

Scapino! Cast List and Descriptions
(Loosely in Order of Appearance)

Carlo, “the bum” (M, age open, 35-up) lives on the docks by the bistro. Admires Scapino, friends with everyone but the bistro owner (headwaiter). Good-hearted, but always trying to get money, food or companionship. Lots of pantomime bits. Rides a bike in the opening. Spends time in the audience ad-libbing with audience.

Nurse (F, age to loosely match Carlo) Looking, very ineptly, for Geronte. Nurse to Geronte’s long lost daughter. Wanders among the audience and cast throughout the play. Very fastidious. Has an elaborate pantomime eating her lunch, and another fun scene at the end.

The Families and Their Servants

Ottavio (M 18- up) Extremely dramatic, emotional only son of Argante, hopelessly in love with his new bride, Giacinta, but knows his father has arranged a marriage for him. Very afraid of his father. Some physical demands and light stunts.

Giacinta (F 18 - up) Melodramatic newlywed wife of Ottavio. She knows the new marriage is imperiled by his father, and fears Ottavio will give in to his father. Seems very innocent, but can manipulate men with great skill.

Argante (M 55-up) Father of Ottavio. Friend of Geronte. He and Geronte have arranged for Ottavio to marry Geronte’s daughter from another marriage in Marseilles. At opening, he is unaware, Ottavio has fallen in love and married. Argante is mean, irascible and abusive to everyone.

Sylvestro/Sylvestra (M or F 35-up) Servant to Ottavio and Argante. Close friend and partner in “crime” with Scapino. Romantic at heart, somewhat inept and extremely afraid of Argante.

Leandro (M 19- up) Son of Geronte; best friend of Ottavio. He is in love with Zerbinetta, the Gypsy. Has a quick temper, and a great fear of his father. Some physical demands and light stunts.

Geronte (M 55-up) “The meanest, greediest man in Naples”. The very grumpy, miserly father of Leandro. Very mean to everyone. Loves his money as much as his son, if not more. Has a friendly rivalry with Argante.

Scapino (M 35-up) Servant to Leandro and Geronte. He is an accomplished trickster, con artist and escape artist – all out of necessity. Despite all the tricks, he is good-hearted and tries to help everyone. Physically demanding role.

Zerbinetta (F 21-up) Raised by Gypsies since early childhood. She is in love with Leandro, but very skeptical about his ability to deal with his father, Geronte. She is worldly wise, but a sweet, fun-loving soul.

At The Bistro

“Headwaiter” in script. (Age Open, M or F) Owner/manager of the bistro. Tries to keep Carlo out of the bistro kitchen and away from the tables. Keeps the staff working and supervises food service.

Servers (2 or 3, male or female, any age). In addition to serving food, setting tables, sweeping, etc., they flirt with each other (and occasionally Scapino). They will show off, or try to, with things like balancing chairs and brooms, and the old pulling out the tablecloth trick. They join in the singing of Minestrone Macaroni and Ciao Ciao for Now.

Bored Server (F, 20-up) Part of many of the food serving bits, though she tries to avoid work and draws scorn from the “Headwaiter”. Some fun pantomime. Takes part in the flirting – the only times she perks up.

The Lady Who Lives Above the Bistro (F, any age) Pantomime running gags. Walks her duck along the docks; flirts with servers; we can adjust bits to the performer.