

Servant of Two Masters

Audition Information

In this classic Venetian comedy filled with romance, intrigue, sword fights and slapstick, poor Truffaldino just wants a decent meal and double wages by working for two different masters at the same time. Will he be able to pull off this difficult feat while also avoiding dueling lovers and feuding families? Will everyone get a happy ending, or he be blamed if everything goes wrong?

Characters/Roles

Truffaldino: A poor young man from Bergamo who's come to Venice looking for work, has a crush on Smeraldina

Pantalone dei Bisognosi : A rich old Venetian merchant, father of Clarice

Clarice: Pantalone's daughter, in love with Silvio, originally engaged to Federigo

Doctor Lombardi: Pantalone's friend, a talkative lawyer. Father of Silvio.

Silvio: Dottore's son, in love with Clarice. Jealous and hotheaded.

Beatrice Rasponi: A young woman who comes to Venice disguised as her brother Federigo, in love with Florindo

Florindo Aretusi: A young man who killed Beatrice's brother Federigo in a duel, in love with Beatrice

Smeraldina: Clarice's sassy maidservant, has a crush on Truffaldino

Brighella: The owner of a local inn

Porters, Waiters & Townspeople

Initial auditions will be Thurs., June 26 from 4:00-6:00 PM at The Capitol. Come prepared to read the attached audition piece of your choice (either Truffaldino or Beatrice) and to do some movement/improvisation work. You are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and shoes that you can move safely in.

Callbacks and additional initial auditions if you are unable to be there on Thursday, will be on Fri., June 27 from 5:00-8:00 PM, also at The Capitol. If you are called back, you will be asked to read additional scenes and may also be asked to do additional movement work.

The initial read-through/parents' meeting will be Sun., June 29 from 2:00-5:00 PM at The Capitol in the upstairs meeting room. After that, rehearsals will generally be from 1:00-4:00 PM Mondays through Fridays. Tech/dress rehearsals will be from 5:00-9:00 PM Mon., July 21-Thurs., July 24, and performances will be Fri., July 25 and Sat., July 26 at 7:00 PM at The Capitol.

Audition Piece 1 (Truffaldino)

(In this scene, Truffaldino has just gotten himself hired by two different masters)

Truffaldino: There's luck! There are many that look in vain for a master, and I have found two. But what the devil am I to do? I can't wait on both of them. No? Why not? Wouldn't it be a fine thing to earn two sets of wages and eat and drink for two? It would be a fine thing indeed . . . if neither of them found out. And if they did? So what? If one fires me, I'll stay with the other. I swear I'll try it. Whatever happens I shall have done a remarkable thing. Here goes!

Audition Piece 2 (Beatrice)

(In the scene, Beatrice, who is disguised as her brother Federigo, asks Brighella to help her conceal her identity)

Brighella: May I ask, Signora Beatrice—?

Beatrice: Hush! For the love of Heaven, don't betray me. My poor brother Federigo is dead, Signor Pantalone takes me for him, and I will collect the money he owed him. Help me, please! You shall be generously rewarded.

Brighella: I don't want to be responsible for Signor Pantalone paying you money in good faith and then finding he's been made a fool of.

Beatrice: Made a fool of? If my brother is dead, am I not his heir?

Brighella: True. Then why not say so?

Beatrice: If I do that, I can do nothing. Pantalone will begin treating me as if he were my guardian; then they will all worry about me and say my conduct is unbecoming and all that sort of thing. I want my liberty. Help me keep it. It will not last long.