



## The Comic Caravan



Teatro Paravento Locarno  
P.O. Box 615  
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Lecture show on the Italian itinerant theatre, without any academic pretensions.

**TEATRO**  
paravento  
  
**LOCARNO**

Lecture on the Italian itinerant theatre, without any academic pretensions. It seems that it is created right there at the very moment it is staged.



Our caravan carries a short history of the Commedia dell'Arte in particular and of Italian Theatre in general spiced with some of the best scenes handed down by the comic theatre or from the pages of Goldoni.

And here of course one finds the immortal Harlequin, Servant of Two Masters, from which we present the funniest scenes that have now become classics: Harlequin and the letter, Harlequin and the trunks, Harlequin ...there are so many.

In the "Comic Caravan" there is also a place reserved for the Italian actors of the 19th century, the legitimate heirs of the Commedia dell'Arte. In presenting this theme Sergio Tofano gives us a hand. He was an Italian director working in the first half of the 20th century, who in his book "The Old Italian Theatre" has given us some most amusing pages on the lives of the itinerant Italian actors at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century, on their greatness and decadence and on the interminable tours that took them as far as the Argentine pampa.



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The idea of preparing this lecture show came from a concrete experience our Company had. On various occasions we were requested to give courses or lectures on the Commedia dell'Arte. Taking into consideration the results that we had, our Theatre decided to prepare a theatrical show based on this experience. This show was to have its own form but also preserve the playful character that has always distinguished our work. This is, therefore, a lecture on the Commedia dell'Arte, which is itself Commedia dell'Arte.

The live music and songs help to create the atmosphere, sometimes festive and sometimes nostalgic, that forms part of the show.



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## Production

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Text 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	100 minutes. With a break
Tours	Switzerland, Germany, Luxemburg, Austria, Chile.

