

Melodrama - Learning Journey

In this topic, we will explore the origins of Melodrama and be introduced to stock characters in theatre. We will look at key concepts to communicate the performers intentions and explore key techniques and approaches to stage fighting. This will allow you learn and the develop the skills and style of theatre to independently block , direct and perform your own Melodrama.

Lesson 1 - The origins of Melodrama & stock characters

Lesson 2 - Exploring the concept of an aside

Lesson 3 - Blocking & directing scenes

Lesson 4 - Key techniques & approaches to stage combat

Lesson 5 -. Rehearsal & development

Lesson 6 - Performance

What do I need to understand for this topic?

The origins of Melodrama
Stock characters
Directing, blocking, aside, thought tracking
Music to communicate character intentions
Stage combat

How will I know how to perform in a successful way?

Each lesson we will concentrate on developing a new skill or technique to inform and developing your understanding of Melodrama.

How will I practice working creatively?

You will work in a number of group each lessons using new skills and styles of theatre. This will encourage you to use a number of skills related to the style of Melodrama.

How will I be assessed?

You will make the artistic decision to create a melodramatic performance, using all the skills you have learnt this term. You will apply this knowledge and understanding in Melodrama into your final performance. This will be rehearsed and developed in week 5 and performed in week 6.

melodrama (n)

a play characterised by stereotypical **characters**, exaggerated emotions, and simple conflict.

stock character (n)

Stock characters in melodrama, like their earlier Greek, Roman and Italian counterparts, are types rather than fully-fleshed characters and appear over and over again in different stories.

aside (n)

In dramatic works, an aside occurs when a character turns to the audience and makes a comment or remark that only they can hear.

blocking (n)

Decisions about where actors enter, exit and stand on the stage is called blocking.

stage combat (n)

Stage combat is a specialized technique in theatre designed to create the illusion of physical combat without causing harm to the performers.

director (n)

a person who supervises the actors and other staff in a film, play, or similar production.