



German on Stage presents

TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY  
*The rising STAR of Texas*



*Marghan Mera 2014*

Bertolt Brecht's  
**DER GUTE MENSCH  
VON SEZUAN**  
*(THE GOOD PERSON OF SZECHWAN)*  
APRIL 23 • 7:00 PM • CENTENNIAL GOZ  
Directed by Dr. Valentina Glajar and Leigh Ann Clemons | Sponsored by the Department of Modern Languages

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win her back, gives Shen Te a check that will cover all her expenses. Shen Te leaves. Later, Shui Ta appears, pays Mi Tzu the half-year's rent, and informs the townspeople that he is using the rest of Shu Fu's money to set up a tobacco factory in town where they can all find work.

### Scene 8

Sun's mother informs everyone about the progress Sun has made as an employee of of Shui Ta's increasingly-sweatshop-like tobacco factory.

### Scene 9

Several months have passed in which nobody has seen Shen Te. A fat Shui Ta is fighting with the police to keep the factory open. The old couple has lost their shop because, although Shen Te repaid them, she did so too late. Sun is a disgruntled employee, and Wang demands that Shui Ta tell him where Shen Te is. When Sun learns from Wang that Shen Te was pregnant before she disappeared, he goes to the police and charges Shui Ta with foul play. A search of the tobacco shop reveals Shen Te's belongings, but no Shen Te, and Shui Ta claims not to know where she is. Shui Ta is taken into custody.

### Scene 10

At the inquiry surrounding Shen Te's disappearance, the gods disguise themselves as judges in order to conduct their investigation. Shui Ta defends his actions against the complaints of the townspeople, including Lin To, Wang, the old couple, and Sun, as those of a good businessman, but is hounded by the townspeople for not being a good person like Shen Te is. Goaded into confessing that he would rip Shen Te apart if he could, Shui Ta agrees to confess to the gods alone. The courtroom is cleared, and Shui Ta reveals a startling secret.

### Cast of Characters

Hailee Anderson.....	<b>The Wife and The Young Prostitute</b>
Leigh Ann Clemons.....	<b>Mrs. Yang</b>
Christopher Crider.....	<b>The Brother</b>
Albert Fabian.....	<b>The First God and The Waiter</b>
Jose Manuel Gonzalez Izquierdo.....	<b>The Third God and The Grandfather</b>
Natalie Green .....	<b>Mrs. Mi Tzü, The Landlady</b>
Madelon Hillegeist .....	<b>The Second God and The Bonze</b>
Meghan Jones .....	<b>Mrs. Shin</b>
Elizabeth Light.....	<b>The Unemployed Woman</b>
Kai Maness .....	<b>Wang, The Waterseller</b>
Colton Matocha.....	<b>The Nephew</b>
David Mebane .....	<b>The Man</b>
Ana Mendoza .....	<b>The Old Woman</b>
Eleni Moncrieft.....	<b>The Sister-in-Law and The Old Prostitute</b>
Emma Olsson.....	<b>Shen Te</b>
Lance Osborn .....	<b>Shu Fu, The Barber</b>
Blake Petrea .....	<b>Lin To, The Carpenter</b>
Erik Poulsen.....	<b>Sun Yang, The Unemployed Pilot</b>
Christopher Rogers .....	<b>The Old Man</b>
Joseph Sadler .....	<b>The Police Officer</b>
Taylor Witkowski.....	<b>Shui Ta</b>
Candais Wright.....	<b>The Niece and The Young Prostitute</b>

## Synopsis of the Play

In the city of Sezuan, Wang the waterseller awaits the arrival of three gods on a quest to find one truly good person in the world. When they arrive, he attempts to secure them lodgings, but is turned away by all but Shen Te, a good-hearted prostitute. The gods reward Shen Te for her generosity.

### Scene 1

Three days later, Shen Te has used her reward from the gods to purchase a tobacco shop lease. She finds it hard to make money, mainly because her good nature causes her to do things that undermine good business sense. The carpenter, Lin To, demands to be paid for the shelving in the shop, and the landlady, Mi Tzu, is pressing her for the rent. Complicating matters is the family of eight who has moved into her shop for shelter and Mrs. Shin, the shop's former tenant, who expects Shen Te to feed her family. When matters come to a head, Shen Te mentions that she has a "cousin" who could help her, but nobody believes her claim.

### Scene 2

The family of eight awakens the next morning to the sight of a man claiming to be Shui Ta, Shen Te's mysterious cousin. Shui Ta promptly throws out the family, intimidates Lin To into accepting less money for the shelving than asked, and tries to negotiate with Mi Tzu, who wants a half-year's rent in advance. When he is unsuccessful, a local police officer suggest that Shui Ta find Shen Te a husband to make her respectable.

### Scene 3

Shen Te goes to the park, where she meets the pilot Yang Sun, who is about to commit suicide because he cannot find a job. She is attracted to him, and he is interested in the fact that she has money. Wang arrives, selling water in the rain, and Shen Te tells him how happy she is.

### Scene 4

Mrs Shin and the Sister-in-law and niece from the family of eight wait with an unemployed woman for Shen Te to bring the daily rice, gossiping about the fact she did not come home the previous night. Wang is injured trying to pull his water swindle on the local barber, Shu Fu, who sees Shen Te and falls immediately in love with her. When Shen Te goes to a nearby shop to buy a shawl, the old couple who run the stall loan her the money for the half-year's rent. However, Shen Te immediately gives it away when Mrs. Yang, Sun's mother, arrives and informs Shen Te that Sun has been offered a job in Peking if he can come up with the money to purchase it. To get the rest of the money, Shen Te decides to sell her shop.

### Scene 5

Shui Ta returns. Sun comes to the shop looking for Shen Te and the rest of the money. Shui Ta informs Mi Tzu that he is selling the shop, but Sun prevents him from securing enough money from the sale to pay back the old couple. Despondent, Shui Ta turns to Mrs. Shin, who suggests that Shui Ta trade Shen Te's hand in marriage to Shu Fu for the needed money. Shu Fu agrees to the trade, but Sun arrives just as Shen Te returns and convinces her to abandon Shu Fu and marry him.

### Scene 6

At Shen Te and Sun's wedding, Sun informs his mother that Shen Te will not sell the shop, but he assures her that Shui Ta will be bringing the rest of the money to the wedding. However, the ceremony falls apart when Shen Te reveals that Shui Ta is not coming to the wedding, and Sun dumps Shen Te.

### Scene 7

Shen Te and Mrs. Shin are doing laundry. Mrs. Shin finds Shui Ta's pants in the laundry basket, even though he is out of town, and her suspicions are aroused. She also informs Shen Te, who feels ill, that the cause of her illness is that she is pregnant with Sun's child. Shu Fu visits and, hoping to