



Faction of Fools Theatre Company
presents

Quattro Scenari: Four Scenes of Foolery

One day. Four *scenari*. Worldwide laughter.

What: *Quattro Scenari: Four Scenes of Foolery*

Who: Faction of Fools Theatre Company

Where: The Corner Store
900 South Carolina Ave SE
Washington, DC 20003

When: Saturday, February 25th
3:00pm and 8:00pm

Tickets: \$15
Available at the door, 1-800-838-3006, and www.factionoffools.org
Appropriate for ages 13 and up
Running time is approximately 60 minutes with no intermission

Publicist: Rachel Spicknall, Director of PR: 202-641-0541 or pr@factionoffools.org

Press Photos: Available at www.factionoffools.org/press

Back by popular demand after last year's sold-out show, **Faction of Fools Theatre Company** presents *Quattro Scenari: Four Scenes of Foolery* as DC's local celebration for Commedia dell'Arte Day.

Commedia dell'Arte Day is a worldwide theatre celebration that **Faction of Fools** organizes every February 25th on behalf of the international cultural association **SAT**. Last year, Faction of Fools coordinated over 60 events on all seven continents—including Antarctica!

Theatre companies around the world will be performing their own versions of the same four *scenari* (or scenes), which are available at the **Faction of Fools** website. Contributed by leading Commedia practitioners like Antonio Fava (author of *The Comic Mask in the Commedia dell'Arte*) and Barry Grantham (author of *Playing Commedia*), the four *scenari* depict some of the classic situations of Commedia: bragging contests, declarations of love, taunts, tricks, and scenes of grandiose confusion.

This year, four fresh interpretations of *Quattro Scenari* are directed by three of Faction of Fools' Associated Artists: Paul Edward Hope, Paul Reisman, and Rachel Spicknall. The scenes feature actors Steve N. Bradford, Danny Cackley, Natalie Briggs Cutcher, Jim Gagne, Tyler Herman, Mark Linden Jaster, Chantal Martineau, Toby Mulford, Denise Perrino, Justin Purvis, Annetta

Dexter Sawyer, TD Smith, Sarah Olmstead Thomas, Rachel Spicknall, Jesse Terrill, and Eva Wilhelm.

Why is Commedia dell'Arte Day on February 25th? On this date in 1545, a Commedia dell'Arte troupe in Padua, Italy, became the world's first incorporated theatre company, and Western professional theatre was born. Classical authors such as Shakespeare, Moliere, and Goldoni borrowed liberally from the established "Italian Comedy" and Commedia's influence is still undeniable in opera, vaudeville, musical theatre, and contemporary sit-coms. In honor of this historic date and as part of the appeal to the nation of Italy and the United Nations (UNESCO) for recognition of Commedia dell'Arte as "World Cultural Heritage," the Italian cultural association **SAT** proclaimed February 25th an annual, worldwide celebration of the birthday of Commedia.

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