

Commedia Dell'Arte: A Handbook for Troupes

Oliver Crick, John Rudlin

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Oliver Crick, John Rudlin : Commedia Dell'Arte: A Handbook for Troupes before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Commedia Dell'Arte: A Handbook for Troupes:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. John Rudlin knows his Commedia Dell'arteBy Bobby AllanI bought this book as a companion to John Rudlin's other Commedia book. The book is perfect if you a truly getting a professional commedia troupe off it's feet. however I was simply putting on one scenario in a two week period of time, so I simply didn't have the time for the rehearsal games and techniques. However the sections on how to write a scenario helped me immensely.please note that if you know nothing about the wonderful world of Commedia Dell'Arte then this book is not for you. I would reccomend John Rudlins Commedia Dell'Arte: A handbook for ACTORS, it's very good.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Good resourceBy Bethanie FrankPersonally, I found the historical aspect of this book the most appealing. The actual "how to" part of the book could easily be made into a seperate book itself. Great information, and I respect Mr. Rudlin. I've read most everything

he's written and have thoroughly enjoyed learned about this wonderful art.

A companion to John Rudlin's best-selling *Commedia dell'Arte: A Handbook for Actors*, this book covers both the history and professional practice of commedia dell'arte companies from 1568 to the present day. Indispensable for both the beginner and the professional, it contains historical and contemporary company case histories, details on company organisation, and tips on practical stagecraft. Essential for students and practitioners, this book enables the reader to understand how successful commedia dell'arte companies function, and how we can learn from past and current practice to create a lively and dynamic form of theatre. Includes tips on: * writing a scenario * mask-making * building a stage * designing a backdrop * costume * music. _

From Library Journal This title and its companion, Rudlin's 1994 *Commedia dell'Arte: An Actor's Handbook*, give the reader a thorough overview of this wonderful theatrical art form. Both Rudlin and Crick have directed and/or performed commedia dell'arte, and they bring historical, theoretical, and practical perspectives to the text. Their research brings together information on the internationally renowned troupes from 1568 to 1622, the so-called golden age of improvisation before the art form became more solidly text-based. As interesting as the historical material is the information on contemporary 20th-century commedia dell'arte troupes who perform in English, including one in this reviewer's own state of Texas. Anyone interested in starting a troupe will learn much from these case studies and histories as the historical material is enriched with practical advice on performance, creating sets and costumes, and forming and training a company. Rudlin and Crick devote an entire chapter to the creation of the ever-important mask, and another extremely helpful chapter teaches the various aspects of script and scene creation. Songs, dances, and costume patterns are also included. Highly recommended for academic and public libraries. Susan L. Peters, Univ. of Texas, Galveston Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Like the earlier book this should appeal to both scholars and practitioners. It will provide a nice bridge between the historical reconstruction and commedia in the past, and its historical reinvention in the present."-Phillip B. Zarrilli, University of Surrey ""Commedia dell'Arte: An Actor's Handbook [is] the most important thing available to student groups [and] to theatrical practitioners. I can see no reasons why this book should be any less valuable.."-Peter Thomson, University of Exeter About the Author John Rudlin is a freelance theatre director, playwright and author. Olly Crick is a drama lecturer at Hereford College of Art and Design.