

University of Montana

ScholarWorks at University of Montana

Montana Masquers Event Programs, 1913-1978

University of Montana Publications

5-13-1964

He Who Gets Slapped, 1964

Montana State University (Missoula, Mont.). Montana Masquers (Theater group)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/montanamasquersprograms>

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

Montana State University (Missoula, Mont.). Montana Masquers (Theater group), "He Who Gets Slapped, 1964" (1964). *Montana Masquers Event Programs, 1913-1978*. 132.

<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/montanamasquersprograms/132>

This Program is brought to you for free and open access by the University of Montana Publications at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in Montana Masquers Event Programs, 1913-1978 by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.

FIFTY-NINTH SEASON OF GREAT PLAYS
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF DRAMA

and
MONTANA MASQUERS
present

HE WHO GETS SLAPPED

by Leonid Andreyev

Directed and Designed by John Mazur*

Technical Director, Don Thomson

MAY 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 1964

MASQUER THEATER

CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Tilly	Karin Gjording	Consuelo	Barbara Jo Whitney
Polly	Ruth Ann Emerson	Bezano	Ben Holden
Papa Briquet	Kirby Siber	Baron	Bill Kaan
Mancini	Dennis Craig	Angelica	Patsy Maxson
Zinida	Kathie Shore	Thomas	Gene Buck
Clown	Melvon Ankeny	Gentleman	Melvon Ankeny
He	Bill Dobson	Conductor	Doug Dunnell
Jackson	Jim Baker	Waiter	Bruce Kidder

PLACE: A Room off the Main Tent.

TIME: Act 1—Morning.

Act 3—The next morning.

Act 2—A month later.

Act 4—That evening.

There will be a ten-minute intermission following Act 2.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant to Mr. Mazur	Esther England	Sound	Doug Dunnell
Lighting	Glenn Gauer	Properties	Karin Gjording, Bruce Kidder
Scenery			Advanced Stagecraft Class
Make-up	Sharon Seaman, Elaine Edwards, Al Holt, Amy Jacobson, Rod Tande, Mary Jane Williams		
Costumer			Ione Unruh
Costume Crew	Edward Brodniak, Claudette Johnson, Kathy Kibler, Corliss Nickerson, Delbert Unruh		
Box Office	Edward Brodniak	House Manager	Edward Brodniak
Publicity	Les Hankinson	Photography	Cyrile Van Duser

Leonid Andreyev was born in Orel, Russia in 1871 and died in Finland in 1919. He graduated from the Moscow University in 1897 with a law degree, but lost his one civil case. He was then offered a job as a court reporter, and soon after published his first short stories. Between the years 1905-1917, known as his most prolific, he wrote twenty-seven plays, singularly unequal in merit, but of which only six may be considered masterpieces. His fame spread so rapidly that he eclipsed all of his contemporaries.

Throughout his literary life, Andreyev maintained that all Russian drama only touched the surface of life and that it relied on external action for its effects. He asserts that the most dramatic thing in the world is thought, and that his theory of a "theater of the soul" is the basis for the theater of the future. In his last play **He Who Gets Slapped**, this is lucidly exemplified. Despite the play's surface realism, the entire play is a symbol. It depicts a man of fine sensibilities and intelligence who is cheated by life and betrayed by his best friend. He turns bitter and revenges himself on the world by joining the circus and deliberately making himself the laughing stock of the world by becoming a clown. The world accepts his challenge and delightfully mocks him; and, by doing so, makes itself more ridiculous than the clown. He prefers this open mockery to the treatment of great minds that are given "out there" where his own ideas are successful only after they are stolen and vulgarly rehashed into a popular concoction for the common crowd to comprehend. It is said that the play is somewhat autobiographical since Andreyev felt that like the clown He, he too was betrayed by his friends.

He Who Gets Slapped was first produced in Moscow by the Moscow Art Theater in 1914, and its first production in English was in London in 1921 under the title of "The Painted Laugh." In 1921 it was first produced in America by Alexander Dean, at the State University of Montana with the Montana Masquers, Maurice Brown and Ellen Van Volkenberg. The following year it was produced in New York by the Theater Guild.

*Mr. Mazur has directed and designed tonight's play as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Arts Degree in Drama.