

The Misanthrope

by

Moliere

**Or: “How to lose friends and infuriate people”
(not the official subtitle!)**

Directed by Norbert Mulholland and featuring a fabulous cast of spirited young actors and actresses in their last month of secondary schooling: our very own Class 12 students! This will be your first and quite possibly last chance to see some of our lads in tights, wigs and maybe even high heels ... all in the name of historical authenticity. And as for the lassies – *les mademoiselles* will surely be at their most enchanting!

Moliere is regarded as France’s best playwright and *The Misanthrope* is his undisputed masterpiece. Written in 17th century France during the reign of King Louis XIV and first performed in 1666, it is a piece that becomes more relevant with the passage of time.

The ‘misanthrope’, Alceste, is a thoroughly complex and enigmatic figure. Disgusted with French society, where powdered fops and painted coquettes whisper behind peoples’ backs, he embarks on a one-man crusade against fakery; quick to criticize others for their flaws, and society as a whole for its hypocrisy and lies.

This comedy is about a man who can't tolerate the superficiality of his peers, yet falls in love with a woman who is the embodiment of everything he hates. Therein lies the discord between reason and the human heart ... and now — let the drama begin!

Performances will be on 12, 13 and 14 December at 7.30pm in the Petone West ‘gym turned theatre’ of Raphael House Rudolf Steiner School, 27 Matuhi Street, Tirohanga.

Tickets are available from the Raphael House School office,
Adults \$15; Students \$10; Family (two adults, two children) \$40
For phone bookings please call (04) 569 5161.