

## Bonus Assignment: Review of *Tommy*

Write a REVIEW of Theater Salem's production of *Tommy*. Follow the directions below to write your review. This bonus assignment is worth **75 potential points**.

1. **The introduction** should include the following:

- a) The title of the play.
- b) The name of the director, the place and date of the production you attended, and the name of the production company (Theater Salem).
- c) The thesis of your review, which should include (possibly in more than a single statement) a general impression of the success or failure of the production, based on what you saw in this particular production. Also include a brief *thematic* summary (NOT a plot summary) in your introduction.

Example thesis statement:

**The Fox Theatre's production of *King Lear* captured all the horror of a world where love cannot be counted on and where life is nasty, brutish, and appallingly short.**

2. **The body paragraphs** should include the following:

- a) A description in detail of the physical aspects of what you saw (and heard) performed (the acting, directing, lighting, scenery, costumes, musical performances, etc.). Keep in mind at all times that whatever you include must in some way contribute to the assertion you made in your introduction and thesis. Focus on particular scenes or performances that will provide the evidence for your final evaluation of the play.
- b) An interpretation/analysis/evaluation of what you saw performed. If you discuss the setting, analyze *why* the director chose to depict it in the way that he did.

Example:

**The tempest scene in *Lear* utilized a particularly hostile set in order to universalize the suffering depicted throughout the play. The lights were dimmed and the backdrop was flat black. Against this backdrop were propped, in no particular order, seven skulls that looked out over the events to come. The dim lights, black backdrop, and human skulls all created a dark mood, foreshadowing the violence and anguish to come.**

3. **The conclusion** should include the following:

- a) An explanation of why your response to the play is valid and significant based on what you have described in the body of the paper.
- b) Do not add any significant new material, but don't be afraid to leave your reader with something to think about.

**TURN IN THE PROGRAM FROM THE PLAY (signed by a SHS faculty member) WITH YOUR ESSAY!**