

PIERROT'S VALENTINE

SCENE 1: A COURTYARD

Pierrot is seen seated on a trunk, he portrays the DUMB aspect. He is stirred to motion by some sound from the audience. He rises. If there is some interesting action going on in the audience or street he performs the Lazzo of IMITATION. He retrieves his tall hat from the trunk and performs the pantomime blanche, Le Oeuf. When he is finished he presents a card that says: PIERROT'S VALENTINE. Exit.

SCENE 2: THE COUNTRYSIDE

Arlequino enters and carries a basket with worms in a jar, and a fishing pole. He performs the Lazzo of Arlequino FISHING. That is: He takes a worm out of the jar and performs the Lazzo of THE WORM. He tries to cast out his line and catches it on the rear side of his britches, and performs the Lazzo of THE HOOK IN THE PANTS. He retrieves another worm and performs the Lazzo of THE HUGE WORM. He finds another worm and successfully casts it out. He performs the Lazzo of THE ELUSIVE FISH. He finally lands the fish and performs the lazzo of KNOCKING THE FISH COLD. The fish slips through his grasp and escapes into the stream. Columbine has meanwhile entered and witnessed the fish's escape. Arlequino bemoans his loss and doesn't see Columbine. She tries to lure his attention by performing the Lazzo of HOOKING A MAN. She finally crosses downstage right and beguilingly awaits his attention. He sees her and goes to her and he pinches her dainty behind. She turns and slaps him. He is momentarily hurt, but brightens up as he sees a flower and goes to get it for Columbine. Columbine sees him go toward the flower and guesses his intention and is sweetly flattered. She coyly turns her head away from the action and awaits the gift. Arlequino picks the flower, forgets

his intention and eats it. Remembering he was going to give it to Columbine he has a bright idea and replaces it with a worm. He goes to her and coos. She hesitates, playing the Lazzo of HARD TO GET, he implores, she reaches out her hand with arm fully extended. Arlequino gives her the worm. Columbine receives it and sweetly brings it to her delicate nose. She takes a long inhaling whiff and we see her enjoying it as if it were a winter rose. At the top of the inhale she opens her eyes and realizes something is definitely wrong. She sees the worm and throws it down and acts insulted. Arlequino pleads with her to reconcile the misunderstanding. She resists and finally he pulls out a flute and implores her through the music. She listens, softens, and extends her hand, while looking away, for him to kiss. He sees this and is delighted, and turns away and laughs at his prowess with women. Columbine, meantime, picks up the worm and resumes her posture. Arlequino, with his head turned away and eyes closed, makes a grand gesture and takes her hand, really it is the worm, and kisses it. Thinking it is her hand he makes passionate advances to it. Columbine sees this and is disgusted and rebukes him. He realizes the situation and pretends he is disgusted also. He takes out the flute and plays it. He gives it to Columbine to play. She tries but Arlequino places his finger over the end hole. No sound. Arlequino indicates she is not doing it properly and shows her how to take a deep breath first and then play it. He demonstrates and gives it back to her. She does as instructed and again Arlequino places his finger over the hole. Again, no sound. He again demonstrates, this time with a bigger inhalation. He gives it to her, She takes a huge breath and again tries to play it. Again he places his finger over the hole only this time he is so caught up in the success of his trick he turns his head away and laughs. Columbine sees the trick and takes the flute and stalks Arlequino while he laughs with his finger in place holding the hole of the no longer present flute. She hits him on the head with the flute, he howls and she laughs. They both laugh and perform a joyfull dance and go off.

SCENE 3: THE COURTYARD

Pierrot enters and performs the Lazzo of THE BUTTERFLY CHASE. Arlequino and Columbine pass happily by not noticing Pierrot. They exit. Pierrot, in love with Columbine, is saddened. He performs the Lazzo of La LUNA. Arlequino enters, sweeping or some such work, and takes the moon out of the air, folds it up, puts it in his hind pocket and turns to leave. Pierrot slips it out of his pocket as he leaves. Pierrot sits on the bench and begins to unfold the moon. Columbine enters and sits by him. She had been performing something like watering the flowers. She silently inquires what is wrong. He performs the Pantomime Blanche of ARLEQUINO'S DIRTY TRICK. He finishes and professes his love for her, and offers her the moon. She is wooed by his gentle nature and accepts it. She places herself for a kiss. Pierrot turns away, bashfull and shamefull. Arlequino enters and performs fabulous juggling act. Columbine is attracted to his firey nature and goes to him, returning to place the moon on the bench. They leave. Pierrot performs the Lazzo of MAKING WHOOPY TO THIN AIR and discovers the moon. He is devastated. He performs the Pantomime Blanche of PIERROT'S SUICIDE. He find solice in his faithfull moon and again places it in the air. Arlequino enters and takes it and tears it up. Pierrot is challenged and they engage in a pantomime sword fight. Pierrot as if for real, Arlequino as a lark. Arlequino changes his sword into a bow and arrow and fires a volley at Pierrot. Pierrot goes after him, but he constructs an imaginary jail cell with Pierrot inside. He leaves. Pierrot becomes increazingly forlorn and hopeless behind bars. Columbine enters and sees the sad Pierrot. Her heart goes out to him and gives him the torn pieces of the moon. Arlequino enters, pantomimes a miniature bow and plays cupid and shoots an arrow to Columbines heart and Pierrots. The bars no longer hold him and they kiss. Just as they are about to kiss they freeze and Arlequino holds up a THE END sign. Thus ends PIERROT'S VALENTINE.