

Within Her Eyes

James Cousins

Company



THEORY LESSON



Engage

∞ On your post it note think of 3 adjectives to describe the setting for Within Her Eyes





LEARNING OUTCOMES

- ✧ Gain knowledge and understanding of professional dance work 'Within Her Eyes' by James Cousins.
- ✧ Be able to describe the constituent features of the work and how they contribute to the audience's understanding of the piece.
- ✧ To analyse the setting used within the piece.



Prepare for learning

- ☞ Today we will be analysing the SETTING from the performance piece WITHIN HER EYES.
- ☞ Using your information packs – read the facts & key features.



HOMEWORK: TO ANSWER THE 6 MARK QUESTION ON SETTING.



EXPLAIN

The facts...



SETTING - OVERVIEW:

The settings reflect the tense and delicate mood from the stage production. It also helps to show the emotional journey of the characters, as well as adding to their isolation and sense of them being in their own world through the bare, open and vast landscapes chosen.

The locations also reflect the development of the relationship of the characters, from their initial apprehension towards each other, to them becoming closer and more intimate. The film starts in very vast, isolated settings and progresses to more intimate locations.



SECTIONS...

[file:///C:/Users/dgardner/Downloads/Wit
hin%20Her%20Eyes%20video%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/dgardner/Downloads/Wit%20hin%20Her%20Eyes%20video%20(1).pdf)



WORKSHEET 1 – SETTING – COMPLETE THE DESCRIPTION & CONTRIBUTION:

PROLOGUE:

Explore

DESCRIPTION:

❧ Deserted streets and a graveyard with an overcast sky and drizzling rain.

INTERPRETATION/CONTRIBUTION:

- ❧ The empty streets give a sense of isolation.
- ❧ The graveyard suggests she has lost someone close to her.
- ❧ The overcast sky and rain create a bleak atmosphere.



SECTIONS



Explore

THE BEGINNING:

DESCRIPTION:

☞ Two locations. A vast open field with long grass which moves in the wind. The hill in the distance becomes the second setting. A barren cliff top with uninterrupted views.

INTERPRETATION/CONTRIBUTION:

- ☞ The environments appear infinite, reinforcing the characters isolation and enhancing the lonely mood.
- ☞ The vast space also complements the choreographic intention of the dancers using as much space as possible between them whilst remaining in contact.



SECTIONS



Explore

MOVING CLOSER:

DESCRIPTION:

☞ A field, looking towards a misty valley with hills in the background.

INTERPRETATION/CONTRIBUTION:

☞ The grass in front of the dancers makes it seem less barren than the cliff top, although it is still isolated and the mist gives a sombre atmosphere.





SECTIONS...



FLOW ONE:

DESCRIPTION:

☞ A dense forest, with shafts of light coming through the trees.

INTERPRETATION/CONTRIBUTION:

☞ The more enclosed performance signifies the relationship becoming more intimate and suggests that time has passed by.



SECTIONS...



KNEELING:

DESCRIPTION:

☞ A field at dusk, with long grass surrounding them.

INTERPRETATION/CONTRIBUTION:

☞ Contrasts the earlier vast setting and seems more intimate.

☞ Reinforces the idea that they are growing closer and shutting themselves off from the world.



SECTIONS



Explore

FLOW TWO:

DESCRIPTION:

- ☞ Three location: a cliff top, a quarry and the field where they've been in the previous section.
- ☞ Shifts rapidly between the three locations.

INTERPRETATION/CONTRIBUTION:

- ☞ The quarry seems secluded yet also is a harsh landscape reflecting the tension in the relationship.
- ☞ The locations mixed together could suggest a play between reality (in the field where they've just been) and an internal struggle (in the oppressive quarry landscape.)



SECTIONS.

Explore



FLOOR:

DESCRIPTION:

☞ Returns to the field seen in 'KNEELING' with the dancers in a small clearing.

INTERPRETATION/CONTRIBUTION:

☞ The setting appears much more intimate as they are surrounded by the grass and are very close to the ground. This intimate setting is complemented by the dimmer lighting.



Construct
Meaning

ANSWER THE PRACTICE QUESTIONS



EXTEND

USE THE
INFORMATION TO
HELP YOU ANSWER
THE QUESTIONS



Apply to
Demonstrate

Construct
Meaning

Review

GROUP DISCUSSION

- ∞ Discuss the different locations used in *WITHIN HER EYES* – considering how they relate to the *NARRATIVE* and how the setting complements the other features of production.
- ∞ Which *LOCATION* do you think is the most effective in the film?
- ∞ Can you explain *WHY*?

Evaluate

