

The Arts in Every Classroom: A Workshop for Elementary School Teachers
Handout

Jean Cocteau's Scenario for *Parade*

The *Parade*

The set represents a street in front of several houses in Paris on a Sunday.

A traveling theatre troupe, the Théâtre Forain, is present on the street performing three music hall acts — the Chinese Magician, Acrobats, and the Little American Dancing Girl. Together, the acts are called a *Parade*.

Three managers of the troupe organize the publicity. They communicate in their extraordinary language that the crowd should join the *Parade* to see the show inside, and they grossly try to make the crowd understand this. No one enters.

After the last act of the *Parade*, the exhausted managers collapse on each other. Seeing the supreme effort and the failure of the managers, the Chinese Magician, the Acrobats, and the Little American Girl try to explain to the crowd that the show takes place inside.