

天主教輔仁大學英國語文學系學士班畢業成果
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指導教授：包磊思

John Basourakos

真善美聖

Reflection on Participating in the 2016 Annual Play: *If We Were Birds*

SANCTITAS BONITAS

PULCHRITUDO

VERITAS

學生：張家綾撰

Eilleen Chia-Ling Chang

Eilleen Chang 402110130

2016 Annual Play

Costume & Makeup

Professor John Basourakos

Summary Report and Reflection

In 2016 Annual Play, I served as the leader of Costume and Makeup unit. For the official presentation of the play, my group members and I worked for few months just to make sure everything could go smoothly. Our working process can be divided into five stages: Before Rehearsals, During Rehearsals, After the Rehearsals, During the Performances and After the Performances.

Before Rehearsals was a very busy stage with pretty tight schedule. We had to make sure that everything was put into consideration. The first things to do were to divide jobs for each group member and check the budget we can use with the accounting crews. Then we need to start collecting and compiling information (pictures, costume store's information etc.) about costumes, make-up and hairstyle submitted by group members to finish our tentative portfolio. I hosted the meeting with group members held every Wednesday nights. To stay in touch with our supervisor, I also needed to hand in weekly report to the assistant stage manager every Wednesday and represented our group to meet and discuss with the professor and the director. Each week, we had to calculate the possible expenditure in costume renting, laundry, make-up supplies and hairstyling supplies so that we didn't go over budget. After all the details were almost confirmed, we had to make checklists for costumes, make-up supplies and hairstyling supplies. Also, we were asked to make cue sheet for costume and makeup according to the play script and give our final presentation during the class. I'm too in charge of teaching my group members how to make casting members up and how to style their hair, and I arranged make-up and hairstyle

fitting sessions for our group members and the casting members as well. After all the orientation and fitting sessions were done, I began to schedule for dress rehearsal.

We had two dress rehearsals before the official performances. During the first dress rehearsal, we moved all the needed supplies to the dressing room in CFL Theater and waited for the cast members to come. After finishing all the makeup, dressing up and hairstyling, we continued on the overall costume and make-up checks. Before the dress rehearsal began, I had to make sure that the make-up area clean all the time and had to also check each cast member before entrance as well as take notes when the casting members are rehearsing. The second rehearsal was even close to the official performance days. I had to work on more careful supervising and checking. For example, I needed to check the casting member's look from where the audience will sit and further discuss the pronunciation of make-up and hairstyle onstage with professor and student director. After both the two rehearsals, we had to do a lot of things, including helping the casting members remove their make-up, moving all the supplies back to our group members' dormitory and department association office, writing peer evaluation and reflection report. Then, we finalized the make-up and hairstyle for official performances.

During the performances, we tried to do everything as how we had done for dress rehearsals. We made the casting members up, helped the casting members with their costumes and styled the casting member's hair. To make sure that the makeup room didn't go messy, we had to always keep the make-up area clean all the time. Before their entrance, we made them up if anything is wrong with their make-up or hairstyle. After the Performances, we, again, helped the casting members remove their make-up moved all the supplies back to our group members' dormitory and department association office, cleaned all the supplies and categorize them, clean the dressing room and returned things borrowed from our classmates or some other

people. And we needed to check the final expenditure with accounting people again and made our final portfolios.

Throughout the entire play, the most impressive part for me is the one when all the slave women turn into birds. They have been suffering both mentally and physically, but they still fly like birds in the end. The birds may just be like those random people we can see on the streets. They all look so ordinary, but having their own stories which we don't know. We don't know them, but they may have experienced something good or bad, something we didn't know and will never know. They still try their best to live their life. They may have suffered, but they still fly. They carry on the good and the bad in their life, and keep moving on. There's so much to say about this play, and it's way too heavy and too sad to talk about these tragedies happen both in the past and in current society. But we have to face it and admit it so that we can try our best to keep more innocent people from suffering. This is a controversial play, but it's undoubtedly meaningful. As one of the crews, I feel like I have the obligation and responsibility to make it a good play and present the play with full compassion and love.

This was not my first time working in costume and makeup unit, and mostly, I could handle the situations and even emergencies with my past experience. However, the opportunity of working with different people was very important for me. Though I'm very familiar with all these scheduling, planning and practicing, with different opinions provided by different members, I was allowed to think from many perspectives and they all became my inspiration. I'm very thankful for being able to take part in this play. Thanks to the play turning out to be so successful that I found it an honor to tell people that I'm part of the play. There were tiring moment and there were obstacles. Sometimes I even had opinions which were different from the directors or stage managers, but still, I glad that we made it through and finish the

play with such great success. It was the sixteenth play I worked as well as my last play in Fu Jen University before graduation, and it's very meaningful for me. I'm happy to work with all my amazing group members who had always been very responsible and considerate.

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