

Supplement 107 - June, 1908

# Damon and Pythias

A Historical Drama of Sicily's Loyal Senators.  
The most magnificent spectacular scenes ever staged.

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## The Selig Polyscope Co. Inc.

45-47-49 E. Randolph Street

CHICAGO, U.S.A.

## "DAMON and PYTHIAS" - A Historical Drama

The Feature Film, "DAMON and PYTHIAS" is pre-eminently the most popular and instructive picture of years; in fact it will be a great card, and you can look for packed houses. It will bring to your theatre, a class of people who have not visited you before. Understand, this is something so different, something that is instructive as well as beautiful. It appeals to people of every social life as well as the Knights of Pythias and all allied societies. The story is taken from the Historical legend of Damon and Pythias, who lived in Syracuse in Sicily before the Christian era. The film tells the entire story in all of its details, and shows the most magnificent spectacular scenes that was ever staged for Motion Pictures.

**Act. 1**—The story opens with Dionysius the Tyrant of Syracuse and one of the retainers, Procles, awaiting the tidings of the senate. Dionysius wants a president of senate elected who will be friendly to his corrupt rule. Philistius has the citadel where all the Sicily's gold and treasures are stored. Damon an upright senator of Syracuse hears of this and immediately has angry words with Procles and the soldiers. This is one of the grandest scenes in the play, shows Damon and his friend Pythias in a brawl with the retainers and slaves of Dionysius. Pythias comes to his friend's rescue and drives off the tyrants retainers. Lucullus, formerly a slave whom Damon had given his liberty, arrives on the scene. Damon orders his old slave to take Hermion, his wife and his child to his mountain villa, as he fears the vengeance of the tyrant. Hermion appears on the scene and reluctantly agrees after Damon assures her he has nothing to fear. Hermion beseeches Damon to accompany her to the mountains as she fears for his safety, but he cannot leave as the affairs of the state, and troublesome times demand that he stay in Syracuse.

This makes a very beautiful and instructive set of pictures. They are appreciated by the children for their richness and beauty, and by the elders because of their faithful delineation of one of the grandest friendships in all history.

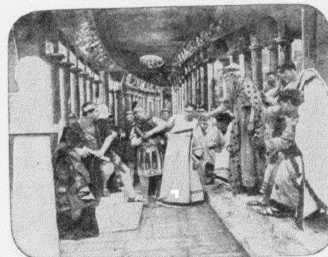


**Scene 1**

Shows the hireling soldiers of the tyrant Dionysius trying to stop Damon from entering the senate; the tyrant knows that Damon's rugged honesty will stand in the way of his plans to plunder the treasury of Syracuse.

**Scene 2.**

Dionysius denouncing Damon as a traitor for daring to oppose his plan of misrule and plunder. The tyrant sentences Damon to be beheaded in six hours. This does not frighten the honest senator, so the monster Dionysius threatens to behead his wife and child.



**Scene 3.**

The cowardly senators leaving in fear and trembling after Damon's outburst of wrath at Dionysius' perfidity to Syracuse and her people.

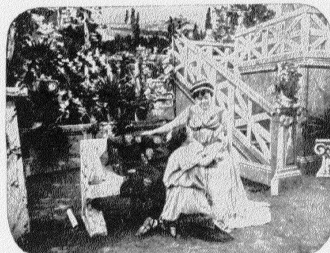
**Scene 4.**

We find Calanthe, the affianced bride of Pythias, begging him to escape from prison where he is incarcerated as security for the safe return of his friend Damon, whom Dionysius has allowed six hours in which to bid his family farewell. Pythias refuses to escape as he knows Damon will return to meet his fate.





**NOTE**—The massive scenery and historically correct costumes of these pictures.



**Scene 5.**

The beautiful wife of Damon and their son awaiting the return of husband and father all unsuspecting of the sad message of sorrow he will soon bring.

**Scene 6.**

At the scaffold, Pythias awaiting the coming of the executioner. Damon has not returned, Pythias must die in his stead. Is Damon false to his friend? Over the hill comes horse and rider all jaded from a long, hard ride. 'Tis Damon returned to meet his fate. Even the strong heart of the tyrant Dionysius is touched by such fidelity and friendship, and he bids them both to go in peace and live their lives.



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