

# Duke's 'Tartuffe' success

In this age when theatre directors seem determined to update classic plays at all costs, it is refreshing to see the Duke Players' production of Moliere's *Tartuffe*. While director John Clum has transposed the action of the 17th-century French farce to 1870s New Orleans, he has faithfully maintained the play's spirit.

The play, one of Moliere's most popular, tells the story of Tartuffe, an oily hypocrite who exploits legalistic religious beliefs to worm his way into the household of the wealthy Orgon. With the exception of Orgon and his mother, Madame Pernelle, everyone in the household sees through Tartuffe's chicanery.

The major conflict, then, centers on the family's efforts to unmask Tartuffe before Orgon. A romantic subplot involves Orgon's children, Mariane and Damis. Mariane is in love with a man named Valere, but Orgon wishes the girl to marry Tartuffe. Damis opposes this idea since it stands in the way of his marrying Valere's sister.

Presented in the standard translation by poet Richard Wilbur, this *Tartuffe* relaxes in a world of wrought-iron fences and magnolia blossoms. Yet Clum has paced the show tightly, keeping its running time under two hours. Clum's direction takes full advantage of most of the playing areas offered by Stephen Judd's large, handsome courtyard set.

The standout in the cast is Emilie Talbot, who plays Orgon's maid, Dorine. Like many servants in French farce, Dorine actually runs Orgon's home, cleverly stage-managing everything that goes on. Talbot creates a pert, spunky characterization that is by far the most endearing and lifelike in the show.

Other good performances come from Rachel Burnett as Orgon's firm but warm wife, Elmire, and Bruce Fdelstein as the duplicitous Tartuffe.

## Jeff Grove

### Review

Jeffrey Kalish cuts a wildly funny figure as the blustery Damis. And although Marjorie Johnson has only two scenes as Madame Pernelle, her hilarious, imperious characterization earned her applause after her first scene on opening night.

Clum has his actors play in a broad, cartoonish style, and this sits well with Moliere's frequently stereotypical characters.

Nevertheless, two performances stand out as a little too stiff and unfelt. Jon Sherman, playing Orgon, and Thomas Trail Fenton Jr., as Elmire's brother, Cleante, are tolerable when other characters populate the stage. Their scenes together, however, fall into meaningless gesticulation contests between Sherman's arm-waving and Fenton's finger-pointing.

Sherman also sports the least-convincing, least-consistent Southern accent in the cast, and he rattles his lines off so quickly that they are frequently incomprehensible. Otherwise, the actors manage well with the rhymed verse dialogue. Once the ear becomes accustomed to the poetry, the rhymes seem to fade into the background.

Louise Herman's colorful costumes add to the production's beauty, and Judd's lighting design takes the proceedings from the blazing noon-time sun to the rosy, slanting shadows of late afternoon.

*Tartuffe* will be performed by the Duke Players at 8:15 p.m. through Saturday and at 2:30 p.m. Sunday in Reynolds Theatre in the Bryan Center at Duke University. Call 684-4059 for ticket information.

# WEEK'S FARE

## TODAY

**21 Day for Night** will be shown at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in the Union auditorium.

**Twelve Angry Men** will be shown at 8 p.m. in the Stewart Theatre at North Carolina State University.

**Wattstax** will be shown at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in the Bryan Center film theater at Duke University. Call 684-2911 for ticket information.

**Measure for Measure** will be performed by the PlayMakers Repertory Company at 8 p.m. and at 2 and 7 p.m. Sunday in the Paul Green Theatre. Call 962-1121 for ticket information.

**Tartuffe** will be performed by the Duke Players at 8:15 p.m. through Saturday and at 2:30 p.m. Sunday in the Reynolds Theatre. Call 684-4059 for ticket information.

**The Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra** will perform at 8:15 p.m. in Page Auditorium at Duke University. Call 684-4059 for ticket information.

**The North Carolina Symphony and The Greensboro Symphony** will give a combined concert at 8 p.m. in Memorial Auditorium in Raleigh. Call 733-9536 for ticket information.

**Drawings by Salvador Dali** will be displayed in the Judge Gallery in Durham's Brightleaf Square through March 3.

**Dan Harmon** will perform at 8:30 p.m. at the ArtSchool. Call 929-2896 for ticket information.

**Other Bright Colors** will perform at Rhythm Alley. Call 929-8172 for more information.

**Streets Living Theatre** will perform at Cat's Cradle. Call 967-9053 for more information.

## FRIDAY

**22 The Natural** will be shown at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in the Union auditorium. Call 962-2285 for ticket information.

**Say Amen, Somebody** will be shown at 7 and 9:30 and Jesus Christ Superstar at midnight in the Bryan Center film theater at Duke University. Call 684-2911 for ticket information.

**Cloud 9** will be performed by the PlayMakers Repertory Company at 8 p.m. and at 8 p.m. Wednesday in the Paul Green Theatre. Call 962-1121 for ticket information.

**The Last Song of John Proffit** will be performed at 8 p.m. through Saturday at the ArtSchool. Call 929-2896 for ticket information.

**Lovers: Winners and Losers** will be performed by the Durham Theatre Guild at 8:15 through Saturday. Call 688-4259 for ticket information.

**The Duke University Wind Symphony** will perform their winter Viennese Ball at 8:15 p.m. in the Durham Civic Center. Call 684-5450 for ticket information.

**The Glenn Phillips Band** will perform at Rhythm Alley. Call 929-8172 for more information.

**U.V. Prom and The Connells** will perform at Cat's Cradle. Call 967-9053 for more information.

## SATURDAY

**23 Midnight Express** will be shown at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in the Union auditorium.

**Curse of the Starving Class** will be performed by the PlayMakers Repertory Company at 5 and 9 p.m. and at 8 p.m. Tuesday in the Paul Green Theatre. Call 962-1121 for ticket information.

**Claudia Bloom** will perform on the violin in a faculty recital at 8:15 p.m. in the East Duke Building at Duke University. Call 684-5450 for more information.

**The Royal Ballet of Flanders** will perform at 8 p.m. in UNC's Memorial Hall. Call 962-1449 for ticket information.

**The Annual North Carolina Event of Dance** will be held on Duke's East Campus. Call 684-6654 for more information.

**Jack and the Cadillac** will perform at Rhythm Alley. Call 929-8172 for more information.

**The X-Teens** will perform at Cat's Cradle. Call 967-9053 for more information.

## SUNDAY

**24 Celeste** will be shown at 7 and 9:30 in the Union auditorium.

**Home** will be performed in the UNC Lab Theatre at 4 and 8 p.m. through Monday.

**The All-Carolina Wind Band for High School Students** will perform at 2 and 8 p.m. in Hill Hall auditorium. Call 962-2224 for more information.

**The Raleigh Civic Symphony** will perform at 8 p.m. in the Stewart Theatre at North Carolina State University.

**Artwork by Jean Gumpfer** will be displayed through March 15 in the Art Classroom Studio Building gallery at UNC.

**The Don Merz Swing Band** will perform as part of the Sunday Jazz Series at the ArtSchool at 7 p.m. Call 929-2896 for ticket information.

**The David Brickman Quartet** will perform at 8 and 10 p.m. at Rhythm Alley. Call 929-8172 for more information.

**Cutting Edge** will perform at Cat's Cradle. Call 967-9053 for more information.

## MONDAY

**25 The Varsity Men's Glee Club** will perform at 8 p.m. in the Stewart Theatre at North Carolina State University.

**Bradford Evans** will read from his poetry at 7:30 p.m. in the second-floor lounge of the Campus Y.

## TUESDAY

**26 Flutist Jean-Pierre Rampal** will perform at 8 p.m. in UNC's Memorial Hall. Call 962-1449 for ticket information.

## WEDNESDAY

**27 Out of the Past** will be shown at 7 p.m. and **Gun Crazy** at 9 p.m. in the Union auditorium.

**Dean Walker** will give a gallery talk at 12:15 p.m. in the Ackland Art Museum.

**Joe "King" Carrasco and the Crowns** will perform at Cat's Cradle. Call 967-9053 for more information.

## MOVIES

**Plaza I—Witness** at 2:45, 5, 7:15 and 9:30.  
**Plaza II—The Breakfast Club** at 3:10, 5:10, 7:15 and 9:15.

**Plaza III—A Passage to India** at 2:15, 5:25 and 8:35.

**Varsity I—Stranger than Paradise** at 3:15 and 9:15 and **Turk 182** at 2:5 and 7:15 end today. **Amadeus** begins at 2, 5 and 8.

**Varsity II—Amadeus** at 2, 5 and 8 moves to Varsity I Friday. **Stop Making Sense** begins Friday at 3:15, 5:15, 7:15 and 9:15.

**Varsity Lateshows—Hair and The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai: Across the Eighth Dimension** at 11 Friday and Saturday.

**Carolina Blue—Beverly Hills Cop** at 3, 5, 7:15 and 9:30.

**Carolina White—The Killing Fields** at 2, 4:30, 7 and 9:45.

**Carolina Lateshows—Mister Mom and B.C. Rock** Friday and Saturday. Call 942-3061 for times.

**Ram I—Mischief** at 7 and 9 ends today. **Places in the Heart** begins Friday at 7 and 9:15; weekend matinees at 2 and 4:15.

**Ram II—Mrs. Soffel** at 7 ends today. **The Falcon and the Snowman**, currently showing at 9:15, will have its times change to 7 and 9:25; weekend matinees at 2 and 4:25.

**Ram III—Fast Forward** at 2:05 and 4:10; weekend matinees at 2:05 and 4:10.

**Ram/WCHL Lateshows—Caddyshack and Against All Odds** at 11:45 Friday and Saturday.

**Carolina (Durham)—That Sinking Feeling** at 3:30, 5:15, 7 and 9 ends today. **Stop Making Sense** begins Friday at 3:30, 5:15, 7 and 9.

**Carolina (Durham) Lateshow—Rocky Horror Picture Show** at 11:30 Friday and Saturday.

**Carolina (Durham) Saturday Matinee—**Call 688-1939 for information.

Compiled with great sloth and much complaint by Frank Bruni, arts editor.

## UNC

Daugherty played an outstanding game, it was almost impossible for us to stop him."

Deacons forward Kenny Green agreed. "We can't contest his shots down low because he's head and shoulders above us," he said.

Green, who had scored 28 points in the December meeting between the two teams, was held to 16 points Wednesday. The difference was a box-and-one

defense the Tar Heels used, with a double team on Green. "When I got the ball down low, all of them came over and helped out," Green said. "I couldn't turn into the lane, I couldn't turn around. Sometimes I couldn't even see because they had so much height advantage."

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