

# The Physicists

By Friedrich Durrenmatt

Play no. 426

Opening show : 22/06/1991

Creative team

**From German:** Avishai Milstein

**Hebrew Version:** Eran Baniel & Zehava Hess

**Directed by:** Hy Kallus

**Sets:** Adrian Vaux

**Costumes:** Edba Sobol

**Lighting:** Natan Panturin

Cast

**Police Inspector Richard Voss:** Yossi Kantz

**Marta Boll, the matro:** Tova Pardo

**Blocher, a police photographer:** Micki Gana

**Guhl, rta a police stenographer:** Daniel Pukshansky

**Policeman:** Cesar Olmar, Michael Shanderovitch

**Police Doctor:** Eli Magoliani

**Herbert Georg Beutler (Newton) a patient:** Shlomo Bar-Shavit

**Fraulein Doctor Mathilde von Zahnd, alienist:** Orna Porat

**Ernst Heinrich Ernesti (Einstein) a patient:** Yehuda Efroni

**Frau Lina Rose:** Levana Finkelstein

**Oskar Rose, her husband, a missionary:** Israel Rubinchik

**Adolf Friedrich, their son:** Eli Arkosh / Ido Lev/ Ron Singer

**Wilfried Kasper son:** Daniel Blumenthal/ Roi Ainav/ Gil Neulender

**Jorg Lukas,their son:** Rotem Florentin/ Dan Kisler/ Yuval Shlein

**Johann Wilhelm, Mobius, a patien:** Alex Peleg

**Monika Stettler, a nurse:** Shlomit Hagoel

**NcArthur, a negro male attendant:** Yoav Barlev

**Murillo, a male attendant:** Eli Havakuk

The setting: a madhouse. The principal characters: three male patients, all nuclear physicists. One, Herbert George Beutler, believes he is Newton; a second, Ernst Ernesti, thinks he is Einstein. Both are fairly recent arrivals at the asylum. The third, Johann Wilhelm Mobius, who has visions in which King Solomon appears to him, has been there for fifteen years. In charge: the efficient, aristocratic, hunchbacked woman – psychiatrist, Fraulein Dr. Mathilde von Zahnd.

During the course of the play, three nurses have been strangled by the "mad" scientist - but are they really mad or have they taken refuge in the mad-house in order to prevent their discoveries being let loose in an irresponsible world?

Like the macabre mystery it is the answers to these questions are answered one by one as the play progresses. And the chief psychiatrist – perhaps she is the maddest of all?