

THTR 353

SCENE DESIGN

PROJECT # 1

‘TOONS

Your assignment is to draw a ‘toon that in one way or another illustrates the phrase:
“From sea to shining sea.”

Work within these guidelines:

- 1)The finished piece should be on std. 8 1/2X11 paper and in black ink.
- 2)Illustrate the panel in at least three panels - there is no real upper limit except that it must fit on one sheet of paper.
- 3)Think in terms of pictures - try not to use text.
- 4)Think your idea through carefully, it should require little or no verbal communication

Hints:

Before doing the final product of your transformation, work in pencil to make sure that it is really what you want.

These pencil sketches may be smaller and “in the trade”, are called thumbnail sketches .

Decide if your idea is dramatic, funny or just what kind of quality it should have.

Make the drawing style and the line quality help you tell the story.

Don’t let the words of the phrase box you in ... be creative.

Try more than one way of transforming from your starting point to the end.

Why do this project?

The set designer’s job is to take the words of the playwright and within guidelines required by the budget, theatre space, manpower available, the director’s concept, and many other considerations, create a visual image or environment that the show can take place in.

This means that the set designer must think in terms of a pictorial presentation as well as a verbal fashion.

This project will help you to learn to explore and explain ideas in a pictorial fashion.

It also trains you to your new role as translator from written language to graphic language.

Presentation:

The way a piece of work is presented can have a great deal of impact on our level of acceptance. Be prepared. Try your presentation out in a trial to see if you are communicating your ideas in the way that you want to.

This should be your best work, never apologize, it like telling the viewer you are wasting their time. Don’t use paper that is torn or wrinkled unless that is part of your communication.

What we are looking for is a process, thinking outside the box, and passion. This project is much less about the finished product than the ideas and the process.