

Commedia dell'Arte

- Commedia dell'arte is a theatrical form characterized by improvised dialogue and a cast of stock characters that emerged in northern Italy in the fifteenth century and rapidly gained popularity throughout Europe
- Fixed social types and stock characters (exaggerated social types)
- Canovaccio: a scenario, a list of acts and scenes
- The spotlight fell on the actors rather than on the play itself. Actors with inventive mind creativity and *lazzi*
- Lazzi = stock comedic routines or jokes.
In "Lazzi of Counting Money", the Zanni divides Pantalone's money between Pantalone and himself in the following way: "One for Pantalone, two for me (gives one coin to Pantalone and two to himself); two for Pantalone, three for me (gives one coin to Pantalone and three to himself), etc
- Female roles were played by women

Exercise: Reflection on you role play

This exercise allows you to access new levels of awareness about yourself, others and the roles we play. It's a huge lesson on empathy to realize what your favourite ones are and what you are missing.

Reflection: what role did you play yesterday?



Characters - Commedia dell'Arte



Arlecchino
CREATIVITY



Doctor
KNOWLEDGE



Pantalone
BUSINESS



Pulcinella
SOCIETY



Innamorata
OTHERS' GROWTH



Capitano
MY GROWTH



Vecchio. Pantalone

BUSINESS

Old. Greedy. Mean. Wish to partner with a young girl

Slow. Moving only feet. Bent forward

Venice

Bad Bird. Crow

Control the overall length



First Zanni – Pulcinella

SOCIETY

Servant. Poor. Unlucky. Melancholy (sad) but also smiley. Sophisticated psychology. Navigating life

Tired. Arms along the side

Naples

Little chicken

Fix the plot



Second Zanni - Harlequine (Arlecchino)

CREATIVITY

Servant. Silly. Mocking the Master.
Fun for the sake of it

Low barycenter

Bergamo

Cat

Keep the energy. Acrobatic. Nonsense



Vecchio. Doctor

KNOWLEDGE

Old. Parody of educated elite. Pretends to be an expert in many subjects, talking constantly, but no idea about what he speaks about

Hungry

Big bouncing belly. Bent backward

Bologna

Pig

Emptiness

Innamorata

OTHERS' GROWTH

In love. In love with a young guy. Wants to marry him

Kind and polite movements

Venice

Human. Fashion clothes

Their love is the engine of the plot



LA GIOVANE AMOROSA



Capitano

MY GROWTH

Braggard. Coward

High barycenter (chest)

Foreigner (Spain – Naples)

Rooster (bull)

Pair with Zanni