

SCENE DESIGN

THTR 353

WEEKLY PROJECT #8

Internal Research

This project is due in class for presentation on Monday, March 21, 2016 - Happy Spring Break!

Read "Before Breakfast"

Answer some basic information:

Date of action, date of composition, date of first production

Time of year

Characters - who, how do they relate to other characters? Any special requirements?

Where does this take place? (inside, outside, in a particular city, etc.)

What are the specific scenic requirements? Furniture, doorways, etc.

What other specific instructions by author?

Are there special spacial needs?

Genre or stylistic information

Work within these guidelines:

Anything that you can infer from the author's work is internal research. Acting editions of plays will also have stage directions which may not be the playwrights work, rather from the stage manager's book from the first major production of the play. These type of stage directions are not used by scenic designers. Internal research can also point you towards items of information you will need to seek in "external research".

Hints:

Make a listing of each of the characters and their relationships as you read through the play.

Keep a listing of properties and scenic elements which seem to be required by the text.

Why do this project?

The script is the center of the theatrical project - the touch-stone that all of the creative team share and glean inspiration and information from. It is essential that designers understand how to analyze plays and their structure. All conceptual choices should be driven from the text