Hyper-linking digital theatre studies

Abstract : We demonsrate the usefulness of hyper-video in theatre studies.

Using video in theatre studies is difficult because theatre is multi-dimensional and parallel. Viewing a theatre performance is an active process where the audience can choose to focus on different aspects of the performance. This is usually not possible in video, where the focus of attention and the zoom lens have been chose once and for all.

In this communication, we present results of an experiment in building an interactive video documentary for use in digital theatre studies, where researchers can choose the focus of attention and the zoom lens according to their needs.

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| Focus of attention | Zoom lens | Composition | Example |
| Facial expressions | Close shot | One actor |  |
| Hand gestures | Medium shot | One actor |  |
| Dialogue between near actors | Medium shot | Two actors |  |
| Dialogue between distant actors | Full shot | Two actors |  |
| Body language | Full shot | One actor |  |
| Physical interaction between actors | Full shot | Two actors |  |
| Stage movements | Wide shot | All actors |  |

We demonstrate this using examples from the play « death of a salesman » by Arthur Miller.