

"THE IMAGINARY INVALID"

Costume Plot

Time Mid Seventeenth Century

ACT I The reception room in the Paris home of Argan. Morning

ARGAN(a hypochondriac)	Blouse, vest, breeches, hose; add lounging robe and stocking cap
TOINETTE(a servant)	Maid's costume of the period w/full skirt, tucked up overskirt, blouse, bodice
ANGELIQUE(Argan's daughter)	Slightly severe ingenue dress, fontage
BELINE(Argan's 2nd wife)	Mature day dress, lace cap w/ribbon fontage
MR. DE BONNEFOY(a notary)	Dark day suit of a public servant, hat, cloak

ACT II The same, next day

TOINETTE , ARGAN	NO CHANGE
CLEANTE(in love with Angelique)	Disguised as a music master, hat
ANGELIQUE	Another dress, less severe
MR. DIAGORIUS(a doctor)	Mature attire, rich but not too tasteful, hat, handkerchief
THOMAS DIAFOIRUS(his son)	A younger version of Diaforius
BELINE	Optional change; add cloak later in scene
BERALDE(brother to Argan)	Dapper day clothes, hat, cloak
LUISON(younger daughter of Argan)	Child's version of adult costume

ACT III The same, that afternoon

TOINETTE	NO CHANGE; adds physician's robe and hat over costume
BERALDE, BELINE, ANGELIQUE	NO CHANGE
ARGAN	Fantastic robe, slightly resembling that of physician
MR. FLUERANT(an apothecary)	Physician's robe and hat
MR. PURGON(Argan's doctor)	Physician's robe and hat

OPTIONAL SCENES USUALLY OMITTED FROM PRODUCTION

PROLOGUE A woodland setting

FLORA(Singer)	Dressed in 17th century version of classical demi-god
PAN(Singer)	Dressed in similar style as Flora
TIRCIS(Singer), DORILAS(Singer)	Dressed as a shepherd
CLIMENE(Singer), DAPHNE(Singer)	Dressed as a shepherdess
DANCERS AND SINGERS	Dressed as two ZEPHYRS, six FAUNS, SHEPHERDS AND SHEPHERDESSES

ACT I, INTERLUDE A street scene

PUNCHINELLO(Singer) Stock Commedia Del'Arte costume
OLD WOMAN(Mime) Sleeping attire
DANCERS AND MUSICIANS Dressed as ARCHERS OF THE NIGHT WATCH

ACT II INTERLUDE Argan's house

FOUR MOORISH GIRLS (Singers) Dressed as Gypsies
SINGERS AND DANCERS Dressed as Gypsy street entertainers

EPILOGUE Argan's house

All are dressed in burlesque versions of 17th Century scholastic robes.

praeses(Singer) Master of Ceremonies
8 DOCTORS(Singers) All carry large syringes
6 APOTHECARIES(Dancers)
22 SURGEONS(Dancers)

NOTE: PROLOGUE: "Costume in the Theatre" by James Laver has wonderful illustrations and text on Opera and Ballet designs of this period.
EPILOGUE: "The book of Costume, Vol II" by Milla Davenport contains an illustration of the robes worn by the various doctorial candidates of the mid-seventeenth century.