

Cyrano de Bergerac....

THE MAN(1619-1655)

The real Cyrano de Bergerac was a 17th century Frenchman of distinction--a renowned swordsman, social satirist, literary critic, student of philosophy and story-teller. He also possessed a nose of redoubtable proportions.

Cyrano-Savinien-Hercule de Bergerac was born in 1619 in Paris to a family of quality; his father had come from Italy in the train of Catherine de Medici and stayed in France after being granted two chateaux in Gascony-Mauvières and Bergerac.

Cyrano was sent away at the age of six to study with a curé who beat him and instilled him with an understandable aversion to education. Young Cyrano had a companion in misery, one Henri Le Bret. The two became lifelong friends.

Cyrano left college at the age of 18 and he and Le Bret plunged into the considerable pleasures offered by Parisian society. They were described as "very dissipated men" who reveled in the swashbuckling life. It was an age when every Duke or Marquis had a retinue of followers who swarmed around their leader...wearing plumed hats, lace-trimmed velvet doublets with cape-draped rapier stuck out behind like the tail of a cock. They would call each other out to fight to the death over a jostled elbow or a word spoken in jest. It was a time of short verses and long rapiers; of close shaves and unbridled sword play.

Cyrano soon joined the company of musketeers, under Carbon de Castel-Jaloux, where his friend Le Bret was already a member. M. de Bergerac was an expert swordsman and fought scores of duels. He often acted as second to his friends, so often, in fact, that in a letter he commented "It would be false to say that I am the first among men, for in the last month I swear I have been second to everybody."

Most of the incidents found in the play can be found in the life of the original Cyrano. He was extremely self-conscious about his nose and it was the cause of more than one duel. In his book, *L'AUTRE MONDE*, he wistfully envisioned a Utopia in which the greatest honors went to the men with the largest noses.

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Mr. Rob's

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**A HEROIC COMEDY
BY EDMOND ROSTAND**



PRESENTED BY THE FORT SMITH LITTLE THEATER
UNDER ARRANGEMENTS WITH DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE, INC.

August, 1981

the play...

ACT I A PERFORMANCE AT THE HOTEL DE BOURGOGNE

Setting: The Hall of the Hotel, Paris - 1640

"Somehow, I wish I had a woman too,
walking with little steps under the
moon, And holding my arm so, and
smiling. Then I dream--and I
forget...And then I see the shadow
of my profile on the wall!"

Cyrano

ACT II THE BAKERY OF THE POETS

Setting: The Shop of Raguneau

"Listen: I...love someone."

Roxane

INTERMISSION

ACT III ROXANE'S KISS

Setting: A Courtyard in front of Roxane's House

"Let me enjoy the one moment I ever--
my one chance to speak to you...unseen!"

Cyrano

INTERMISSION

ACT IV THE CADETS OF GASCOYNE

Setting: The Post occupied by the Company of
Carbon de Castel Jaloux at the siege of Arras.

"Yes--Go right on--Risk your life
every morning before breakfast
to send a letter!"

Le Bret to Cyrano

ACT V CYRANO'S GAZETTE

Setting: The Park of the Convent of the Ladies
of the Cross, Paris - fifteen years later, 1655.

"I never loved but one man in my life,
And I have lost him--twice..."

Roxane

the cast...

Cyrano De Bergerac.Ray Coleman
Roxane.Lisa Lunney
Christian De Neuville.Larry Hill
Comte De GuicheDan Rogers
RagueneauPat Hughes
Le BretJay Jones
Carbon De Castel-JalouxTod Conatser
Lignière.Brad Kidder
Marquis Brissaille.Terry Fuson
Marquis CuigyWayne Patterson
Duenna.Mary Madden
JodeletBob Perry
Vicomte De ValvertBob Freeman
Refreshment Girl.Debbie Allison
Cut-PurseTod Conatser
ThievesYvette Hayes, Candi Cabaniss
LackeysFrederick K. Gisler, Gary Curry
CitizenOrin Frank
Citizen's Daughter.Lori Buxton
CavaliersBob Freeman, Tim Hill
GuardsmenRod Henley
Montfleury.George Cabaniss
Ladies.Britt Crews, Cynthia Galloway
Jeannie Patterson

ComediennesBritt Crews, Jeannie Patterson
D'Artagnan.Rod Henley
PoetsGeorge Cabaniss, Bob Freeman,
Bob Perry, Orin Frank

Lise.V. R. Gisler
Pastry CooksDebbie Allison, Britt Crews,
Jeannie Patterson, Lori Buxton

Theophraste Renaudot.Brad Kidder
Children.Yvette Hayes, Candi Cabaniss
Cadets of GascoyneTerry Fuson, Bob Perry,
Frederick K. Gisler, Tim Hill
Wayne Patterson, Rod Henley,
Gary Curry, Bob Freeman

Sentry.Frederick K. Gisler
Capuchin MonkBrad Kidder
Sister ClaireDebbie Allison
Mother Marguerite de Jesus.V. R. Gisler

Sister MarthaBritt Crews
Nuns.Jeannie Patterson, Lori Buxton,
Cynthia Galloway

PagesYvette Hayes, Candi Cabaniss

the crew...

DIRECTOR: Bob Wanslow

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: George Cabaniss

PRODUCER: Joan Warburton

STAGE MANAGER & ASSOCIATE PRODUCER: Jean Long

ASSOCIATE STAGE MANAGER: Rosemary Hammer

SET DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION: Chuck Gerardy,
Art Corey

SET CREW: Alan Cline, Chuck Fowler, Lon Taft,
Lori Buxton

WARDROBE MISTRESS: Yvonda Hayes

ASSISTANT WARDROBE MISTRESS: Brooxine Kidder

WARDROBE CREW: Kitty Schnitzius, Sue Nelson,
Michelle Reynolds, V. R. Gisler, Lee Jones,
Adriane Marvin, Tammie Finsel, Pat Wanslow,
Doris Henley, Debbie Allison, Rita Wilson
Merle Martin

PROPERTIES MASTER: Art Corey

PROPERTIES CREW: Liz Doss, Debby Jo Rogers,
V. R. Gisler, Lori Buxton

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Myles Friedman

KEY GRIPE: Charles Long

CHIEF LIGHT & SOUND OPERATOR: Horton Elzea

GAFFER: Jean Carter

MAKE-UP: Soni Foti, Johnny Landsverk,
Mary Cabaniss, Mary Jean Black, Lee Jones

CYRANO'S NOSE: Sara Whitby

WIGS: Patricia Preston

FRENCH COACH: Catherine Wanslow

FENCING COACH: Patty Rogers

PUBLICITY: Mary Kennemer, Bob Gisler,
Ray Coleman, Pete Howard, George Cabaniss,
Mary Jane Hennig

LOBBY DISPLAY: Cynthia Galloway

PROGRAM: Mary Jane Hennig

SPECIAL ASSISTANTS: Richard Corey, Barry Gooch