

**"THE DOCTOR IN SPITE OF HIMSELF"** (le Medecin Malgre Lui) by Moliere will be performed by Eastern's Department of Theatre Arts at 8 p.m. on Nov. 19 and 20 and Dec. 3 and 4. A mature performance will be presented at 2 p.m. on Dec. 5. This 18th century play, a classic farce, by the French master playwright Moliere, will be directed by E.G. Gabbard of Eastern's Theatre Department. The play has been adapted for the performances by Dr. Gabbard.

The story evolves in the following fashion: Martine, wife of the worthless woodcutter Sguanarelle, determines to avenge a beating which her husband has just administered to her. She tells two servants who are seeking a doctor to cure their master's daughter, Lucinde, of a sudden inability to speak, that Sguanarelle is really a doctor. She warns them that he will probably not admit to his profession unless he is beaten. After several beatings, the two servants finally persuade Sguanarelle that he is a doctor, and bring him to their master, Geronte. The cause of Lucinde's malady is revealed by Jacqueline, a wet nurse, whom Sguanarelle attempts to seduce in the course of the action. Jacqueline is aware that Lucinde's refusal to speak is the result of her father's objection to Leandre the man of her choice.

Moliere manages to resolve the dilemma in the best comic form blending the two plot threats of Sguanarelle deception and the slight romance in a weave of farcial situations involving cuckoldry and the ridicule of medical practice.

"The Doctor in Spite of Himself" will be presented at the theatre of the Doudna Fine Arts Center. For more information contact Eastern's Department of Theatre Arts.