

The guardian

The visit review

The Visit - A very clever scenario

The Visit, a play about a school play, played really smartly through the double acting of the actors as students and the characters within the play's play. The theater students who are practicing their own work are also having the opportunity to increase the budget. Yet I saw this play through a set design lense, at the start it struck me how simple everything looked, there was no actual detail set, you could see all the props in the side...

When we first start, we are given some pe or athletic benches similar to those used in schools, we are also given with plain lighting, with no profound thought or intrigue. We also witness a simple cardboard cutout panther and a hilarious sequence in which the pupils play like trees against a goofy background of leaves. Even though this is quite funny as an audience, it was quite shocking as a set design student. One of the most fun aspects of seeing a play is being transported to another place, which is usually done through the set, which in these cases didn't feel like that at first.

After the play we got the fantastic opportunity to ask questions to the third years, which is then when the background and the idea of the set struck me 'The set improves as the students get more money' (Holquist, M. 2023).

The set got much more interesting and anticipated as the performance progressed, the lights making everything more detailed, the panther is now realistically 3D, grabbing the attention of the entire audience, we all stared at it in astonishment. They also provided us with a spacious stage outfitted with wonderful old couches... From the second half on, the set simply elevates everything, because the budget expanded, fresh elements arrived each time, these enhancements made you pay more attention and keep you focused on the play.

The use of space is also incredible, they are able to create a setting where the characters can still move easily but you can still easily imagine the place, from the store where the characters were able to interact with much of everything. to 'get on the stans'. Also the number of characters there were in certain scenes, and yet the environment is adequate and functional, it doesn't feel cramped. Also the minor details like the whole creation of the yellow shoes that just calls for your attention every time they appear, also making you rethink as an audience and try to find yellow in more elements.

Everything in art has a reason, we just forget to see it or acknowledge it, which is why the work was like a whole new learning experience for me, you always have to pay attention because there will always be an intention or context behind the idea, and that is what fascinates us most about this type of art.

Holmquist.M(2023) Interview or Q&A 24/11

