



The Misanthrope, Tartuffe, and Other Plays (Oxford World's Classics)

By Maya Slater

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'Why does he write those ghastly plays that the whole of Paris flocks to see? And why does he paint such lifelike portraits that everyone recognizes themselves?' Moliere, *The Impromptu at Versailles*

This volume brings together four of Moliere's greatest verse comedies covering the best years of his prolific writing career. Actor, director, and playwright, Moliere (1622-73) was one of the finest and most influential French dramatists, adept at portraying human foibles and puncturing pomposity. *The School for Wives* was his first great success; *Tartuffe*, condemned and banned for five years, his most controversial play. *The Misanthrope* is his acknowledged masterpiece, and *The Clever Women*

his last, and perhaps best-constructed, verse piece. In addition this collection includes a spirited attack on his enemies and a defence of his theatre, in the form of two sparkling short plays, *The School for Wives Criticized* and *The Impromptu at Versailles*.

Moliere's prose plays are available in a complementary Oxford World's Classics edition, *Don Juan and Other Plays*.

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Editorial Review

Review

'Both prose and verse translations do full justice to Moliere's wit and ingenuity, and make reading this book a highly enjoyable experience' TLS, 17/08/01

Language Notes

Text: English (translation)

Original Language: French

About the Author

Jean-Baptiste Poquelin, better known as Moliere, was a French theatre writer, director and actor, one of the masters of comic satire. Maya Slater is at Queen Mary and Westfield College, London University.

Users Review

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