



Genèse du comique

Du *pathos* à « l'*archiethos* »

Publication type: Article from a collective work

Collective work: [Nouveaux regards sur la trilogie de Beaumarchais](#)

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Abstract: Beaumarchais transformed comedy by letting it play out on a dramatic background. Symmetrically, *La Mère coupable* was born from a comedic plot. However, the interaction between drama and comedy is not hugely fertile in *La Mère coupable*. The striking comic success can be explained in terms of the revolution constituted by the invention of the *l'archiethos spirituel*. This article proposes this term in order to make sense of the faculty given to all comic characters to be, at least momentarily, spiritual.

Pages: 131 to 148

Collection: [Encounters](#), n° 146

Series: The eighteenth century, n° 16

CLIL theme: 4027 -- SCIENCES HUMAINES ET SOCIALES, LETTRES -- Lettres et Sciences du langage -- Lettres -- Etudes littéraires générales et thématiques

EAN: 9782812451188

ISBN: 978-2-8124-5118-8

ISSN: 2261-1851

DOI: 10.15122/isbn.978-2-8124-5118-8.p.0131

Publisher: Classiques Garnier

Online publication: 12-27-2015

Language: French

[Display online](#)