



The Bungler

By Jean Baptiste Poquelin de Moliere

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In 17th Century Sicily, a clever valet named Mascarille tries to help his boss Lelie win the girl of his dreams only to find that Lelie is a monumental dunce who ruins every one of his intricate schemes. Undaunted, Mascarille invents progressively wilder plots, only to see his best-laid plans go very awry in The Bungler. Translated by Richard Wilbur. A L.A. Theatre Works full cast performance starring Richard Easton as Mascarille, Adam Godley as Lelie, Alan Mandell as Trufaldin, Dakin Matthews as Ergaste, Christopher Neame as Pandolphe, Paula Jane Newman as Celie, Darren Richardson as Andres, John Sloan as Léandre, Norman Snow as Anselme, and Kate Steele as Hippolyte. This recording contains an interview with Mechele Leon, Associate Professor of Classical and Contemporary French Theatre at the University of Kansas.

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The Bungler By Jean Baptiste Poquelin de Moliere Bibliography

- Rank: #3012850 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Dramatists Play Service, Inc.
- Published on: 2000-01-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.75" h x 5.25" w x .50" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 72 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

“A mischievous new translation by the poet Richard Wilbur, [*The Bungler*] is great good fun and should open the gate for the play to be presented with the regularity it deserves.”—Bruce Weber, *The New York Times*

“My notion of translation is that you try to bring it back alive. Speak-ability is so important. . . . I came to see that a line that simply says ‘I love you,’ at the right point in the show, is entirely adequate, that a great deal of verbal sophistication is not necessarily called for.”—Richard Wilbur

Poet Richard Wilbur’s translations of Molière’s plays are loved, renowned, and performed throughout the world. This volume is part of Theater Communications Group’s new series (with cover designs by Chip Kidd) to complete trade publication of these vital works of French neoclassical comedy. *The Bungler* is Molière’s first recognizably great play, and the first to be written in verse. The charming farce is set in Sicily and born of the great Italian tradition of the commedia dell’arte: Loyal valet Mascarille schemes to win the lovely Celie away from rival Leadre, and into the arms of his master Leslie. Molière himself originated the role Mascarille, self-described as “the rashest fool on earth,” who naturally bungles the job along the way.

Richard Wilbur is a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner and a former Poet Laureate of the United States. His publications include six volumes of poetry and two collections of selected verses, a collection of prose, and two books for children.

--The New York Times

From the Inside Flap

In 17th Century Sicily, a clever valet named Mascarille tries to help his boss L lie win the girl of his dreams -- only to find that L lie is a monumental dunce who ruins every one of his intricate schemes. Undaunted, Mascarille invents progressively wilder plots, only to see his best-laid plans go very awry in Moli re's The Bungler. Translated by Richard Wilbur.

An L.A. Theatre Works full-cast performance featuring:

Richard Easton as Mascarille

Adam Godley as Lelie

Alan Mandell as Trufaldin

Dakin Matthews as Ergaste

Christopher Neame as Pandolphe

Paula Jane Newman as Celie

Darren Richardson as Andres

John Sloan as L andre

Norman Snow as Anselme

Kate Steele as Hippolyte.

This recording contains an interview with Mechele Leon, Associate Professor of Classical and Contemporary French Theatre at the University of Kansas.

Directed by Dakin Matthews. Recorded at The Invisible Studios, West Hollywood.

About the Author

Moliere (1622 1673), born Jean-Baptiste Poquelin, wrote some of the most durable and penetrating satires of all time. He is today considered as the great master of French comedy, and was hugely popular, and feared by some, for his ceaseless attacks on hypocrisy, snobbery and brutish behavior. Richard Wilbur is a two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry. His translations of Moliere, as well as those of French writer Jean Racine, are considered to be standards in the English language.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Verna Smith:

Book will be written, printed, or highlighted for everything. You can understand everything you want by a book. Book has a different type. As you may know that book is important point to bring us around the world. Beside that you can your reading proficiency was fluently. A book The Bungler will make you to always be smarter. You can feel a lot more confidence if you can know about anything. But some of you think that will open or reading any book make you bored. It is not necessarily make you fun. Why they can be thought like that? Have you in search of best book or acceptable book with you?

Sarah Ford:

This book untitled The Bungler to be one of several books that will best seller in this year, this is because when you read this reserve you can get a lot of benefit into it. You will easily to buy this specific book in the book retailer or you can order it by means of online. The publisher in this book sells the e-book too. It makes you easier to read this book, since you can read this book in your Smart phone. So there is no reason for you to past this reserve from your list.

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