

Hamlet Set Design



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MIT Shakespeare Ensemble
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Act I: Scene I - ELSINORE, A platform outside the castle



- Wall behind Horatio flies away when ghost nonsense starts
- Tattered flag on wall
 - Cyc is lit (red?)
- TV on desk
 - Lighting is partial, lots of breakup, searchlights

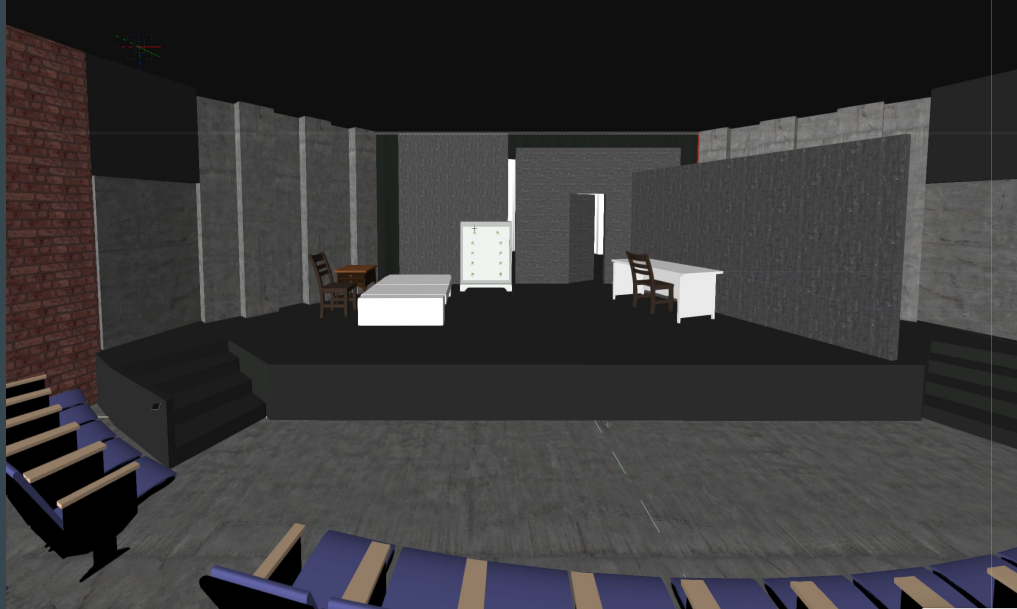
Act I, Scene II - Main Royal Hall



- Cyc is lit (red?)
- Official flags or banners on both walls
- Spotlight on CLAUDIUS, who walks in from back.



Act I, Scene III - Laertes' Room

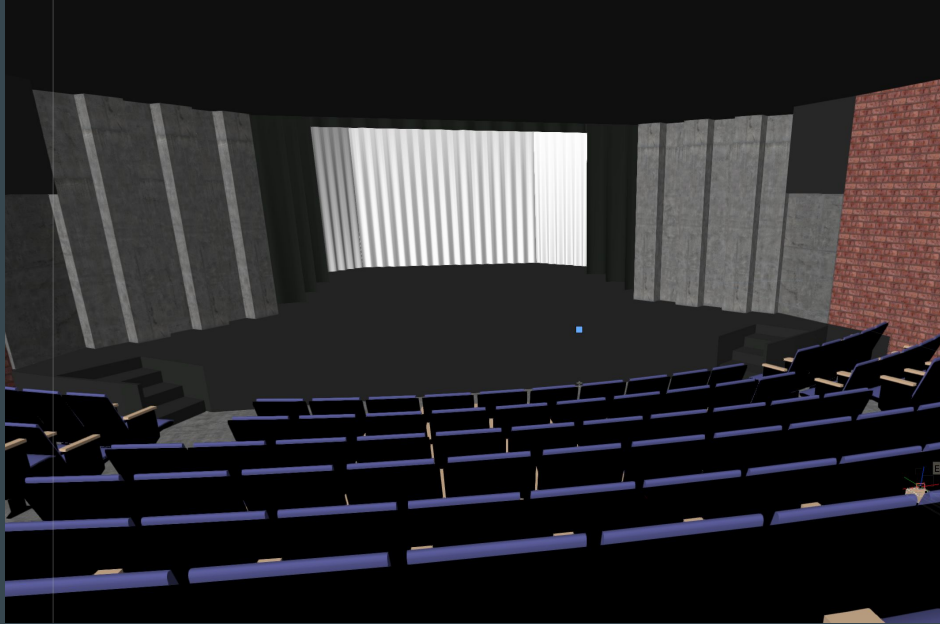


- The furniture colors suck and need to be fixed.
- Walls: map of Polonius's territory, fencing trophies; haphazard punk rock poster covering gaudy decorations



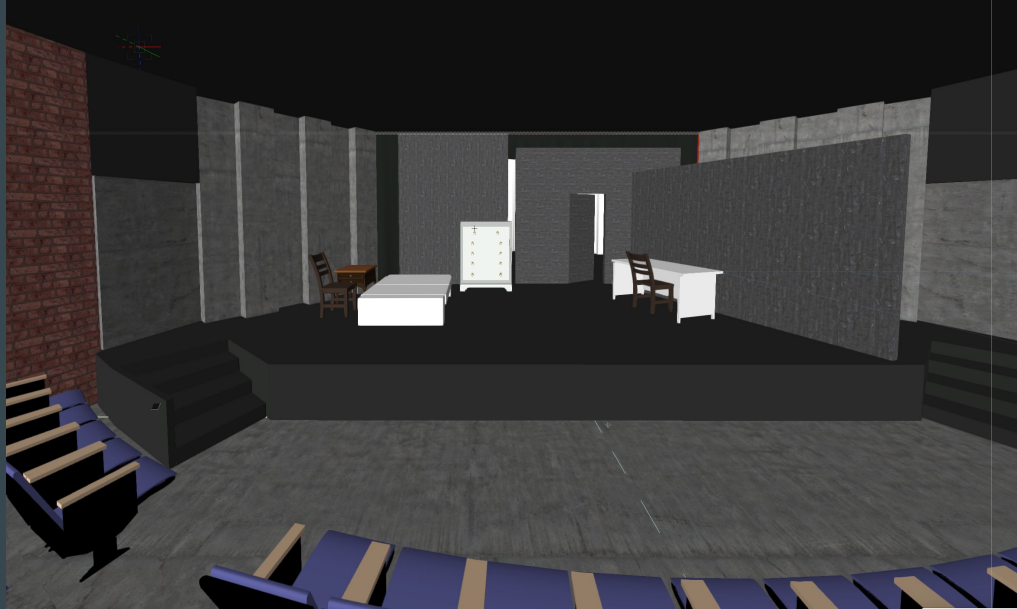
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Act I, Scenes IV + V - The Ramparts



- Tattered flag on wall
- Cyc is lit
- Spotlights and such
- Barren set, but there is some frontlight
- Breakup gobo hisides

Act II, Scene I - Laertes' Room



- Laertes' poster has been removed
- The room is uncannily neat.



Act II, Scene II - Main Royal Hall



- Cyc is lit (red?)
- Official flags or banners on both walls
- Thrones are actually taller than pictured



Act III, Scene I - Outside the Library



On door: “QUIET PLEASE NO TRESSPASSERS”, Book with logo

Window in door. Sconces next to door? Library map on the wall?

Act III, Scene II - Hamlet's Library

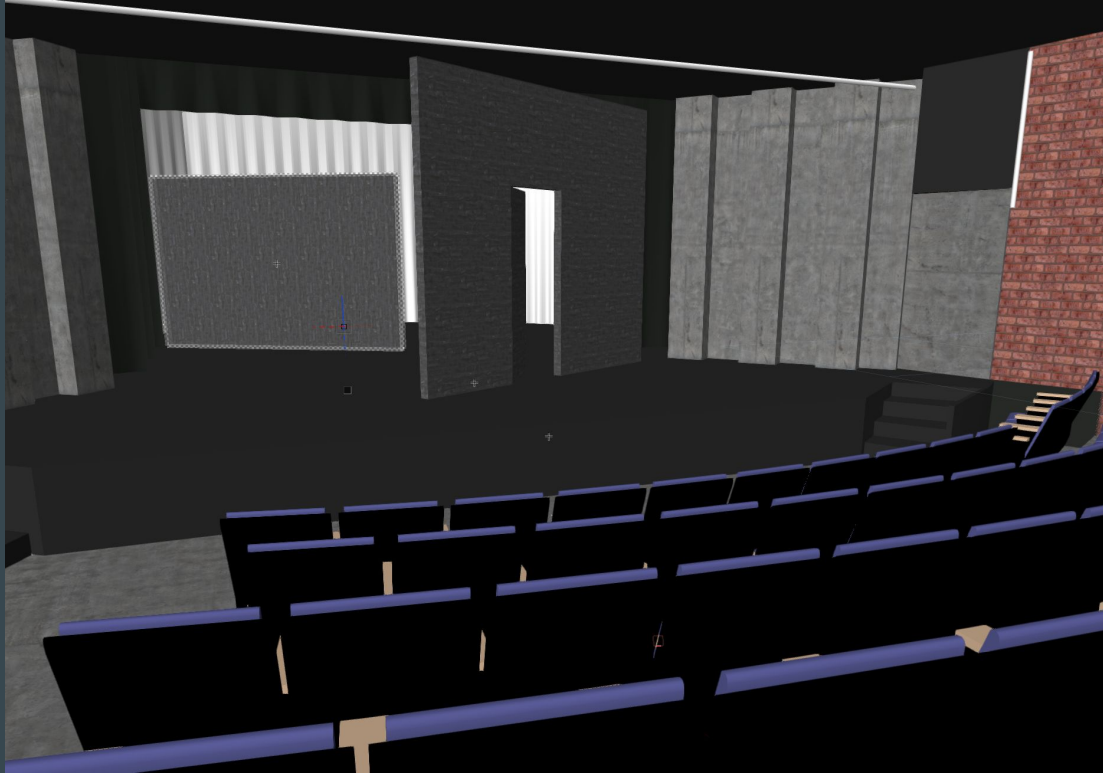


On Wall: war maps, sconces with warmly lit candles

On door: window of some sort?

On bookshelves: portrait of Hamlet Sr., Hamlet's books, dilapidated books, armor

Act III, Scene III - Claudius's Room



Only the SL side of the stage is lit.

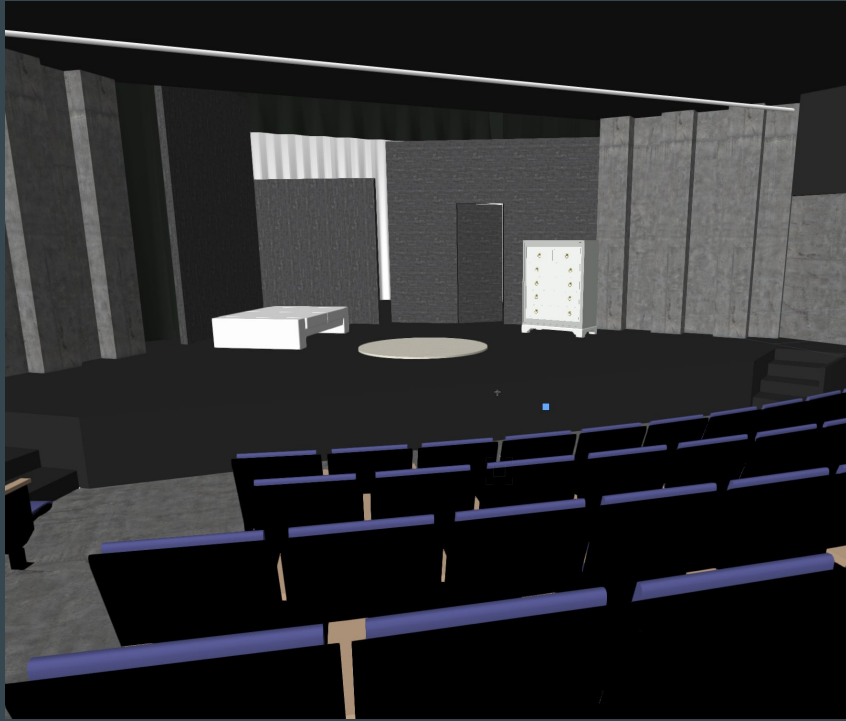
Door is open so Hamlet can walk by.

This is the least final part of this design at the moment.

Furniture: a shrine maybe?

There is a large flag/banner on the wall.

Act III, Scene IV - Gertrude's Closet



Walls: richly decorated -
plant art, portraits of her 2
husbands.

Bed: more decorated than
Laertes'



Act IV

Act IV, Scene I - Gertrude's Closet

Act IV, Scene II - ~~Hamlet's Library~~ Downstage Center

Act IV, Scene III - ~~Main Royal Hall~~ Gertrude's Closet

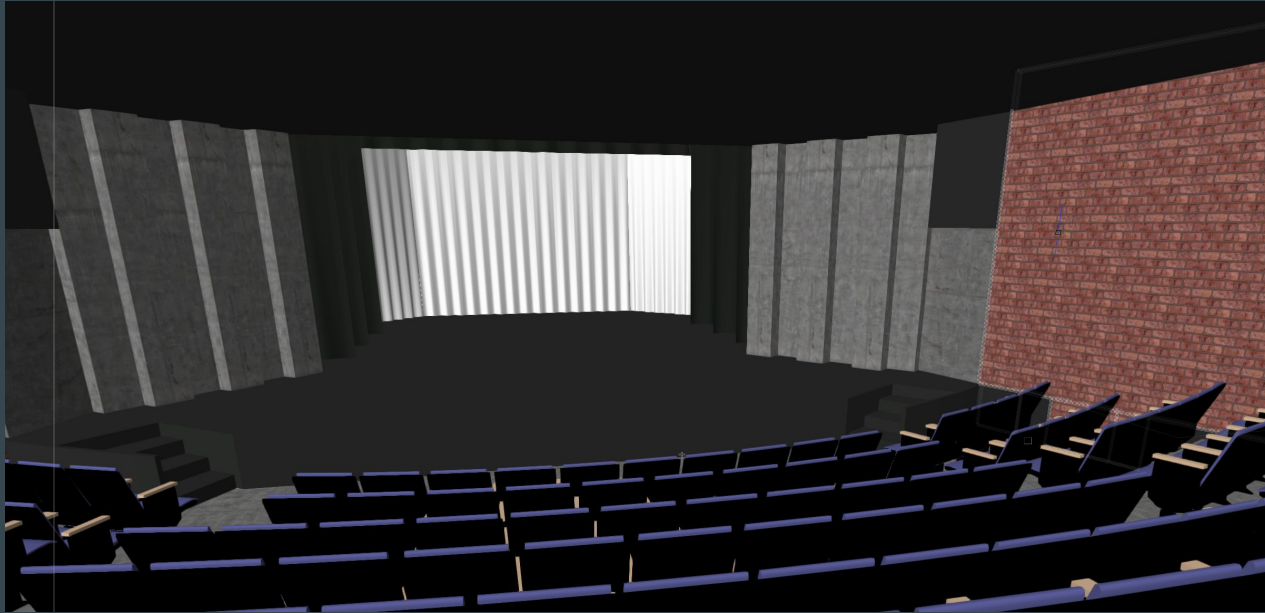
Act IV, Scene IV - A Plain

Act IV, Scene V - Main Royal Hall

Act IV, Scene VI - No Scenery

Act IV, Scene VII - Main Royal Hall

Act IV, Scene IV - A Plain



Only the cyc is lit, and
maybe a special DS
wherever Hamlet is
> silhouettes

Act V, Scene I - A Churchyard



White block is trapdoor open in stage



Act V, Scene II - Hamlet's Library



Walls/etc same as before, but even more dilapidated. If the candles were lit up, some of them are now out. The portrait of Hamlet Sr. is fallen or gone.