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ROBERTO BRACCO

# TEATRO

VOLUME PRIMO

NON FARE AD ALTRI... — LUI LEI LUI —  
UN'AVVENTURA DI VIAGGIO — UNA DONNA —  
LE DISILLUSE — DOPO IL VEGLIONE

2ª EDIZIONE.



REMO SANDRON — Editore  
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# DOPO IL VEGLIONE

o

## VICEVERSA

(Scherzo comico per *café-chantant*, musicato dal Maestro UMBERTO MAZZONE, scritto apposta per NICOLA MALDAGEA e AMELIA FARAONE, eseguito per la prima volta al *Salone Margherita* di *Napoli*, nel 1893).

## PERSONAGGI:

LUI e LEI.

La scena rappresenta un elegante salottino intimo con un paravento.

## SCENA UNICA.

LUI e LEI entrano.

*Lei è vestita da uomo. Lui, «viceversa», è vestito da donna. E tutti e due portano il domino e la maschera.*

*Lui si burla di Lei, e Lei si burla di Lui.*

*Dal cappuccio di Lei scappano i riccioli della parrucca maschile; da quello di Lui scappano i riccioli della parrucca femminile.*

*Sicchè, Lui è convinto che Lei sia un uomo: Lei è convinta che Lui sia una donna.*

*Lei si avvanza conducendo Lui, graziosamente, per mano.*

LEI

*(imitando una voce maschile)*

Siam giunti, mascherina...  
Vi prego, favorite:  
la casa è un po' piccina:  
è casa da *garçon*.  
Non è degna di voi,  
lo so, ma compatite....  
chè, in fin dei conti, poi,  
in due ci si sta ben.

LUI

*(imitando una voce femminile)*

Perchè vi confondete?  
Non sono una regina...  
Tutt'altro! Mi potete  
trattare *sans façon*.  
Io faccio, lo confesso,  
o un po' la ballerina  
o... quel che faccio adesso:  
ecco, nè più nè men.

LEI

*(tra sè)*

Mi par che se la beva:  
mi tratta da merlotto!  
Non sa qual figlia... d'Eva  
le si nasconde in me!

LUI

*(tra sè)*

Ch'io sia davvero donna  
convinto è il giovinotto.  
Non sa sotto la gonna  
che pezzo d'uomo c'è.

LUI e LEI

*(insieme — ognuno per conto suo)*

Oh! Sesso, mio nemico!  
Perchè non sei diverso?  
Dice quel motto antico:  
«ciò che si lascia è perso.»

*(Poi Lei, accennando a Lui, e Lui, accennando a Lei:)*

E che farà  
quando per forza  
comparirà  
da questa scorza  
l'imprevedibile  
che dentro sta?  
Si morderà  
le dieci dita  
e imparerà  
che nella vita  
rompe le scatole  
la realtà.

LEI

Toglietevi la maschera,  
scopritevi il visino.  
Dagli occhi l'indovino:  
dev'essere divino!

LUI

Datemi il buon esempio,  
gentil giovanottino.  
È troppo sibillino  
cotesto mascherino.

LEI

*(con seduzione)*

Almen fate ch'io guardi  
un sol piedino vostro.

LUI

*(con timidità pudica)*

No, no, no, no!... Più tardi....



Più tardi ve lo mostro.

LEI

Avete, tale e quale,  
l'aria d'una novizia!

LUI

Ma pure, in generale,  
è sempre l'uom che inizia!

LEI

E allora, o dolce incognita,  
sta ben: vi servirò.

*(Voltando le spalle e preparandosi a togliersi la maschera — tra sè:)*

Ho quasi quasi scrupolo  
di aver tardato un po'.

LUI

Sbrigatevi! Sbrigatevi!

LEI

Frenate l'ansietà.

LUI

*(fingendo un accento di ansia infrenabile)*

Non posso.... Il cor mi palpita....

LEI

*(buttando via il mascherino e sbottonando il domino, appare vestita da uomo, in frak e cravatta bianca: ma le forme del corpo ed il viso rivelano la perfetta muliebrità.)*

Son donna: eccomi qua!

LUI

*(tra sè)*

Oh che fortuna!

*(a lei)*

Donna?

LEI

Ma sì! Donna! Donnissima!

LUI

*(tra sè, tripudiante)*

Non sa sotto la gonna  
che pezzo d'uomo c'è!

*(a lei)*

Ne siete ben sicura?

LEI

O bella!... Sicurissima!

LUI

*(fra sè:)*

Graziosa è l'avventura!

*(a lei, ostentando incredulità)*

Donna!?...

LEI

Credete a me.

LUI

*(tra sè:)*

In questa trappola  
che lei parò,  
lei stessa capita,  
e uscir non può.  
L'ora propizia  
attender vo'  
ed in questi abiti  
resto perciò.  
Funger da femmina  
non vorrei più,  
ma... è triste l'epoca:  
l'uomo... sta giù.

LEI

*(tra sè:)*

Si agita! Brontola!  
Ci spera ancor?

*(Indicando con un dito il proprio viso)*

Han forse gli uomini  
il mio color?...  
Se dall'equivoco  
non vengo fuor,  
lei non rinunzia  
al sogno d'or.

*(accennando al frak e ai calzoni)*

Queste visibili  
maschie virtù,  
per non più illuderla,  
butterò giù.

*(Corre in gran fretta dietro il paravento.)*

LUI

E dite: m'è concesso  
saper che fate, adesso?

LEI

*(senza mostrarsi)*

Io voglio del mio sesso  
riprendere possesso.

LUI

Sì, presto, presto, presto!

LEI

Mi svesto...

LUI

*(fa un movimento di contentezza.)*

LEI

... e mi rivesto.

LUI

Se vengo, vi molesto?

LEI

*(energicamente)*

Restate lì.

LUI

*(rassegnato)*

Ci resto.

*(Lui, or drizzandosi sulla punta dei piedi, ora guardando tra le connessure del paravento, ora salendo sopra una seggiola, assiste alla toletta di Lei, e si frega le mani, ammira, si entusiasma, s'inebria. Intanto, Lei, svestendosi, getta di qua dal paravento il parrucchino, il frak, il panciotto, la camicia, i calzoni, che Lui raccoglie, osserva, esamina.)*

LEI

*(comparisce in abito molto femminile)*

Sono pronta, amica mia.

LUI

Santi numi, com'è bella!

LEI

E vi par che un uomo io sia?

LUI

Non è faccia d'uomo quella!

LEI

*(pavoneggiandosi, con le mani nei fianchi)*

Osservate il corpicino....

LUI

Oh! lo vedo ch'è un gioiello.

LEI

Osservatemi il piedino....

LUI

Oh! non è piè d'uomo, quello!

LEI

Perdonate, dunque, cara,  
questo scherzo: è carnevale....

LUI

*(dimenticando di dover sembrar donna)*

Vi perdonerò se avara  
non sarete voi con me....

LEI

Che volete? Non comprendo.

LUI

Un bacino.... Non fa male!

LEI

*(stringendosi nelle spalle)*

Ve lo do.

*(per cortesia lo bacia, in fretta, sul mento.)*

LUI

Io ve lo rendo.

*(la bacia sulla guancia.)*

LEI

Non c'è sugo....

LUI

Sì che c'è!

*(e tenta di abbracciarla.)*

LEI

Ma, signora! Che vi piglia?

LUI

*(impappinandosi, cerca di giustificarsi)*

Mi sembrate... una mia zia...

LEI

In che cosa mi somiglia?!

LUI

*(abbracciandola forte)*

Una vera simmetria!

LEI

Basta!... basta!... Non stringete....

LUI

Non la vedo da tanti anni!...

LEI

Ma, in sostanza, voi... chi siete?

LUI

*(confuso)*

Io?... Non sono... nei miei panni!...

*(Corre, alla sua volta, dietro il paravento, portando seco gli abiti d'uomo che Lei indossava.)*

LEI

E dite: m'è concesso  
saper che fate, adesso?

LUI

Io voglio del mio sesso  
riprendere possesso.

LEI

*(meravigliata)*

E che vuol dire questo?!

LUI

Mi svesto... e mi rivesto...

LEI

Se vengo, vi molesto?

LUI

*(con entusiasmo)*

Venite pur....

LEI

*(diffidente)*

No!... Resto.

*(Ricomincia la mimica. Lei, come ha fatto Lui, punta dalla curiosità, cerca di vedere quel che avviene dietro il paravento; ed osserva, inquieta, la roba che Lui, svestendosi, le fa piovare addosso, cioè il domino, il mascherino, la parrucca, le imbottiture con cui aveva improvvisate le forme di donna.)*

*Finalmente, vengono giù la gonna e la sottana. Lei, sempre più curiosa, sale sopra la seggiola, vede... e dà un grido quasi di spavento. Quindi scende precipitosamente, e, indignata, aspetta.)*

LUI

*(comparisce, pavoneggiandosi, vestito degli abiti maschili di Lei, che gli vanno male; e, poichè Lei ha un gesto d'ira e di sdegno, le si ginocchia ai piedi.)*

LEI

Voi, dunque, siete un uomo?!  
Se non uscite subito,  
chiamo la polizia!

LUI

*(umilmente)*

Sì... forse sono un uomo;  
ma vi prego di credere  
... che non è colpa mia.

*(A poco a poco, Lei s'intenerisce e gli apre le braccia.)*

LEI

Sarai mio prigioniero  
insino al far del giorno.  
Del mondo, ch'è ciarliero,  
non me ne importa un corno....  
Nella prigione oscura  
io ti giudicherò,  
ma non aver paura:  
per te clemenza avrò!

LUI

Sarò tuo prigioniero  
insino al far del giorno.  
Del mondo, ch'è ciarliero,  
non me ne importa un corno.  
Io non avrò paura,  
e a te mi affiderò  
in questa mia cattura,  
senza dir mai di no.

LEI e LUI

*(insieme)*

Non so chi sei, che fai,  
ma già ti voglio ben  
e so che m'amerai...  
fino a domani almen.  
Tra poco, o belle o brutte,  
in quella oscurità,  
ci sveleremo tutte  
le generalità.  
Ahimè, soltanto al buio  
non si nasconde niente.  
Può il buio, immantinente,  
scoprir... la verità.

*(Qui, cala la tela, tardi ma in tempo.)*

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