



Milk Crate Theatre Online Program 2020

DEVISING THEATRE – 09

INTEGRATING SYMBOLISM

CLASS:

How do we incorporate symbolism into our work?

FIRST:

- Research the idea / concept. It may have symbolic connotations you are not yet aware of
 - Is it communicating what you think it is?
 - Do you know it's purpose?
 - Have you investigated everything it could mean?
- Try not to get too bogged down in the quagmire of leads!!
- The symbol has come to your mind for a reason: exploring it can bring out more ideas for you, write them down, play with them, collect scenes and ideas that pop up as you're researching

CREATING SCENES / MOMENTS

- How can we create scenes from these symbolic references? (Your list from last week)
- Test things out, make lots of stuff! Explore
- Then think about how to use them in a broader work/narrative

USING THESE MOMENTS IN A BROADER WORK

- Show people? See how it is communicating, how it's landing
- Gut instinct for what is most necessary
- Working with your genre, or deliberately breaking it – realism with subtle references, or breakout dream sequences? Abstract or experimental space?
- Why are you making it and why are people watching it?

TASK:

Create 3 scenes or moments using your list symbolic of references.

This could be:

- A movement piece about a secret your character is keeping
- A poem about the world your character lives in
- An 'exercise video' that represents how busy or stressed out your character is
- A story about your character told from the point of view of an object
- An ad or infomercial
- ANYTHING ELSE! – Think beyond the obvious

Film or record yourself doing this sequence, or write a list of these movements, or draw them, or present in follow-up zoom session