天主教輔仁大學英國語文學系學士班畢業成果 ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, FU JEN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY GRADUATION PROJECT 2018

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Reflection on Participating in the 2017 Senior Play:

All in the Timing

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Shanna Tseng 403110565 2017 Senior Play *All in the Timing*Reflection-Stage Lighting

To be frank, I was extremely nervous when the director asked me to be the leader of the lighting team. Due to my attentive and thoughtful characteristic, I usually meditate too much before actually keeping the ball rolling. Hence, it took me such a while to convince myself that I should have faith in myself and make the lighting team shine.

It is my second time being in lighting team. I still remember the first time when I joined the senior play in 2016, the experience of controlling the light did make a lasting impression on me, and that's the main reason why I chose to be in lighting team again this time. I genuinely enjoy the moment when lights swap through the stage; I like the timing when the audience was impressed by the lighting effects. Primarily, I fall in love with the moments when all the team members, director, and teaching assistant discussed together how the light should go with each scene. That's the most magical and charming part of theater, so-called "teamwork," I wholeheartedly hope that those who chose to be in lighting team can have the same feelings as me last year.

We started discussing and had meetings about the senior play at noon since September. Having meetings was an essential but troublesome step to some degree since every person has his or her own business and different plans; thus, coordinating every member's schedule and figured out ONE everyone's collaborative timetable

during senior play period was the first task we faced. I had to admit that I was somehow worried about our team's progress due to our diverse schedule. However, it turned out that I just thought too much, things went more and more smoothly, and I was thrilled to see that everyone learned the ropes better when time goes by.

Before getting a more in-depth discussion about lighting techniques in every scene, it is a must for every member participated in the play knows the content well and I enjoyed the process of reading the script a lot. Our play was All in the Timing, paying tons of gratitude to Rita for choosing this good one. For me as a team leader of lighting team, it is crucial to have lots of feelings when reading the script to have different thoughts toward the lighting design in each scene, and I am glad that All in the Timing gave me such emotions, imaginations, and inspirations about the stage lighting. Although things were abstract when I just read the lines, those feelings in mind were vital elements to build up the entire final lighting design project.

Another essential step in addition to having meetings and being familiar with the script was to take part in the rehearsal. Each team has to manage two to three members to different rehearsal day, sitting aside and observe how's everything really going on stage. I think it is the most critical part besides having rehearsal in the theater since it gives every technical team more vivid images of the play. Whenever we were at the rehearsal, our teacher Chun-Chan Wei always gave lots

of advice and even demonstrated how to act at some moments. The one impressed me a lot was when he performed as a chimpanzee in play two Words, Words, Words. He taught the actors that they should not act like chimpanzees; instead, they should believe that they ARE chimpanzees. Whenever I see Chun-Chan Wei talks about acting, I feel affecting. Although I am poor at acting and do not have lots of interest in performing on stage, I am still touched by the magical power pervaded in the theater, everything seems to be possible there; moreover, it is really touching to see how actors and actresses make progress through every rehearsal.

As I mentioned before, teamwork is one of the best parts during Senior Play. With the rehearsals and technical cooperation, from eight o'clock in the morning to ten at night, we get familiar with each other and know the play more. I am a person who always overthinks; yet, thanks to my team members for trying their best to put every effort in lighting team with me, without them, lighting would not be that memorable and fruitful to me. Additionally, I really appreciate the aid and support from stage manager Ronnie and stage manager assistant Monica for giving me spiritual support. They helped me a lot when I didn't know how to manage the schedule and work in lighting team, genuinely appreciate the opportunity for being one of the members in 2017 Senior Play, it is so great to know my classmates more during our final period of college life. Since junior year, we don't have

compulsory courses together as sophomore or freshman year; it is hard to see lovely classmates and friends as frequent as before. However, due to the Senior Play preparation, we had an opportunity to spend time together out of classrooms, the days in the theater will always be the great ones.

"You have to hit these things at the right moment or it's no good." It is my favorite line from our script All in the Timing; it gives me lots of power that I know it will be well preserved in my lifetime and become lifelong nutrition. This line not only well summarizes our Senior Play, but it also helps to explain and describe many encounters and events in every human being's real life. If I didn't enter Fu Jen Catholic University and didn't choose to study in English Department, everything would not be the same. I might not have the chance to meet any person here in Fu Jen, not to mention, I wouldn't have the opportunity to join 2017 Senior Play. Every little decision in life is intimately connected, we might not notice it, but it does exist. Using my participation in Senior Play as my graduation project reminds me all the ups and downs I have been through in college, I am truly proud of my choice since I met lots of talented and wonderful people here. Besides academic performance, people in English Department have more things to share together; working so hard in the theater is one of them. Theater is really a magical place, it is so dark inside, but we can feel the enthusiasm and passion from the director, actors, actresses and any team members in the play that I consider to be yellow and red in their hearts.

Last but not the least, I truly enjoyed the time we spent in Arens Multi-functional Conference Centre together, without a doubt, it is one of the best memories I have had in college. Thanks again, it's all in the timing.

