



## The World of Harlequin



Teatro Paravento Locarno  
P.O. Box 615  
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Music, Stories and Scenes from the Commedia dell'Arte.

**TEATRO**  
paravento  
  
**LOCARNO**

In the World of Harlequin is a story for children on the life and miracles of the main characters of the Commedia dell'Arte and naturally on Harlequin, the best-known figure, who is amusing, universal and eternal.

This show was prepared to satisfy some specific requirements. Many theatre companies like ours take on the continual task of introducing the theatre to children and do this by means of presentations that explain some of the theatre's mechanisms. This helps to make known part of its history in a way that makes it perceived as a phenomenon that does not come to an end after its being presented on stage but which has lived for centuries and is part of or which could be part of our daily life.



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What better means could there be to realize this end than to employ the Comic Theatre, in this case the Commedia dell'Arte. The approach to the Theatre thus becomes enjoyable entertainment, useful and light.

Bringing back to life the old characters created by the Teatro dell'Arte also presupposes offering an alternative to the excessively violent and cruel characters that haunt the world of children today. The Paravento Theatre has presented "Harlequin" for several years in distant places of the planet. We have found everywhere that he is still today a character that can rouse tenderness or amazement and make people laugh. In this way one can see his universal value that is timeless, and it is clear that he could once again find the place that he should have in the world of children and of school, a character that is one of the greatest in the Universal Theatre.



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Harlequin is for the Commedia dell'Arte what Hamlet is for tragedy. Live music and songs accompany this story. Improvisation, playing with the audience and the tricks of Harlequin make it easier for children to understand some minor but interesting aspects of the history of the Commedia dell'Arte and of the theatre in general.



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## Production

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Idea and Director	<b>Miguel Ángel Cienfuegos</b>
Actors and Musicians	<b>Miguel Ángel Cienfuegos</b> <b>Luisa Ferroni</b> <b>Andrea Noce Nosedà</b> <b>Clotilde Pichonnaz</b> <b>David Matthäus Zurbuchen</b>
Dramatis personae	
The servants	<b>Harlequin, Brighella and Columbine</b>
The nobles	<b>Pantaloön and Doctor</b>
The lovers	<b>Florindo, Beatrice and Silvio</b>
Length	60 minutes. Without a break
Tours	Switzerland, Italy, Germany.

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