

ASPLEY SHS
YEAR 12 DRAMA
UNIT 4: ANTI CLIMAX: Political Theatre Meets Contemporary Performance
FORMING: – TASK SEVEN

NAME: _____

WEEK DUE : _____

TEACHER:

ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENT: Individual Practical Forming

TASK DESCRIPTION:

“Take note of the meaning of the ancient song:

That what there is shall belong to those who are good for it, thus The children to the maternal, that they thrive;
The carriages to good drivers, that they are driven well; And the valley to the waterers, that it shall bear fruit”.

From Bertolt Brecht’s *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*

Using this didactic statement from Brecht’s famous play, you are to use it as stimulus to create a contemporary One Person Performance Piece utilising Brechtian/ Epic and political style in its creation. Your piece must contain a clear dramatic statement derived from a contemporary social or political issue of concern/interest to you.

Your contemporarised piece could focus on the following connecting themes to the play:

- Ownership and Justice – land, property, people
- Sacrifice – in its many contemporary political forms
- The law – who it seeks to serve? Does justice always prevail?
- Class and power – contemporary law, education, culture or religion.

You can find a contemporary dramatic pre-text or document to focus your work. You must incorporate political and mediatised style into your performance including the use of narration, song, multi-media, didacticism, historification, multiple role-taking, minimalism, Non-Western forms etc.

We have explored David Hare’s *Via Dolorosa* in class as an example of the One-Person Style plus you have seen Anna Yen’s *Chinese Take Away*. You may consider these when structuring your own political piece.

Remember: this is a PRACTICAL FORMING piece. Your acting skills are not being assessed but rather your devising and fusing together of your material. However, you must be familiar with the piece in managing your ideas on stage. A documented script/annotations will help support the documentation of your devised piece as we will NOT be filming this assessment.

CONDITIONS:

- Two weeks own and class time.
- Teacher monitoring of devising process
- Documentation of Ideas/One Person Show/Technology Ideas and Blocking to be attached
- 4-6 minutes

FORMING CRITERIA:

- Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the dramatic languages, informed by the dramatic perspectives.
- Explore and interpret ideas to create and shape dramatic action and meaning.
- Manage and apply the dramatic languages, experimenting and making judgements about dramatic action and meaning.

