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Marisol**



# THE ILLUSION

**by Pierre Corneille  
adapted by Tony Kushner  
directed by Adam Koplan**



*The School of Drama is proud to be a member of Theatre Puget Sound.*

THE PENTHOUSE THEATRE  
MAY 23 - JUNE 3, 2001  
61ST SEASON  
425TH PRODUCTION

# THE ILLUSION

by Pierre Corneille  
 adapted by Tony Kushner  
 directed by Adam Koplan

SET DESIGN Jeffrey A. Staver  
 COSTUME DESIGN Melanie Burgess  
 LIGHTING DESIGN Nina Klorina  
 SOUND DESIGN Matt Jaeger/Adam Koplan/Josh Costello  
 STAGE MANAGER Bob Nydegger  
 FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER Chris Trice  
 ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER Samuel Nathan Gustavo Balderas  
 DRAMATURG Michael Chemers  
 SET AND PROP CONSTRUCTION Jeffrey A. Staver

*The play takes place in the cave of the magician Alcandre during the 17th century, near Remulac, a small town in the south of France.*

*There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.*

## CAST

PRIDAMANT of Avignon, a lawyer	Mathew Ahrens
THE AMANUENSIS, servant to ALCANDRE, also GERONTE	Rodney Anderson
ALCANDRE, a magician	JR Drew
CALISTO/CLINDOR/THEOGENES, son of PRIDAMANT	Mike Smith*
MELIBEA/ISABELLE/HIPPOLYTA, beloved/wife of	Mariana Kleweno
CALISTO/CLINDOR/THEOGENES	
ELICIA/LYSE/CLARINA, maid/friend of	Megan Campbell
MELIBEA/ISABELLE/HIPPOLYTA	
PLERIBO/ADRASTE/PRINCE FLORILAME, rival of CALISTO/CLINDOR/THEOGENES	Jonathan Martin
MATAMORE, a lunatic	Tommy Smith

\*member of the Professional Actor Training Program

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211 & 291 Lab students

## Special Thanks

Tristan M.T. Dalley, Heidi Ganser, Sue Bruns, Becky Traber, Josie Gardner,  
Laurie Kurutz, Andrea Johnson, Geoff Alm, Drama 101 students, the Design  
Faculty, Kathy Nydegger, Brian Goblick, Heather Klintworth and Todd Evans,  
Jessica Jory, the staff at the Scene Shop, Anne Stewart, Kris Bain, Mark  
Zufelt, Amy Boyce, Josh Costello, J. Daniel Stanley, Jon Jory, Valerie Curtis-  
Newton, Mark Harrison, Robyn Hunt, Steve Pearson, Bill and Marcia  
Crossett, the Graduate Design students, PATP Concessions, Sarah Nash Gates,  
Seattle Repertory Theatre, Intiman Theatre, and ACT.

*All concession sales benefit the PATP Showcase Fund!*

## About The Play

Pierre Corneille wrote *L'Illusion Comique* in 1636, and even at the time he knew it was an oddity. Writing to a friend, he called the work a "strange monster" because it did not conform to the three unities of time, place, and action that his contemporaries held to be essential to a well-made play. Corneille ultimately became famous for his tragedies, and *The Illusion* was long seen as an insignificant trifle in his body of work. It was not until the Twentieth Century when landmark productions by directors like Louis Jouvet and Giorgio Strehler made the material feel eerily modern and resurrected the play's reputation in Europe. Tony Kushner's bouncy 1990 translation has had a similar rejuvenating effect here in America. Kushner adamantly asserts that his version is "freely adapted from Corneille" rather than a direct translation, and he brings to this material his own uniquely American linguistic sensibility.

## Recommended Reading

**Le Cid** Pierre Corneille, Noel Clark (Translator) / Absolute Press / October 1997

**The Tempest** by William Shakespeare

**Six Characters In Search of an Author - Naked Masks: 5 Plays** Luigi Pirandello, Eric Bentley (Editor) / N A L / January 1994

**The Commedia dell'Arte: An Actor's Handbook** John Rudlin / Routledge / March 1994

**The Italian Comedy** Pierre Ducharte / Dover Publications, Incorporated / August 1977

**Angels in America I & II** Tony Kushner / Theatre Communications Group, Inc. / September 1994

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