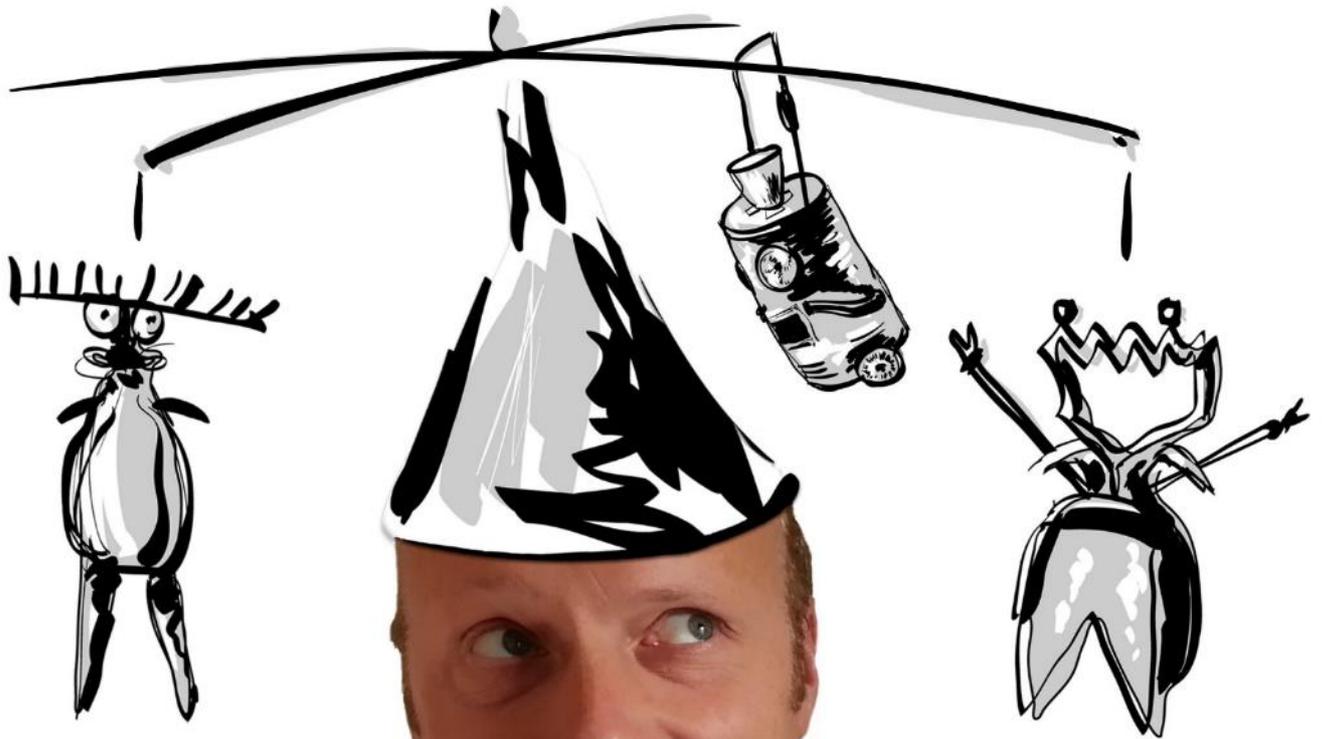


BROUHAHA Cie presents

SCAPIN

THE GARDENER

A play by François Manuelian, stage-directed by Morgan Guerbé



A crazy adaptation of Molière's famous play, starring 8 garden tools.



SCAPIN

THE GARDENER

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SCAPIN

THE GARDENER

An adaptation of « Scapin the schemer » by Molière

**For all types of public from the age of 8.
Length of presentation : 35 minutes**

Actor : François Manuelian

Stage directing and adaptation : Morgan Guerbé, François Manuelian

Creation of garden object character : Catherine Pezairé

Creation of set : François Manuelian, Morgan Guerbé, Marine Vassal

Photo credits : Sarah Layani

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SCAPIN THE GARDENER



SUMMARY

Virgil arrives home after a normal day at work, heads straight to his garden shed... his garden to find his play things, his garden tools which he handles in turn, giving each one an accent, a voice, an attitude.

François Manuelian, alone on stage, invites us to rediscover
« Scapin the schemer »
A dynamic, crazy show full of rhythm!

François Manuelian is **Virgil** and Virgil is **Scapin**...

A farce and a true performance in 17th-century language, with an original unexpected 21st-century stage adaptation.

Without consulting his father, **Octave** (**Argante**'s son played by a rake) has married **Hyacinthe** (poor watering-can of unknown birth date), whereas his friend **Leandre** (**Geronte**'s son played by a spade) is planning to marry **Zerbinette**, young bohemian (multi-function pruning shears).

The two young men are afraid of confronting their fathers who are due back from a voyage earlier than planned; they ask **Scapin** to help them out. Scapin accepts and takes matters « in hand », with a bit of extra help from **Sylvestre** (Octave's valet, an oil can) and **Carl** (deceitful, a marten).

Using bold schemes, the inventive and deceitful Scapin, never short of cunning tactics, spinning, jumping and always landing on his feet, constantly manages to fool the two old men and root out a bit of 'cabbage' from them!

The comedy reaches the end with a gardener together with his tools, thanks to a lucky reversal of things.

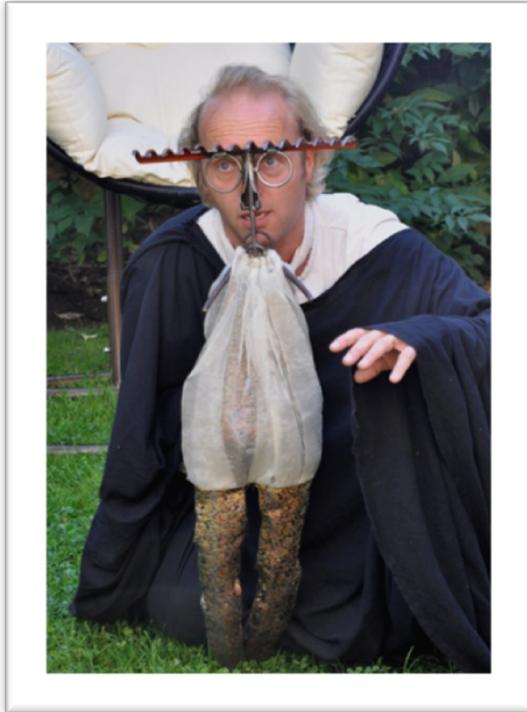
SCAPIN

THE GARDENER



MY INTENTIONS

François Manuelian



Adapting a play by Molière with the idea of acting it alone was the challenge I had set myself. Very rapidly « Scapin the schemer », a farce built like a role play, became highly irresistible.

« And if while transposing the play I had a go at adapting the characters at the same time as I interpreted Scapin? After all, it is Scapin who pulls the strings... but what were my characters going to look like? »

I started by reading again the guiding scene where Scapin ties up the old man Geronte, in a bag, and then wildly hits the bag... and I said to myself *« and what if Geronte inside the bag, was being hit with a spade instead? »* And thus, the family of spades (Géronte, Léandre) and the family of rakes (Argante, Octave) were invented. Scapin the gardener came to life.

In no way did I wish to distort the 17th century language of Molière or the playwriting, let alone the situations. It is absolutely essential to incarnate sincerely the feelings of all the characters and to play Scapin without a mask as the fabulous string-puller he is. But it wasn't as simple as that because the play by Molière had never been written to be acted by one actor and even less to be played by a bunch of garden-tool puppets!

With my stage director we created Virgile, « Mr Everybody » a character with a strong passion for the theatre.



Virgil, alone on stage, plays Scapin who brings to life to all the garden-tool puppets. He acts in his garden shed... garden, remaining totally true to the intrigues of the original play « Scapin the schemer »

SCAPIN THE GARDENER



STAGE DIRECTIONS

A well-rhythmed, dynamic show where Scapin is the joker without a mask! Brought down to the basics, both popular and jubilous, this is Molière in all his movement, rhythm and acrobatic genius as he was when he started out.

In this 35-minute adaptation with sound track, the work of Molière is respected, and the characters exchange with one another, sing and dance.

Thus in permanent interaction, the 17th-century language of Molière, and a few important cultural references of the 21st century mix together (in respect of Molières way of doing things) making for easy understanding and bouts of laughter from all types of audience.

THE GARDEN-TOOL PUPPETS

The creation of these characters is the work of Catherine Pezairé, artist-sculptor with metal, who formed the characters using materials in their original state, often recuperated, like the old tools used by our ancestors.

