



Prifysgol Cymru
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
University of Wales
Trinity Saint David

2nd Journal Entry:
The Process

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Production 1
ADPB6001

In the last few weeks we've been in rehearsals a lot, putting things together and cleaning up all the numbers in the show. We have managed to do 2 runs of the show so far so that we can see where things may be going a little wrong. For me, I think it's mainly just knowing where to enter and exit from and when to take things on and off from the stage. To help myself with this, I've highlighted the numbers I'm in, written next to them which side of the stage I come on, or if I come on in the pews. As well as this, I've jotted down if I have props to take on.

We took a look into our interactions with Gordon. As I'm in the ensemble, I don't have a huge amount of interactions with him. However, as a nurse in the hospital, we're there to care for him.

Here are some acting verbs that we may use for some of the songs

911 Emergency/Heart and Music - aid, assist, check and direct.

Law of Genetics - purify, worship, bribe and bless.

And they're off - challenge, remind, entertain and notify

Poor, Unsuccessful and Fat - humiliate, attack, belittle, crush and discourage

Heart and Music / I feel so much spring - clarify, elevate, free, inspire, lead, plan and suggest.

I think that this helped me identify what I needed to do in rehearsals in order to make Gordon feel this way. In Heart and Music, I lift his arm up, gently, to show that I'm here to care for him and that there is nothing to be afraid of. In a group, we lift him mentally as well as physically

We discussed themes throughout all the songs. This themes being Career, Relationship, Religion, Stability and Intimacy and Sex.

911 fit into his stability.

Heart and Music fit into his career

Law of Genetics fit into his stability

And they're off fits into his relationships

Poor Unsuccessful and fat fits into his stability but also his career

Heart and Music/I feel so much spring fits into his career.

I think that these help us focus on what's going through Gordons mind throughout the songs so that we can react.

We have been fortunate enough to have an accent coach in, Rhian, who has been really helpful. We started off with some of the basics. Talking about how accents differentiate depending on the mouth, tongue and jaw position. For a standard American accent, your lips would be neutral and the corners of your mouth moving infrequently, sort of like a zip log back. The tongue however moves a lot, sort of like it's creating waves.

R's are always pronounced, no matter what. Unlike here where we say something such as butter, it sounds like buttah, whereas Americans would pronounce the R.

You can have both dark and light L's. The name Lily, is a great example. We would have a light L, where in America it would be a dark L. T's in the middle of a word or at the end, are also known as soft D's. Rather than saying city, it would sound like cidy. We then put this into our singing. Personally, I felt that singing in an American accent is very easy, only because it's something that I naturally do without even thinking about it. One of the words which I found really interesting was "Cuttyhunk" as they pronounce it Cuddyhunk, the C and the K

being the main letters that are heard. However, this made a section in the song where the altos sing Cuttyhunk numerous times a lot easier rather than pronouncing it the way we usually would.

Some things that I have struggled with are harmonies. However, whenever I'm stuck, I either ask the MD or someone who sings that part to go through it with me. I've also requested if I could have a backing track with the notes being bashed out because that would be really useful to me and I could listen to it on repeat whilst getting other tasks done. Due to having ADD, I've got very poor memory but try not to let that affect me too much. I go through movement in my head as much as I can and whenever I get the opportunity, I will go through it with someone, or a group to drill it in even more. The more that I practice these harmonies and movements, the more confident and secure I will feel.

Reference:

Team, F. (n.d.). Cuttyhunk Island pronunciation: How to pronounce Cuttyhunk Island in English. [online] Forvo.com. Available at: https://forvo.com/word/cuttyhunk_island/ [Accessed 19 May 2022].

Paul Kuritz (1982) Playing, An Introduction to Acting. [Online] Available at: <https://texasartsproject.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/TacticList21.pdf> [Accessed 19 May 2022].

Sammy

Prologue

Specials

911 Emergency - Take off stool + Stretcher

Heart and Music

Trouble in his brain

Mothers gonna make things fine

Be polite to everybody

Sailing

Family History - Take shoes and screen off

Law of Genetics

And they're off

Roger Arrives

Just Go - Bring Screen on at end

Poor, unsuccessful and fat - sponges

MRI Day

Cuttyhunk

Craniotomy

An invitation to sleep in my arms

Change

Yes

In the middle of the room

throw it out P1

Throw it out P2

In the middle of the room reprise

Lousy Day

Brain Dead

Whenever I dream

Eating myself up alive

The music still plays on

Don't give in

you boys are gonna get me in such trouble
on the street

Where am I?

9/11 - Stage right

Heart and music - Stage left

Family History - Stage right

Law of Genetics - Stage left

And they're off - behind Kenna

Just go - Stage right

Poor Unsuccessful and fat - Stage right

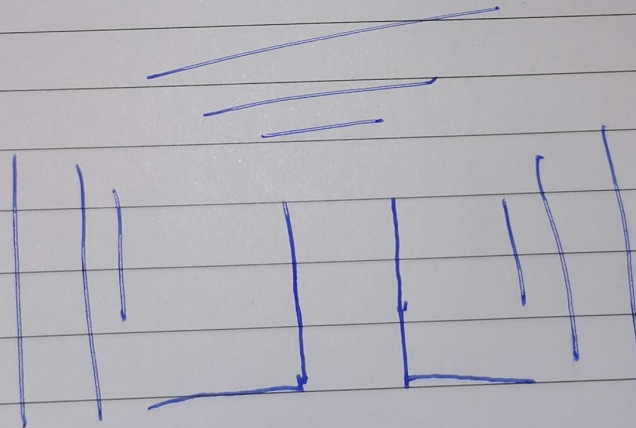
Cuttyhunk - Stage left

Yes - Stage left

Eating myself up alive - Stage left

Don't give in - pugh

Time and music - pugh



Left

Right

Important!

911 - take stool off, bring on stretcher, carry Dan off
Beginning of Family history - take dan shoes off and
Screen

And they're off - masks of Dan

Just go - Bring screen on at end

Yes - confetti

Eating myself up alive - pins

Poor unsuccessful and fat - sponges