including valet parking. Protected parking is available in the office tower garage. Surface parking is also available, though on popular restaurant nights is often limited. Handicapped parking is available next to the *Dream Cafe* lawn and at the end of the courtyard shared by Theatre Three and the old *North-South Restaurant*.

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Thank you all!

ABOUT THE ACTORS



CECILIA FLORES (FROSINE) has acted, directed, voiced and taught for a quarter century. She's appeared on Broadway and off-Broadway, but got her professional start on this stage in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, directed by Jac Alder and playing opposite Hugh FEagin. This is her fourth Moliere with Larry O'Dwyer. This summer, she sweated it out as Flo in *The Emperor's New Clothes* for Dallas Children's Theater, and recently appeared here at Theatre Three in *Arcadia*, *Blithe Spirit*, and *Amphitryon*. She also acted and/or directed at Dallas Theater Center, Plano Rep, SUM's Greer Garson Theatre, Texas Gilbert and Sullivan Company, Plaza Theatre, Dallas Repertory Theatre, Cabbages & Kings, PBS, San Francisco U.S.D., San Antonio's Guadalupe Theatre, INTAR, DCCCD and various dinner theatres. This Frosine is dedicated to the memory of Norma Young, her friend,

JEFF HERBST (CLAY ALLEN) appeared in last season's production of *Dreams From A Summer House* at Theatre Three. He is the Artistic Director of Armerican Folklore Theatre in Wisconsin where he has created, choreographed, directed and/or performed in over twenty original productions. He was commissioned to create *Forgotten Fire: The Story of Peshtigo* for Wisconsin's sesquicentennial celebration in 1998. His New York work includes new plays and revivals Off-Broadway as well as a Broadway feature role as the Prince in *A Change in the Heir*. He has worked regionally at the Asolo State Theatre, Papermill Playhouse, REpertory Theatre of St. Louis, Riverside Theater, Missouri Rep, Milwaukee Skylight Opera and Milwaukee Rep. In Texas, he appeared in *Bashville in Love* for Texas Stage (Fort Worth). He received his MFA from Florida State University.



CHAPMAN LOCKE (MR. SIMON) played for Theatre Three in *The Cocoanuts* and *Our Town* two seasons ago and last year played Streaky in *Racing Demon* and Sinclair Platt in *Dreams From A Summer House*. He can be seen in local and national television commercials, as Theatre Three's house manager and in his writer's garret where he is working on a soon-to-be-produced television series.

AMBRE LOW (ELISE) is making her third appearance at Theatre Three after last appearing as The Attendant in *The Interview*, and Juliet in *Central Park West* -- two parts of the triple bill performed under the title of *Death Defying Acts* which successfully open the theatre's season. She most recently performed as Suzanne in *Therese Raquin* at The Undermain. Other credits include the parts of Alcmena in *Amphitryon* (Theatre Three), Elvira in *Blithe Spirit* (Circle Theatre), and Sorel in *Hayfever* (Theatre Too). She received her BFA from the University of Texas at Arlington with concentration areas in theatre and music. She dedicates this performance to the memory of her Granny, Ruth Goolsby, and Grandad, Asa E. Low, Sr., both of whom she misses very much.

RANDLE MICHAEL (FLETCHER) is a native of New York who, after moving to Texas, began his acting work in radio commercials. His stage debut was in Dallas Theater Center's *A Christmas Carol*. He is making his Theatre Three debut in this production of *The Miser*. A graduate of dramatic studies all through school -- at Griener, Spence and Booker T. Washington Arts Magnet High School, he remains a serious student of theatre and has done technical support work for Dallas Children's Theatre. (No photo available at press time.)



SCOTT MILLIGAN (JACQUES) is making his professional and Dallas debut in *The Miser* following his recent graduation from the University of North Texas where he acted in numerous shows including *Cabaret*, *Arms and the Man*, *Tartuffe*, *Tales of the Lost Fornicans*, and a world premiere translation of Ibsen's *Pillars of Society*. A native of East Texas, he began acting at age fourteen "to prove good ol' boys know how to make art, too." He is a guitarist and songwriter, getting no air play for his big ballad, "The Radioactive Milkjug Boogie."

THURMAN MOSS (CHIEF OF POLICE) directed and performed in *We Won't Pay! We Won't Pay!* In the season's first show, *Death Defying Acts* (a bill of one-acts by David Mamet, Elaine May and Woody Allen) Moss acted in all three shows and directed May's piece, *Hotline*. Wearing multiple hats professionally, he teaches for KD Studios and for the Dallas County Community College District, administers at Theatre Three as its Associate Producer and Director of Operations. Last season he directed *Old Wicked Songs* (for which he won the Critics' Forum Best Directing Award) and *Dreams from a Summer House*. He has served The Lean Theatre (which he co-founded) as writer, director and actor.



ABOUT THE ACTORS (continued)



LAURENCE (Larry) O'DWYER (HARPAGON) returns to Theatre Three's stage, his home theatre since 1962, after a three season absence during which he has performed for many of the most prestigious regional theatres in America. His last Moliere performance for Theatre Three was *Wholly Moliere*. Director Stephen Wadsworth, in Dallas to direct for the Dallas Theater Center, saw his work in the show and ask him to appear in a series of classical works at McCarter Theatre (Princeton), The Mark Taper Theatre (Los Angeles), The Old Globe (San Diego) and Berkley Rep. Between these assignments he recreated the role he had originated at Theatre Three in James Duff's play *A Quarrel of Sparrows* for the Court Theatre in Los Angeles. He also began an association with Baltimore Center Stage (where he is now an Associate Artist) playing in works of Shakespeare, Gilbert & Sullivan, Moliere and, most recently Graham Greene. After *The Miser* closes he will return to an assignment at Center Stage in Shaw's *Mrs. Warren's Profession*. Among the memorable roles O'Dwyer played for Theatre Three are numerous Moliere leads, in such classics as *Tartuffe* (the play that opened the facility at the Quadrangle), *A School for Wives*, *The Misanthrope* and *The Physician in Spite of Himself*. He is also remembered for musicals including *Ruddigore*,*Forum*, *Stop the World...* and *Anything Goes*. He also served Theatre Three as a director of many hit productions and headed the theatre's children's productions which he wrote, directed and often designed. During the seventies, he served as the chair of the drama department at Bennington College in Vermont. Mr. O'Dwyer played in Beth Henley's *Debutante Ball* at South Coast Repertory and in *Temptation* at the Dallas Theater Center for which he won a Dallas Critics Forum Award.



TISH SIMMONS (MARYANNA) is very excited to be making her Dallas debut at Theatre Three. She was last seen as a member of the Okoboji Summer Theatre's touring company in such productions as *Once Upon a Wolf*, *A Dickens' Christmas Carol*, *A Toby Show*, and *The Clumsy Custard Horror Show*. Ms. Simmons is a recent graduate of Stephens College.



TERRY VANDIVORT (LEWIS ANDERSON) played last season as Harrin in *Racing Demon*, and as Grayson in *Dreams from a Summer House*. Other memorable roles at Theatre Three include the Mysterious Man of *Into the Woods*, Jimmy in *The Gingerbread Lady*, Hysterium in*Forum*, Estragon in *Waiting for Godot*, Polonius in *Fortinbras* and Tristram in *Taking Steps*. He has also appeared in productions for The Lean Theater, the Dallas Shakespeare Festival, the Dallas Theater Center, Addison Centre Theatre, Encompass Theatre (New York) and Trinity Theatre (New York). He is the recipient of the Dallas Theatre Critics Forum Award and has twice received Theatre Three's Patron Favorite Award. This performance is dedicated to Monica Lewinsky's mother.



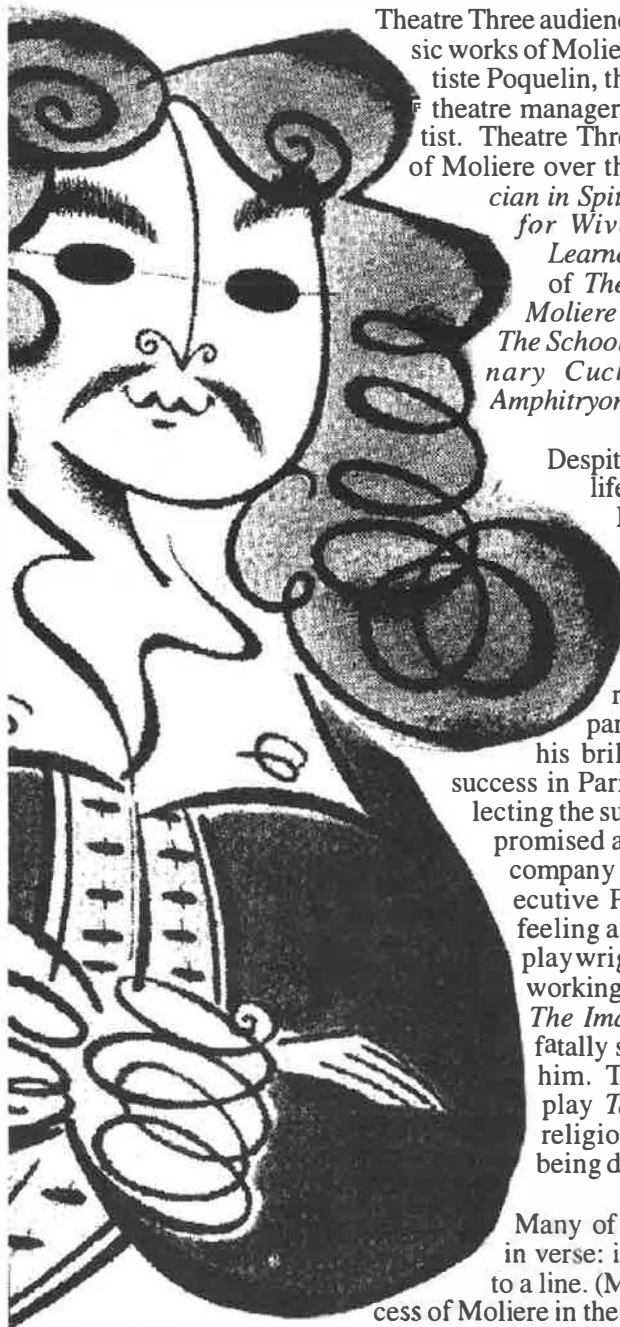
ASHLEY WOOD (VAL) was last on stage at Theatre Three as Stephen in *Old Wicked Songs* for which he won "Best Actor" awards from the Critics' Forum and a shared Best Actor Award (with co-star Jac Alder) from the *Dallas Observer*. Prior Theatre Three appearances include *Racing Demon*, *The Cocoanuts*, *Our Town*, *All in the Timing* and two productions of *The Fantasticks*. He recently played Damis in Moliere's *Tartuffe* at the Dallas Theater Center where he also appeared in *Six Degrees of Separation*. He also performed with the Dallas Children's Theatre and Cabbages & Kings. "All praise and glory to the Lord Jesus, without Whom I would have absolutely no hope."

ABOUT THE TRANSLATOR/ADAPTOR

JAC ALDER (TRANSLATOR/ADAPTOR) is the Executive Producer-Director and Co-Founder of Theatre Three. His experience in the French literature began in his school days when he was an avid study of the French language. His military service as a lieutenant in the Army was spent in Metz, France in a bi-lingual job being a liaison officer between French Custom authorities and the Army and Air Force postal system. In Metz, Alder founded a base theatre company which used actors from the American Army base, the Canadian Air Force base and French civilians who worked on the bases. His specific interest in Moliere was formed when his late wife, Norma Young, began scheduling the classic comedies. He directed *The School for Wives*, translated *The Physician in Spite of Himself* into verse (which he then produced and directed both at Theatre Three and at the University of Texas at Arlington where he was the Director of Drama). He appeared in Moliere plays, including playing both *Tartuffe* and *Physician in Spite of Himself* (covering for Larry O'Dwyer when O'Dwyer was ill) as well as playing the "raisonneur" roles in *The School for Wives* and *The School for Husbands*. Last season he directed a new Wilbur translation of Moliere, *Amphitryon*. In early November of this year he was awarded a "Best Director" award by the Dallas Critics Forum for his production of *Racing Demon*. As an actor in *Old Wicked Songs* he won *The Dallas Observer* award for "Best Actor" both as Reader's Choice and Critic's Choice. On November 16, Alder was inducted into the Hall of Fame by the Southwest Theatre Association for his work as a producer, director, author, actor and designer.



ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT, MOLIERE



Theatre Three audiences have long enjoyed the classic works of Moliere, the pen name for Jean-Baptiste Poquelin, the seventeenth century French theatre manager, actor and, of course, dramatist. Theatre Three has produced a wide range of Moliere over the years including *The Physician in Spite of Himself*, *Tartuffe*, *School for Wives*, *The Misanthrope*, *The Learned Ladies*, an earlier translation of *The Miser* (in the '70s), *Wholly Moliere* (a double bill of two one-acts, *The School for Husbands* and *The Imaginary Cuckold*), and most recently *Amphitryon*.

Despite Moliere's success during his lifetime, Moliere was never rich. Money was always a worry for him. The son of an upholsterer, he was trained in the law but ran away to the provinces to join a traveling acting company, Moliere later returned to Paris with his company and dazzled the court with his brilliant comedies. Despite his success in Paris theatre, he had trouble collecting the subsidy from the king he'd been promised and stayed broke supporting a company of actors. (Theatre Three's Executive Producer Jac Alder admits to feeling a certain kinship with the great playwright.) Moliere literally died working -- he was on stage in his play *The Imaginary Invalid* when he was fatally struck by the illness that killed him. The church's indignation at his play *Tartuffe* (which satirized fake religious sentiment) resulted in his being denied burial in sacred ground.

Many of these great plays are written in verse: in rhyming couplets, ten beats to a line. (Much of the contemporary success of Moliere in the English speaking world is due to poet Richard Wilbur's superb translations.) An exception is Moliere's masterpiece, *The Miser* which was not written in the rhymed couplets he manipulated so skillfully, but rather in prose. Though some verse is dropped in for comic and dramatic effect, the naturalism of the comedy is heightened by the use of prose.

JAC ALDER, Executive Producer-Director



TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY JAC ALDER FROM THE CLASSIC
COMEDY BY
JEAN-BAPTISTE POQUELIN DE MOLIERE

THE SCENES:

The action of the play takes place in the home of Harpagon, in New Orleans' French Quarter.

ACT ONE: Mid-afternoon, a late spring day in 1875.

Intermission -- 15 mints

ACT TWO: Four O'Clock in the afternoon, and then later that evening.

THE CAST (in order of appearance):

VAL, steward to Harpagon Ashley Wood*
ELISE, daughter of Harpagon Ambre Low**
CLAUDETTE, maid to Harpagon's family Tia Vee*
CLAY ALLEN, son of Harpagon Jeff Herbst*
FLETCHER, manservant to Clay Allen Randle Michael **
HARPAGON, the Miser Laurence (Larry) O'Dwyer*
FROSINE, a match maker..... Cecilia Flores*
JACQUES, cook and coachman to Harpagon Scott Milligan**
MR. SIMON, a go-between for shady dealings Chapman Locke**
MARYANNA, a fine and fetchy girl living in the quarter .. Tish Simmons**
CHIEF OF POLICE, a crony of Harpagon's Thurman Moss*
LEWIS ANDERSON, a man of means Terry Vandivort*

THE PRODUCTION'S ARTISTIC STAFF:

JAC ALDER, Director / HARLAND WRIGHT, Set Design and Stage Manager / BRUCE COLEMAN, Costumer / BONNY HENLEY, Lighting Designer and Technical Co-ordinator / TOMMY LOONEY, Assistant to the Director and Booth Operations. / TISH MUSSEY-HITE, Props and Production Assistant .

CREW, SETS and LIGHTS:

John Crawford, Eric Ladwig, Susie Eberhart, Brian Smith, Pat Parissee, Tish Mussey-Hitt, Ramona Crabtree, Tommy Looney.

CREW, COSTUMES:

M. J. Pashley, Tish Mussey-Hitt

* = member, Actors Equity Association; ** = Membership Candidate, AEA

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The Dallas Morning News



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(Compiled by category & date received; reflecting Phoenix Fund gifts received as of 11/16/98)

The following donors have contributed to this season's Annual Operations' Drive, The Phoenix Fund (which began in late September). The goal for this year's campaign is \$60,000. At press time, monies received total approximately half our goal. Please help us to reach this critical goal; you may contact Pat Perna or Natalie Gaupp at 214.871.2933 to make your important contribution...keep us in mind for your end-of-year charitable giving!

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The Threshold Campaign at Theatre Three solicits donations for its permanent fund to be used to endow the facility. This is a four year campaign and bricks with donor names are placed in the courtyards at the thresholds to the facility in recognition of gifts. The second installation of bricks will coincide with the Opening Night of *THE MISER*. Donors listed below will have their bricks installed in the Spring of 1999. If you would like to join in this campaign, please phone the theatre at 214.871.2933, and speak with Pat Perna or Natalie Gaupp.

Chris & Lisa-Gabricelle Westfall, Haley McLane, A. Chappell Westlake (In Honor of Joseph & Marcia Westlake), Mel & Jenny Pichanick, Campbell Read

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DEEPEN THE ARTS IN TEXAS.

There are some politically and economically sound proposals that our Governor and our Legislature can approve that will move Texas from DEAD LAST, behind all other states in public funding for the Arts. *(And not only the states, we're dead last behind all the territories, too! GUAM spends more per capita than does Texas. Dadgummit!)* Texas spends about 15 cents per person per year. That isn't right, and it's not doing the job!

Voters who believe that we need to maintain our cultural institutions, and ensure the arts are available to all

Texas schoolchildren as part of a quality education need to write, e-mail and personally contact state elected officials urging them to support the Texas Commission on the Arts appropriations and to use a small percentage of the state's surplus for a one-time LOAN to the Cultural Trust Fund, a financial device created by the legislature itself to fund the Texas Commission on the Arts. This is the year to be politically active on behalf of the arts in Texas.

Let's move Texas from DEAD LAST to ALIVE AND KICKIN'!

• Ad placed on behalf of TEXANS FOR THE ARTS.

Though the advertising editor of this playbill is delighted to place the above ad as a public service, he'd also like to place a few ads for paying advertisers interested in reaching Theatre Three's talented audience. For ad rates for this playbill, call Kelley Hughes and let him "explain the program"! Call him at (214) 871-2933.

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