

FORDHAM UNIVERSITY THEATRE

Department of Communication Arts

REV. VINCENT dePAUL O'BEIRNE, S.J., *Head*

EDGAR L. KLOTEN, *Director*

presents

THE COMEDIAN

by

HENRI GHEON



COLLINS THEATRE

February 17-19, 24-26, 1950

The Comedian

by

HENRI GHEON

EDGAR L. KLOTEN

Direction

WILLIAM RIVA

Production

CAST

<i>Genesius</i>	Edward Charbonneau
<i>Poppaea</i>	Lila di Leva
<i>Albina</i>	Marie Brownell
<i>Hermes</i>	John Fernandez
<i>Julia</i>	Joan Doherty
<i>Triphon</i>	Thomas Welch
<i>Polydorus</i>	William Shust
<i>Diocletian</i>	John Easley
<i>Belisarius</i>	Rudolph Fazioli
<i>Rufinus</i>	James Mills
<i>Felix</i>	Richard Walsh
<i>Aspar</i>	Ray McNally
<i>Slave</i>	David Lunney
<i>Guards</i>	Albert Walsh, Rudy Engel
<i>Lictors</i>	Robert Mayer, Robert Barrus
<i>Chorus</i>	Betty Cooney, Helene Cox, Lillian Hartnet, Elizabeth Mulligan, Jeanne Porter, Barbara Yanowski.
<i>Caesar's Court</i>	Anthony Coggi, Louis Gentile, Tracy Glennen, Charles Inzerillo, Jeanne Johannes, Don Johannes, Charles Powell, Ray Fass, Joseph McNiff, Rocco Angelo.

Scene: The Rehearsal Studio and Theatre of Genesius in Nicomedia, the 4th century.

Act. I—Morning

Act II—Afternoon, three months later.

Act III—The Performance Day, a few weeks later.

Member of the Catholic Theatre Conference

ASSISTANTS TO THE DIRECTOR

Coordinator
Tehrie Holden

Choral
Pauline Sandboe

Musical
Thomas Cipolla

Special Coaching
Achille Riello Amato Semenza

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Manager
Richard Walsh

Lighting
Ed Zemetra

Painting
William Ball

Properties
Joseph Adamec

Assistant Stage Manager
Ray Fass

Assistant to Mr. Riva
Tine Barkhorn

Make-up
Ann Grey and Don Johannes

Costumes by Eaves

PRODUCTION CREW

Richard D'Anjou, Peter Bisulca, Richard Lavin, Rudolph Fazioli, Donald McDonagh, Patricia Crawford, Aurora Zablan, Joseph Eid, Alan Hanson, Patrick Blaney.

GENERAL BUSINESS STAFF

Frank J. Haslach, *General Manager*

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<i>Sales Manager</i>	John Martorana
<i>House Manager</i>	James Taylor
<i>Assistant House Manager</i>	William Lehon

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Mary Finnerty, Jane Sweeney, John Smith, James Barrett
Art: Ted Cosaro, James Clune.

BUSINESS STAFF

Rocco Angelo, Anthony Coggi, Arthur Goldstein, Jim Heaney, Frank Kecko, Clem Kelly, Paul Lehmuller, Bill Lynch, John Lynch, Thomas McGoldrick, Robert Mayer, John Smith, Jerry Creedon.

The Mimes and Mummers

of

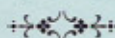
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<i>President</i>	Frank J. Haslach
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NOTE ON THIS PRODUCTION

Fordham University Theatre is proud to present this production of Henri Gheon's *THE COMEDIAN* for the first time in New York. Although the play has been seen in many parts of the world, Gheon is still relatively unknown in theatrical circles. His life, however, was as dramatic as his writings. He fell away from the Catholic faith when he was only fifteen but regained it during World War I through his association with a devout friend whose religious fervor had a great influence on him. Another, Andre Gide, convinced him that since he was so intellectually and spiritually moved by the Faith, he should return to the Church. He then set himself to the task of bringing the lives of the Saints to the attention of the public through the drama.

In watching actors, Gheon noticed that sometimes they were emotionally moved and carried away by their roles. He incorporated this idea in *THE COMEDIAN* and shows us how Genesius, a pagan actor became a Christian martyr. Diocletian sentenced Genesius to be cruelly scourged, burned, and finally beheaded. The martyr's dying words were: "There is no King but Christ, and though I be slain a thousand times for Him, yet you cannot take Him from my heart and lips." He is now revered as the patron Saint of all actors.



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