

THE FOUR CASES

Produced by Modern Times Stage Company at the Tarragon Extra Space, July 10-21. Text: Bahram Beyza'i. Adaptation: Soheil Parsa & Peter Farbridge. Direction: Soheil Parsa. Music: Baha Sadr. Technical advisor: Michael O'Hara. Choreography: Soheil Parsa & Viv Moore. Set: Milt Jewell, Ian Rye. Costumes: Soheil Parsa, Denise Mireau. Lighting: David Feheley. Stage management: Nick Greenland.

Adapted from a Persian fable, this political commentary made successful use of a fluid, very physical staging. A warm, earthtone set of drop curtains painted with Persian textile motives, minimalist costumes meant to represent four basic characters named after colours ("the Red", "the Green") and an onstage drummer/whistler/sound-effects maker combined with energetic performances into a coherent, funny narrative. But the tale of the four humans who create a monstrous scarecrow to defend themselves from the enemy, only to lose their liberty to their own creation, needed an intermission and some tightening up in the more long-winded second half.



Gordon Mackenzie, Peter Farbridge, J. Brian Macdonald and Viv Moore in Modern Times Stage Company's *THE FOUR CASES*