

# **LE JOUEUR DE FLUTE [The Pied Piper]: DIRECTOR'S SCRIPT**

Staging Instructions and all Narrator spoken lines are given in English; the dialogue in French. In this, the Director's and Stage Manager's Script, French dialogue sentences are also translated into English for reference. In the Actor Script version the dialogue other than the Narrator parts is given only in French.

## **ACT ONE: IN THE VILLAGE MAIN STREET**

**Stage props as available represent a village street (e.g. a signpost to butchers/bakers, post box, backdrop, etc) Lighting, if available, indicates a sunny day. The stage is bare of actors.**

### **TRACK 1: CHANTEZ FORT**

**The Introduction to CHANTEZ FORT begins, and the Children of the Village enter, playing, and take up positions around the stage to sing the song. As they sing, the Mayor and a few Villagers enter, deep in conversation.**

#### **CHANTEZ FORT**

##### **CHORUS**

Hamelin rit sans limite  
Chantez fort, dansez vite.  
Hamelin, il est très bon,  
Apprenez vous cette chanson.

##### **VERSE ONE:**

Chantez et vous allez bien  
Tout le temps, main à main  
Tout le monde a les sourires  
Jour par jour, sans finir.

##### **VERSE TWO:**

Si vous tra-vers-ez la place  
Tous les gens, face-à-face  
Dites : "Bonjour – rien est grave,  
Comment allez-vous mon brave ?"

##### **VERSE THREE - REPEAT VERSE ONE**

**NARRATOR 1:** Hamelin was a happy place. It was summer, and the boys and girls of the village were playing in the street. But not quite all of them...

BEN: Où est Peter? [Where's Peter?] **(The others shake their heads)**

NARRATOR 1: No-one knew, until Ruth spoke up. She had seen him go to fly his kite on the edge of town. He was with John.

RUTH: **(Pointing stage left)** Il vole son cerf-volant. [He's flying his kite].

NARRATOR 1: The Children continued to play in the bright morning sun. But suddenly, Peter and John came rushing down the high street.

**Enter Peter and John from stage left. Peter carries a kite.**

NARRATOR 1: Peter had some bad news - a horde of rats were coming down the lane towards Hamelin!

PETER: Les rats! Milles de rats ! [Rats! Hundreds of rats!]

NARRATOR 1: A plague of rats. No-one had ever heard of such a thing. The mayor decided that he was in charge. **(Mayor steps forward)** Not to worry, he told them, they just had to hide the food.

MAYOR: Vous n'inquiétez pas les enfants. On cachera toute la nourriture. [Don't worry, Villagers. We'll hide all the food away.]

NARRATOR 1: Then the rats would go straight through the town and away. The Villagers were not too sure.

VILLAGER 1: Les rats ne sentent pas la nourriture ? [Won't the Rats smell the food?]

MAYOR: Non, dépêchez-vous! [No, no. Come along now.]

NARRATOR 1: They decided to give it a try. Quickly the Children of the Village went indoors to help their parents hide the food.

**Introduction of LES RATS! begins very quietly as exit all stage right.**

## **TRACK 2: LES RATS!**

NARRATOR 1: (Over Intro) But very soon the unwelcome visitors arrived in town....

**Enter a stealthy Rat stage left, walking in time with the music He noses around, then beckons the rest onstage as they all sing. They enter, all with Rat masks and whiskers.**

**One, King Rat, is wearing a crown. The Rats creep around and sing, dancing together during the Instrumental sections.**