

# WELCOME TO THEATRE DESIGN!



**5:00**

**Sit in your assigned seat and immediately begin the  
DO NOW in Schoology.**

**DATE: Wed, 08/28/24**

# LET'S SHARE DO NOW RESPONSES...

In your own words, what do you think is the definition of the term technical theatre?

# VOCABULARY

- ★ **Technical theatre:** The elements of a live performance that support setting, time period, mood, and/or theme.

VIDEO #1...

## David Korins

Broadway, Opera, &  
Concert Set Designer

On your paper, take note  
of at least **2** things he  
says in regards to how  
they relate to theatre  
design and construction



# LET'S SHARE...

What things does David Korins says that relate to theatre design and construction?

Consider again... technical theatre aims to support four components in storytelling:

- ★ **Setting (location)**
- ★ **Time period**
- ★ **Mood**
- ★ **Theme**

Let's take a look at how a Broadway set accomplishes this...

VIDEO #2...

# She Loves Me

2016 Revival

*Open CLASSWORK  
assignment in  
Schoology and complete  
as you watch.*



# LET'S DISCUSS...

What is the **setting (location)** of *She Loves Me*?

★ Budapest

What is the **time period** of *She Loves Me*?

★ 1930s

What is the **mood** of *She Loves Me*?

★ Lighthearted, happy, bright, bubbly

What is the **theme** of *She Loves Me*?

★ Romance, dreams come true



# SUBMIT YOUR CLASSWORK ASSIGNMENT...

- ★ **NOTE:** I don't assign homework every day, but there will occasionally be times where you will have a homework assignment to complete on your own.



# WELCOME TO THEATRE DESIGN!



**5:00**

**Sit in your assigned seat and begin the DO NOW in  
Schoology.**

**DATE: Thurs, 08/29/24**

# LET'S SHARE DO NOW RESPONSES...

In your own words, what do you think it means for a play to have a **design concept?**

# VOCABULARY

- ★ **Design Concept:** The specifics of what you want the audience to see/hear/feel. It is the lens through which you design and present a production.
- ★ **The 12 Elements of Technical Theatre**

Sets	Lights	Hair	Masks
Set Dressings	Sound	Wigs	Special Effects
Props	Costumes	Makeup	Stage Management

# DESIGN CONCEPTS...

**Representational:** Meant to look and be experienced as real



# DESIGN CONCEPTS...

## **Presentational:**

Purposefully not 100% realistic, may nod to a time period without being perfectly accurate, more about mood and theme.



# DESIGN CONCEPTS...

## **Minimalist:**

Purposefully little/no design that supports the setting, time period, and mood.



# DESIGN CONCEPTS...

## **Found Concept:**

Use of small elements/props that may be integrated into the scenery, usually small cast when should be large





# DESIGN CONCEPTS...

## **Actor/Musician:**

Actors double  
as the  
orchestra and  
play their own  
instruments





# DESIGN CONCEPTS...

**In the style  
of...:**

Emulating the  
aesthetic of a  
specific genre  
or famous  
pre-established  
design concept



# DESIGN CONCEPTS...

## **Skeletal:**

Purposefully sparse design concepts with pockets of emptiness, especially in the set



# DESIGN CONCEPTS...

## **High Concept:**

Very unapologetic use of a concept that is contrary to the setting, time period, or mood of the text



# DESIGN CONCEPTS...

## Forward

**Concept:** Use of a concept that supports the setting, time period, or mood of the text to the extreme





# DESIGN CONCEPTS...

## **Immersive:**

Design makes audience feel like they are in the play/play happens around the audience, detail crucial



# HOMework...

- ★ Complete the homework in Schoology
- ★ You will have **7 pictures**. For each picture, identify **one design concept** in use, and explain how you can tell that is the concept in use with **at least one complete sentence**.
- ★ Paper copies available for those who still do not have their laptops.

# WELCOME TO THEATRE DESIGN!



**5:00**

**Sit in your assigned seat and begin the DO NOW in  
Schoology.**

**DATE: Fri, 08/30/24**

# LET'S SHARE DO NOW RESPONSES...

Which design concept would you be most interested to see and what?



# TODAY...

Open up the CLASSWORK assignment in Schoology (You will need to submit it at the end of class, but we will work on it together).

I will show you a picture of a production of *Sweeney Todd*. As a class, you must decide what concept(s) are being used.

If as a class you get 15/20 correct, you will be rewarded!

SWEENEY TODD...

## **Sweeney Todd**

Setting: London

Time Period: 1846

Mood: Bleak, dark, hollow, tragic, macabre

Themes: Vengeance, murder, madness, deceit

#1



**Presentational**  
**Minimalist**  
**Found Concept**  
**Actor/Musician**  
**High Concept**

#1

Using a cast of 10, this production is stylized as a framework piece of Tobias' memory of what has happened after he has been arrested for murder. The characters in the show emerge from the psychiatric ward Tobias is now living in as he recounts the tale of Sweeney Todd.

#2



**Presentational**  
**Minimalist**  
**High Concept**

#2

Marketed as a concert performance, this production will surprise audiences. Dressed in black-tie attire, the actors will destroy their nice clothes and the set in the opening number to create a hostile, unsettling environment of Sweeney Todd in the modern world.

#3



Representational

#3

Set in 1846, London, this production will create realistic settings and present the action as initially intended by the author. To support the use of multiple locations, the design will incorporate brief representational moments for the sake of practicality.



#4



**Representational  
In the Style of  
Forward Concept**

#4

Using his trademark aesthetic, Tim Burton will create a true historic London that is further dampened by the darkness of Sweeney Todd's history with colorless costumes and sunken appearances.

#5



**Representational  
and presentational  
Found Concept  
Immersive**

#5

Utilizing a fully functioning pie shop, audiences will enjoy meat pies while the action occurs around them in a true atmosphere. Presentational elements and found objects will be used to account for multiple locations within the text.

#6



**Presentational  
Skeletal**

#6

To highlight the emptiness Sweeney Todd feels, the scenery will be a mere skeleton of itself, with costumes that are purposefully incomplete in historic context.



#7



**Presentational  
High Concept  
Skeletal**

#7

**In an effort to breathe new energy into the text, this production will update the time period with heavy use of integrated electrics and a bare-bones functional set.**



SUBMIT THE CLASSWORK!

There is no homework assignment tonight.