

THE CARNIVAL MASKS

History and origins of the masks

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Origins

The mask has always been an important element in the theatre.

In the theatre, it was used by the actors to show the personality of the characters.

Mask is a symbol of the natural world, animal world and world of the dead.

In the late Middle-Ages, the dressing-up and the masks spread in the towns and in the courts.



"Arlecchino" Bergamo

Arlecchino's mask is the most known. It represents a joker and a strange person. His costume is made up with pieces of colourful material.



"Pulcinella" Napoli

Pulcinella is an ugly and awkward guy, with a white costume and a black mask. The mask of Pulcinella is one of the most important in Italy.



“Balanzone” Bologna

He is a doctor who is very talkative and he speaks Latin, French, Spanish, Polish and so on.

