

# MIMI-4

64

## A COMEDY OF TENORS

Florida Repertory Theater - License 502532

Audition Use Only

*(Note: this is the moment when, hopefully, through the use of a stage manager's hand and a recording of BEPPO's voice in the bedroom, we give the audience the happy shock of a magic trick – that the actor playing BEPPO/TITO was stage right at one moment, and then instantly stage left.)*

**TITO.** Maria, what has happened to you? You are new woman!

**MARIA.** That's what I'm a-telling you. You never listen to me.

**TITO.** But I am angry at you!

**MARIA.** Then *show* me, Tito. Show me your anger and displeasure. Show me now!

*(She pushes him back into the bedroom, slamming the door behind them.)*

*(At which moment, CARLO appears at the front door, wearing his tux. He's in a wonderful mood.)*

**CARLO.** Mimi? ...Mimi?

*(He opens the door to the bedroom down stage right and sees RACÓN and BEPPO on the bed.)*

*Ahh!*

*(Slams the door, shocked.)*

*Sorry. Sorry. My fault. Sorry. Oh my God...*

*(MIMI enters through the front door, angry and in distress.)*

Mimi! There you are. Listen, don't go into that bedroom.

**MIMI.** Why? Is my *mother* in there?!

**CARLO.** No. That's the problem. I wish she *were*.

*(Whap! She slaps him across the face as hard as she can.)*

*Ow! What was that for?!*

*(Whap!)*

*Oww!*

Start

**MIMI.** I thought you were such a nice guy!

**CARLO.** I am a nice guy! What the hell is this about?!

*(She tries to hit him again, but he holds her arm.)*

**MIMI.** I've heard about what's going on and I'm not putting up with it!

**CARLO.** Listen, I've got to warn you, I did some boxing when I was in –

*(Whap!)*

*Oww!!*

**MIMI.** You're not really a man at all! You're a tenor!

**CARLO.** What is the matter with you! You're babbling!

**MIMI.** *How could you do this to me?!*

**CARLO.** *Do what to you?!*

**MIMI.** *She's my mother!*

**CARLO.** Forget your mother, it's your father I'm worried about.

**MIMI.** **AND YOU SHOULD BE, BECAUSE HE'LL KILL YOU FOR THIS!**

**CARLO.** **WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!**

*(BEPPO enters from the bedroom.)*

**BEPPO.** Hey, what's a-with noise? A person cannot –  
...Mimi! How are you, my love? You two are happy?

**RACÓN.** *(at the door) Tito. Come to bed.*

**BEPPO.** You will have to excuse me. As you can see, I have a-the unfinished business.

*(BEPPO exits into the bedroom, closing the door behind him. MIMI is dumbstruck.)*

**MIMI.** Daddy? ...Daddy, what are you doing in there?! Oh my God! What's happening?!

*(MARIA enters from the other bedroom. She is now dressed for the concert.)*

**MARIA.** Mimi?

**MIMI.** Mother!

MARIA. Carlo.

CARLO. Mrs. Merelli.

MIMI. "Mrs. Merelli?" That's not what you've been calling her lately, now is it?

CARLO. What are you talking about?!

MIMI. *I'm talking about the two of you!*

MARIA. The two of us what?

*(RACÓN gives a shout of laughter from the guest bedroom.)*

MARIA. Who is that?

CARLO. Nobody.

MIMI. Nobody!

CARLO. You don't want to know.

MIMI. Mother, don't go in there.

*(MARIA opens the door and sees RACÓN and BEPPO together on the bed. She screams, staggers backwards and faints onto the sofa.)*

MIMI. *Mother!*

CARLO. *Mrs. Merelli!*

MIMI. *Mother, say something!*

*(RACÓN comes running out of the bedroom to help.)*

**Stop**

RACÓN. Ay! Oh the poor woman. Be giving her room, she is fainting.

*(MAX and SAUNDERS appear at the door, see MARIA on the sofa and rush over.)*

MAX. Maria?

SAUNDERS. Oh my God.

MAX. Is she all right?!

SAUNDERS. What happened?

RACÓN. It is Tito's mother. She fainted.

*(At this, MARIA opens her eyes and rears up.)*

MARIA. *Mother?! Who say I'm his mother?!*