



THE THREE MUSKETEERS – THE PANTOMIME  
by  
Paul Smith

A SMITH SCRIPT

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# The Three Musketeers

## A Pantomime

by Paul Smith

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## CHARACTERS

D'ARTAGNAN	A COUNTRY BOY
M. PLANKTON	A VILLAGER
MME COUCHON	A VILLAGER
MME CROISSANT	A VILLAGER
M. BOUQUET	A VILLAGER
MARCEL	A VILLAGER
LUCILLE	A VILLAGER
FRANCOIS	A VILLAGER
BELLE	A SIMPLE COUNTRY GIRL
ALPHONSE (ALF) D'ARTAGNAN	A BLACKSMITH
DAME DAPHNE D'ARTAGNAN	A DAME
HERCULE	A HORSE
CARDINAL RICHELIEU	A VILLAIN
MILADY DE WINTER	A WICKED LADY
RENDEZVOUS	A FOOL
QU-EST-CE QUE C'EST	ANOTHER FOOL
ATHOS	
PORTHOS	THE THREE MUSKETEERS
ARAMIS	
MARIANNE	A PARISIAN
GASTON	A PARISIAN
MABEL	
FELICITY	MUSKETEER'S GIRLFRIENDS
CHANTELLE	
M. BONBON	AN INNKEEPER

CONSTANCE

AN INNKEEPER'S DAUGHTER

THE MINI MUSKETEERS

MAITRE D'

A PALACE SERVANT

KING OF FRANCE

A KING

QUEEN OF FRANCE

A QUEEN

DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM

AN ENGLISH DUKE

ROYAL HANDKERCHIEF MAKER

A MAKER OF HANKIES

CARDINAL'S GUARDS

VILLAGE FOLK

PARISIANS

SOLDIERS

COURTIERS

# The Three Musketeers

## A Pantomime by Paul Smith

### ACT ONE

#### PROLOGUE

##### ***France - 1625***

***A spotlight picks out a young man alone. This is D'ARTAGNAN, the hero of our story. Lights gradually up.***

D'ART

Let me welcome you all to France in the year 1625. My name is Charles de Balz de Castelmore d'Artagnan. But everyone just calls me d'Artagnan. Except my Mother who insists on calling me Charley, which I hate, but that's mothers for you. This is the village of Volauvent – yes, I know, quite a mouthful.

My dream is to go to Paris and become a soldier. But not just any soldier – the most famous soldiers in France. I want to be a Musketeer!

But we are a poor family, yes, very poor! My mother takes in laundry and my Father is a blacksmith. It's tricky to make ends meet. But one must follow ones dreams. I tell you what Ladies and Gentlemen boys and girls, would you help me achieve my dream? Whenever I am down and feeling sad I will say, 'I will never achieve my dream' and you say 'Have no fear, be a Musketeer'. Shall we give it a try? ***(They do)***

That's great! Well let's see how I get on. The story I am about to tell will reveal all; the excitement, the laughs, the good, the bad and the pretty ugly! Come with me to Market Day in the village of Volauvent.

## SCENE ONE

### ***The Village Square of Volauvent.***

***There are people and stalls but the main feature is the blacksmith which is next door to the laundry -this is D'ARTAGNAN's home.***

### **SONG**

M. PLANKTON                    So, young d'Artagnan, you still planning to be a soldier?

D'ART                                Not just any soldier M. Plankton. I want to be a Musketeer!

MME CROISSANT                A boy from Volauvent? One of the King's Musketeers?

D'ART                                I don't think I will ever achieve my dream

AUDIENCE                         Have no fear, be a Musketeer.

D'ART                                Oh thank you every one.

M. BOUQUET                      Well if you are going to be a Musketeer, you'll need to toughen up.

MILLE COUCHON                 And don't let your Mother hear you say that or she'll eat you alive.

MME CROISSANT                 Your poor Father looks so exhausted all of the time.

M. PLANKTON                      I can't think why!

***Much laughter***

D'ART                                You leave my parents out of this.

MARCEL                             If you do become a Musketeer, I'll put a dress on and dance to the National Anthem!

LUCILLE                            And I'll swap places with my pig and eat my food off the ground.

FRANCOIS                         And I'll eat my hat. Every straw of it.

D'ART                                It's easy to make fun of me. Just you wait and see! I'll make it everyone, won't I?

***AUDIENCE reaction***

D'ART                                Thank you

***BELLE approaches D'ARTAGNAN through the crowd. She is blond and simple***

BELLE                                Oh, d'Artagnan, don't look so glum.  
You'll end up looking like your Mum  
I love you more than words can say.  
I love you now and every day.

D'ART Oh hello Belle **(to AUDIENCE)** This is Belle. She says she loves me. But I'm not that keen. Belle always talks in rhyme, and expects me to do so too. It drives me mad. Do you agree?

**AUDIENCE reaction**

You're right! But I don't like to be rude!

BELLE Come on now, let's shake a leg  
Don't say no, that's really neg.  
We'll skip right down to the babbling brook  
And in your eyes I'll deeply look.

D'ART **(Aside)** Oh, no! **(to BELLE)** Yes, alright Belle.

BELLE No, in rhyme, you know you must.  
Two lines or four, I'm not that fussed.

D'ART Right, ok, here goes.  
I must go and help my Father now  
And then I'll see to my old cow.

BELLE That's no way to speak of your Mum  
I'll shout out loud and she will come.

D'ART No, please don't Belle. Look I'm sorry I'm really busy and don't have time for poetry.

BELLE Oh yes you have, it's me, your Belle.  
I know you're mine. I can just tell.  
The one I've loved for so long.  
I'm your ding and you're my dong.

D'ART There's no answer to that!

ALF **(calling off)** d'Artagnan!

D'ART Coming Father! Goodbye Belle

**BELLE bursts into tears and is comforted by some villagers**  
**D'ARTAGNAN'S Father, ALPHONSE (ALF) appears from his shop.**

ALF Your horse won't get shod by itself.

D'ART Sorry Father.

ALF I don't know what's going on in there. **(he points to the laundry)** It's your Mother making those revolting noises.

DAME **(off)** I can hear you!

LUCILLE Oh no!

MARCEL Oh no!

ALF Oh no!

D'ART Oh no!

***DAME pokes her head out from between some hanging sheets***

DAME Here I am!

***DAME entrance music***

DAME Well, well, well. What a to-do and no mistake.

ALF What have you been doing in there?

DAME I was just boning my corset!

ALF Sorry I asked.

DAME Me too. Nothing should come between a woman and her figure. Mon dieu, the work of a laundress is not a glamorous profession. The state of some people's sheets is enough to make you blench. I sometimes have to resort to using a scraper. But enough.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls. My name is Dame Daphne d'Artagnan and I am this years' Pantomime Dame! Oh thank you so much. Goodness me. Fiddly-de-dee and so on. Is a woman's work ever done? Here I am dealing with all this laundry and my silly old husband spends all day banging, on his anvil. Ah well, quel damage, or as we say, c'est la vie!

Now Charley go and do something useful!

ALF He's going to help me with my shoes.

DAME I don't know, the horses around here are better shod than the humans. ***(looks off into the wings)*** Can I say shod? Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls, life in the early 1600's isn't much fun. I want some excitement, some adventure, something to give me some get up and go! Maybe it's time I got up and went – DON'T ANSWER THAT!

Now, Charley when you have done the horse you can help me.

D'ART But Mother I am trying to do a thousand things.

DAME Welcome to my world.

D'ART But Mum, this isn't the world I want.

DAME It's not the world I want, but we're stuck with it! What can you do?

D'ART You can follow your dreams.

DAME What dreams?

D'ART To be a Musketeer!

DAME But I don't want to be a Musketeer! If I had followed my dreams I would have shackled up with Colin Firth years ago!

D'ART No, I want to be a Musketeer. I don't think I will achieve my dreams.

AUDIENCE Have no fear. Be a Musketeer.

D'ART Thank you.

DAME Alf, did you hear that your little boy wants to be a Musketeer?

ALF I know.

DAME You know and you didn't tell me? Ladies and Gentlemen, what do you call a useless husband? Alphonse or Alf for short! Hopeless - oh and thinks himself a bit of a joker too! You'll see!

ALF Hey boys and girls, what do you call a man with a lavatory on his head? Lou!

DAME Told you so!

D'ART Oh please Mother, let me try!

DAME Don't be silly my little petit fleur Charley!

D'ART Please don't call me Charley. I am d'Artagnan!

ALF A brave name. We shouldn't stifle the boy's enthusiasm!

DAME I'll stifle you in a moment. You don't want to be a nasty soldier do you?

D'ART Oh please Mother! Father!

ALF I'll give you a letter of introduction to the Musketeers.

DAME Oh sacre bleu! Ladies and Gentlemen, boys and girls. Do you think I should let my little boy be a big ugly Musketeer?

**AUDIENCE reaction**

DAME Oh well I suppose I have no choice. Otherwise the Panto ends right here!

D'ART Then I can go to Paris?

DAME If you must!

D'ART Oh thank you Mother, Father. I won't let you down. Hercule, we are going to Paris! Thank you Boys and Girls, you have helped me to start the journey of my dreams. Hurrah!

**BELLE comes forward**

BELLE Oh my dearest love and only rock.  
I'll miss your smile and your.....

D'ART Not now Belle. I am off to Paris!!!

**SONG** – *during this, DAME brings a pack for D'ARAGNAN'S horse, HERCULE, and ALF brings the letter he promised to give to D'ARTAGNAN. By the end of the song he is ready to go and is waved off by everyone.*

## SCENE TWO

### ***Richelieu's Palace***

RICH ***(to audience)*** Yes, you are right. I'm the baddie in this little entertainment. Boo all you like! I am just misunderstood. As all baddies do, we are plotting! My name is Cardinal Richelieu and I despise the King. It is my plan to overthrow him and his Queen and be King of the whole of France! It's now or never! ***(Megalomaniac laugh)*** What am I like? This isn't a pantomime!

VOICE ***(off)*** Oh yes it is.

RICH Oh no it isn't

VOICE Oh yes it is!

RICH It is? Well it won't be very funny by the time I have got my way!

VOICE It's not very funny anyway and we're only on scene two!

RICH Be that as it may. Let me introduce you to my partners in crime.

### ***Enter Milady – all in black and with an eyepatch***

MILADY My name is Milady de Winter. You can tell I am wicked as I am in black and have an eyepatch. I am rich, evil, utterly gorgeous and the mistress of magic and potions.

REND My name is Rendezvous – I like to meet people.

QUEST My name is Qu'est-ce que c'est?

MILADY What is it?

QUEST Exactly

RICH Idiots maybe, but as a team we are invincible!! ***(mad laughing)***

MILADY Give it a rest will you. You'll do yourself a nasty injury!

RICH To business. It appears that the Queen has been a very naughty lady!

REND How do you know?

RICH You can find out lots on Facebook. She has been dallying with the Duck of Buckingham from England ***(they spit)***.

QUEST Dallying?

RICH That's what I said. We think she is betraying secrets to our sworn enemies, the English ***(They all spit)***

MILADY We understand the Duck is coming to meet the King. He and the Queen will rendezvous!

REND Yes?

MILADY What?

REND                    You mentioned me.

RICH                    Did she?

REND                    She said Rendezvous.

MILADY                I forgot!

RICH                    Now we need to formulate a cunning plan.

MILADY                What is it?

QUEST                 Yes?

RICH                    What?

QUEST                 She said my name

MILADY                I did?

QUEST                 Quest-ce que c'est. It means What is it?

MILADY                I don't know, you tell me!

RICH                    Enough of this nonsense! Now Milady will have a big part to play in trapping the Queen and the Duck. You must woo.

QUEST                 Woo who?

REND                    Don't cry it will soon be over.

MILADY                I will seduce the Duck of Buckingham with a potion and get him to ask the Queen for her golden pear earrings which he will give to me.

RICH                    The earrings the King gave the Queen and which she must wear on his Birthday

QUEST                 How will you woo

MILADY                I have a juicy pear.

REND                    You certainly do.

MILADY                Which I will impregnate!

QUEST                 I beg your pardon?

MILADY                With a potion which I will get the Duck to eat, then he will be in my powers!

RICH                    When the King finds out the Duck has got hold of the pears, there will be suspicious minds at Court, it will precipitate war with England and soon I will be King of the WORLD!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

MILADY                Oh belt up!