

Masks

are

Barking

The first section of the show, 'Masks', features the theatrical style of Commedia 'dell Arte.

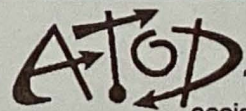
Developed in 16th century Italy, Commedia 'dell Arte was traditionally performed by travelling groups of actors. Impromptu Commedia performances generally occurred on the street, and to appeal to this common audience shows were generally bawdy, phallic and comical in nature. Often this outrageous comedy was a guise for political statement.

The main technique in Commedia is the use of masks and stock characters in a pantomime style. The characters 'Punch and Judy' are some of the well known characters derived from Commedia 'dell Arte. Australian Theatre of the Deaf's 'Masks' will introduce you to the characters of:

- Pantolini** Old wealthy, greedy and high class. Is the father of Isabella & planning her wedding
- Harlequin** Servant to Pantolini & friend of Braghilia. Has a penchant for practical jokes
- Isabella** Daughter of Pantolini
- Doctor** A physician and inventor
- Tartaglia** Pantolini's forgetful accountant who stutters
- Braghilia** The Cook
- French Lovers** Featured in Pantolini's Dream

'Barking' is the journey of three puppies from their birth through to their discovery of a world of love and fear.

'Barking' features experimental theatre, capturing the cartoon of animated entertainment on the 3D stage. This second act also combines Australian Theatre of the Deaf's unique visual theatre style.



Australian Theatre of the Deaf is proud to present this 'Masks are Barking'. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of the Australia Council for the Arts, the NSW Ministry for the Arts and our major sponsor, Printacall, for making this project possible.

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