## **ARTS SPOTLIGHT**

## **ADVERTISING FEATURE**

## Comedie française at its best

**Melbourne French** Theatre presents *Is Three Really a Crowd* (Le Plus Heureux des Trois) by Eugène Labiche.

After the loss of his first wife, Marjavel has found love again in the heart of his new wife Hermance.

Marjavel, however, is unaware of the complicated love-triangle in which he is embroiled. His friend Ernest, who is staying with him, is having an affair with Hermance. What's more, unbeknown to Ernest, his uncle happened to be the lover of Marjavel's

first wife. Into this delightful mix, enter two Alsatians, a man and wife, to join the household staff. No sooner have they arrived, then we discover the Alsatian's wife also has a past with one of the men in the household... but who?

Husbands, mistresses, masters and valets feed and squabble about the art of seduction and manipulation, among misunderstandings, blackmail, guilty consciences and imbroglio.

Labiche's play combines a mix of explosive absurdities and pitiful consequences.

Alec Gilbert is the director.

Shows: 8pm on May 5 to May 9. Matinees, 2.30pm on May 5, 8 and 9.

**Venue:** Open Stage Theatre, University of Melbourne, Carlton.

Tickets: \$32, \$28, \$24 and \$13. Bookings/details: www.mftinc.org or phone 9349 2250.



