

The Hypochondriac

by Moliere - adapted by Richard Bean (2014 version)

Director: Maxina Cornwell

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Reading: Wednesday 15th June at 7.45p.m. at the Mary Wallace Theatre

Auditions: Monday 27th June at 7.45p.m. at the Theatre

Call backs: Monday 11th July at 7.45pm at the theatre

Playing dates: 22nd-29th October 2022

Rehearsals: Start Sunday September 4th

(and from then on, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday evenings & Sunday afternoons)

Rehearsals will take place close to the vicinity of the theatre

AUDITIONS ARE OPEN TO ALL. The RSS actively encourages diversity in casting and casting decisions will *not* be constrained by the perceived gender or ethnicity of the roles being auditioned.

IMPORTANT: We will be using the 2014 version which is entitled **The Hypochondriac by Moliere**, in a new version by Richard Bean with songs by Richard Thomas. If you want to read the script, please contact me at maxinap@msn.com or on 07957 616 474. **N.B. The 2005 version sold by Oberon Books is very different so please do not purchase it.**

Please note that due to the nature of this comedy it is vital that you are able to attend all rehearsals that you are called for. A schedule will be drawn up so that you will only be called when needed. Please bring to the audition any dates when you are not available to rehearse.

CHARACTERS (playing ages given as an approximate guide)

Argan - Master of the house. Hypochondriac. Only cares about himself. Mean with his money. Spritely at times. (50-60 years)

Toinette - Housekeeper/Nursemaid to Argan. Working class. Plenty of character. Strong. Hint of masculinity (30+ years)

Angelique - Daughter of Argan. Headstrong. Naïve. Romantic. Full of character. Must be able to sing. (16 years)

Beline - Argan's wife, Angelique's step mother. Been married 5 times to older men to get their money and is now after getting Argan's. Having an affair with Deuxfois. In one light beautiful, in another ugly. Full of character. (30+)

Deuxfois - Solicitor. Having an affair with Beline who he is aiding to embezzle money from Argan. Professional, charming and has character. (30+)

Cleante - Apprentice. Fallen in love with Angelique. Poses as a singing teacher to win Angelique's love. Twirls his fingers during conversation. Must be able to sing. (18+)

Dr Diafoierrhoea - Father to Thomas and is instrumental in the arranged marriage between his son and Angelique. He is a doctor/quack to the poor because it brings in lots of money and no complaints. (40+)

Thomas Diafoierrhoea - Son to Dr Diafoierrhoea. Heavy-set. Socially awkward. Stupid + academic. (20+)

Beralde - Brother to Argan. Warm and family orientated. Sensible. Brewer of beer. (50-60 either older or younger than Argan).

Fleurant - doctor who administers Argan's enemas. Considers himself more important than anyone else. No manners. Great comical cameo role to give lots of character. (Any age from 25+)

Doctor Purgon - Main doctor treating Argan. More of a quack than a doctor. Great cameo role for someone to give lots of character. (40+)

Audition Pieces Underlined Character(s) indicates set audition piece. Any characters not underlined will be read on an ad hoc basis and do not form part of the audition for that character.

Argan: Act I page 14-15. "Three francs plus two francs is five francs I'm abandoned by my own servants!"

Argan and Toinette: Act 2 page 39. Toinette: "What is that? Black, black, black. GURGLE GURGLE"

Toinette and Angelique: Act I pages 18-20. Angelique: "Toinette!? And he has such a pleasant, natural wit"

Angelique and Cleante: Act 2 page 41: Angelique: "I had a dream last night Cleante: God chose to put me on this earth"

Angelique and Cleante: Act 2 pages 47-49 (includes singing free style one verse each): Cleante: "Er.. Tircus.... Angelique: my situation's tragic not risible"

Beline and Argan: Act I page 29: Argan; "You know darling, you're my only real comfort in this life Beline: Uurghhh I dooooo"

Beline and Toinette: Act 3 pages 78-79: Beline: "What happened?! First things first, his keys."

Deuxfois, Argan and Beline: Act I pages 31-32: Argan: "My wife tells me that you are an honest man Deuxfois: - nightmare."

Dr Diafoierhoea and Argan: Act 2 pages 45-46: Argan: "What a wonderful boy! ... Dr D.: ... like the circulation of the blood"

Thomas, Dr Diafoierhoea, Argan and Angelique: Act 2 pages 43-44: Dr. D.: "Come! Thomas! Pay your respects Thomas: Alright then, it can wait"

Beralde and Argan: Act 3 page 64-65: Argan: "Brother! Do not speak against God in this house So the cures must have worked."

Fleurant, Beralde, and Argan: Act 3 pages 67-69: Argan: "How are you today Monsieur Fleurant? ... Fleurant: ... I shall call on Dr. Purgon"

Dr. Purgon, Argan and Toinette: Act 3 pages 69-71: Dr. Purgon: "How dare you reject my clyster!? ... I could have cured you."

You can request a PDF version of the script by contacting the director at maxinap@msn.com - or for further information please call 07957 616 474

You do not have to be an RSS member to audition but, if cast, you will be required to become a member before the first rehearsal.

Membership Application forms are available in the theatre - or contact the Membership Secretary on (020) 8898 4397 or at - membership@rss-mwt.org.uk

Audition Application forms are available in the theatre, or can be downloaded via the GET INVOLVED and ACTING pages of www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk

Please return this form to the Hon. Secretary at the theatre, or by e-mail to secretary@rss-mwt.org.uk