Key Skills That Support my Future Profession in Set Design and Production

According to Michael Pavelka (2015, p. 80), architectural comprehension is a vital skill to have as any part of a creative team, but designers most of all. Working with the space you have been given to plan or create a set is incredibly difficult if you do not acknowledge the nuances of the building, stage, area, etc. Especially in theatre, a sense of community is essential to a performance; it is the role of the designer to understand how to transform the place the set will fill into somewhere that reflects this.

Communication skills are key in this industry, not only in conveying each scene effectively to an audience, but also between colleagues. The industry of theatre design is not an individual process, it is important each team member truly knows how to function as a team member. As put by Carver, “The goal is to work as a team and collectively create a production where there once was none.” (Carver, 2013, p. 27). This is supported by Moody, who is firm in his belief that business strategy is an important and often overlooked skill because, as designers, we are offering trade through means of effectively communicating with others.

I also feel that being adaptable in terms of technological advancements is a particularly useful trait as a designer. The industry is incredibly fast paced and new developments are being introduced rapidly, therefore it is essential that designers extend their creativity to the digital world in order to succeed in such a competitive profession (van Laar *et al*, 2020).

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