



Milk Crate Theatre Online Program 2020

DEVISING THEATRE – 08

SYMBOLISM + CHARACTER CREATION 05

CLASS:

What is symbolism?

How is it used in narrative, theatre, visual art, and performance?

What are some examples of symbolism in these formats?

How can symbolism help us give/gain insights into a character's experience or world, narrative?

Pina Bausch – Café Muller, balloons

Christian Thompson

Samuel Beckett

Warwick Broadhead

Donald Glover – This Is America

TASK:

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Write a list of ten things (or collect images, or make a mood board, or drawing, or recording) of things that remind you of your character and the world they live in.

These can include:

- Songs or pieces of music
- Pieces of art or images
- Movies, tv shows
- Famous characters or historical figures
- Celebrities and their antics
- Music videos
- Mythology or traditions
- Aesthetics like costume or fashion
- Theories (philosophical, mathematical, conspiracy, etc)
- Dance or movement
- Exercise or sporting references
- References to media, journalism or politics
- Current events
- Environments – real or as represented in movies or tv or art
- TED talks or informational resources
- Advertisements
- Poetry, or a famous poem, piece of writing or speech

How and why do these things represent your character and the world they live in?