

#### Audition 4 Hysterium, Pseudolus

**HYSTERIUM:** Pseudolus! (*Pseudolus reacts, polishes pillar of house*) Pseudolus!

**PSEUDOLUS:** Yes, Hysterium?

**HYSTERIUM:** Pseudolus!

**PSEUDOLUS:** Pronounced perfectly! You know, a lot of people say Pah -seudolus, and I hate it.

**HYSTERIUM:** How dare you! Arranging an assignation between an innocent boy and a you- know-what!

**PSEUDOLUS** (*Stopping him*): Hysterium, there is something you should know about that you-know- what.

**HYSTERIUM:** What?

**PSEUDOLUS:** That girl, about whom you think the worst, is my daughter.

**HYSTERIUM:** Your what?

**PSEUDOLUS:** My daughter. You've heard me speak of her.

**HYSTERIUM:** Never!

**PSEUDOLUS:** Well, I don't like to talk about her.

**HYSTERIUM:** That girl is not your daughter.

**PSEUDOLUS:** My sister?

**HYSTERIUM:** I shall go tell his parents.

**PSEUDOLUS:** Wait! Hysterium, the truth. She has been sold to a captain who comes any moment now to claim her.

**HYSTERIUM:** Oh. I go tell his parents!

**PSEUDOLUS:** I go with you!

**HYSTERIUM:** You don't want to be there when I tell them about you!

**PSEUDOLUS:** No, I want you to be there when I tell them about you!

**HYSTERIUM:** Tell them what about me? I have nothing to fear. I am a pillar of virtue. I go. (*Starts to leave, Pseudolus stops him*)

**PSEUDOLUS:** I think it might be of interest to the family that their slave-in-chief, their pillar of virtue, has secreted within the confines of his cubicle Rome's most extensive and diversified collection of erotic pottery. (*Hysterium freezes in horror*)

**HYSTERIUM:** Pseudolus! (*Calls out*) Hero!

**PSEUDOLUS:** Tell me, where did you ever get that fruit bowl with the frieze of ... ? (*Indicates an erotic pose or two*)

**HYSTERIUM:** Pseudolus!