

Le Médecins Malgré Lui

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More from the Médecin Chest

[January 29, 2017](#)Harry

This is our periodic survey of recently discovered examples of the spanking scene from Moliere's comedy [Le Médecin Malgré Lui](#). This time it's a globe-trotting, time-traveling update that begins in France a generation or three back, with this 1960 television production of Charles Gounod's 1858 opera based on the play:

Still in France but now in the 2010s, here's a trailer for the Theatre aux Eclats production, which we've covered before:

Disappointingly, that's a lot less exciting than what they did with the scene at rehearsals, which you can see [here](#).

And the scene also features in an anthology of Moliere extracts, *Terriblement Moliere*, staged by the troupe who call themselves the Enfants Terribles. 'Can a spanking be considered a proof of love?' asks the show's publicity tagline. Here's Christelle Furet finding out from Xavier Devichi:



That was in the publicity shoot. But on stage it was done like this:



Over to Chile now, for an English-language production in which Martine clearly enjoys being spanked by her husband:

And while we're in Chile, here's another snippet:

Here's a spanking from a Mexican production of 2012:



Still in the same country, but now in 2015, here's Briana Barajas being spanked in Mexico City, in photos from four different performances:



(The word is, incidentally, that she was *actually* spanked, and wasn't altogether happy about it. Oh dear...)

Back in the old world, here's a Czech production from 1995:

From Romania, we begin with three videos of the same production, two different performances and a somewhat less vigorous rehearsal:

And now a promo for a different Romanian production:

And yet another from Romania:



Russia makes multiple contributions, too:

The production at St Petersburg in 2002 offers only a whack with a shoe, but this Martine, dressed only in a towel that seems always about to fall off, is not to be sniffed at:

And at Moscow's Theater Satyricon in 2016, with Konstantin Novichkov and Rosalia Kajumova:



And in this production Sganarelle's *faux*-medical attentions to Lucinde (Elena Golyakova), while not strictly relevant, are also rather appealing:



To Greece now, where we begin with a production from 2003:

A 2014 production featured Venetoulas Giorgos and Eleutheria Nikitopoulou as the warring husband and wife:



And we finish off with a splendid (and relatively extended) spanking from another Greek production, this one from 2016, with Tasos Papadopoulos as Sganarelle and Xanthi Kaparou as Martine, performing in several different contexts:





And one especially nice thing about this production is that she got spanked a second time...



... in the curtain call at the end of the play. Applause, please!

Yet more!

The Medicine Man

OCTOBER 8, 2017

Rather like *A Bad Year for Tomatoes*, David Grote's farce *The Medicine Man* (1980) sits on a potentially lucrative theatrical boundary line: it's often produced by high schools and amateur groups, but it also appeals to professional troupes and dinner theaters looking for something light and entertaining.

The central character, Samuel P. Sagamore, left his wife and daughter ten years ago to lead a life as a mendicant confidence trickster. Now he checks into a rundown hotel in a small California town, and who should be there, quite by chance, but Mrs Agnes Sagamore. She's the proprietor...

The plot, when it arrives, may be just a little familiar. Agnes sends for the local sheriff to have her errant husband thrown in jail, but Sagamore seizes his chance to stay at liberty by making himself indispensable to Señor Vega, the wealthiest man in town, whose daughter has been struck mute. He's looking for a doctor to cure her, so Sagamore duly becomes a doctor, in spite of his complete lack of medical qualifications – and also, you might say, in spite of himself...

Yes, it's an adaptation of Moliere's *Le Médecin Malgré Lui*, complete with a spanking in the opening scene when the reunited husband and wife quarrel, and Agnes goes on the offensive.

(She leaps on him, trying to scratch his eyes. He grabs both her hands, and pulls her down across his lap, beginning to spank her.)

AGNES: *Quit that!*

SAGAMORE: *You brought it on yourself, my little apple core.*



March 26, 1982: Brad Warner spanks Cindy Foster at Ashton High School, Illinois

AGNES: When I get my hands on you, you'll beg for mercy.

SAGAMORE (still spanking): You forget, my dear, that I currently have the upper hand.

AGNES: Not for long.

SAGAMORE: Apologise?

AGNES: Never!

SAGAMORE (spanking again): Then I shall have to continue, I'm afraid.



November 1982: Melinda Weber gets a spanking from Mike Wenger at Maple Valley High School, Iowa

And at that point, the sheriff arrives...



... which means Sagamore's troubles have really begun. Agnes tries to send the lawman away, but he won't go.



SHERIFF: He's trying to beat you. This is a civilized town, and we don't hold to men beating up on a lady, not as long as I'm the sheriff.

SAGAMORE: What lady's that?

SHERIFF: That sweet, darling little widow woman you are holding over your lap, sir.

SAGAMORE (letting go): Oh, I'm sorry, my dear, I didn't recognize you for a lady.

And so the story gets going, more or less as it does in Moliere's comedy...

In 2011, the play was produced by the Great American Vaudeville Company in Oceano, California, with George Walker as Sagamore and, as Agnes, Bree Murphy, daughter of Eddie. Unfortunately, I can't show you Bree being spanked, but this picture of her may whet your imagination:



The most recent known school production was in 2014 at a high school in Texas, as the annual dinner theater show, and the spanking was administered using an unusual implement: a feather duster!





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