

# Chapter 6: Drama, Theatre and Motion Picture

## Objectives:

After the completion of the chapter, students will able to:

1. Familiarize the different Genres of drama, cinema and theater.
2. Familiarize with the elements of drama, cinema and theater.
3. Familiarize with the process of creating cinema and understand the people.

## Chapter Topics:

- A. Drama and Theatre
  - B. Genres of Drama
  - C. Cinema
  - D. Elements of Cinema
  - E. Elements of Drama
  - F. The Elements of Theatre
  - G. Genres of Motion Pictures
  - H. People behind a Motion Pictures
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### A. Drama and Theatre

#### Drama



- It is a genre of literature that is intended to be acted-out or performed on the stage in front of an audience.
- As an art form, drama underwent great evolution, which began in the amphitheaters of Athens of Ancient Greece.

#### Theatre



- Theatrical presentations are only of the story in the drama but are a combination of almost all of the art forms.
- This combined art that mostly includes music, dance, painting, sculpture, and architecture (for costume and stage design).
- Presentations are repeated and oftentimes travel to places, thus, ensuring its continued existence.

## B. Genres of Drama

### Tragedy



- Is one of literature's greatest dramatic genres.
- It is a drama that presents life as solemn and serious.
- The central character, the hero (or heroine) who is admired at the first part, later becomes arrogant and not worthy at all. This character flaw is the reason why he comes to some sad or disastrous end. But, before the end comes for the hero, however, there is realization that for him, such end is necessary because it is justified.
- The audience should see in the presentation this flow from cause to effect. If cause and effect relationship is clear, the audience leaves the theatre not feeling sad or confused but relieved and satisfied.

### Melodrama




- It is a type of drama that emphasizes the never-ending battle between good and evil wherein good always wins.
- Melodramas make use of stereotyped characters like a hero, his heroine, and a villain.
- Other characters are added which makes this drama more interesting.
- The audience can usually predict the flow of the story in a melodrama.


### Comedy



- It is a drama that is the exact opposite of tragedy.
- Tragedies and comedies have similar components but differ in the characteristics of each one. For, instance, in tragedy, the hero is wealthy, handsome and educated; in comedy, the hero could be anybody who is poor, ordinary and average.
- Tragedies portray power and abuse of power while comedies portray human weakness and limitations.

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| <p><b>2 Kinds of Comedy</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Satire Comedy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Portrays human weakness and criticizes human behavior to pave the path to some form of salvation for human actions.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Romantic Comedy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Portrays human weakness in a more subtle way. Romantic comedies are seen as more entertaining, enlightening and favorable to the taste of the audience.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Farce</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is a light humorous play in which the emphasis is on jokes, humorous physical action, exaggerated situations and improbable characters.</li> <li>• The aim of this drama is to make people laugh for the sake of laughing.</li> </ul>   |

## C. Cinema

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| <p><b>Cinema</b></p>  |   |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It can be described as a series of images that are projected onto a screen to create the illusion of motion.</li> <li>• This is also known as motion pictures, movies or films and is considered to be one of the most popular forms of entertainment today</li> <li>• Cinema enables people to immerse themselves imaginary world for a short period of time.</li> <li>• Some films combine entertainment with instruction, thus making the learning process more enjoyable.</li> <li>• The images that make up a motion picture are all individual photographs. But when played rapidly in succession, the human eye does not detect that it as separate images. Although the viewers do not see the images as individual photographs, they do notice the differences between them.</li> </ul> |



- Motion pictures are recorded using specifically designed cameras that capture the images on rolls of film.
- After being processed and printed, the film is run through a projector, which shines light through the film so that the images are displayed on a screen.
- Movies are also accompanied by sound.

## D. Elements of Cinema

### Sound




- Why would a director use sound in a film?
  - Sound can add to a film in many ways:
    - Add depth
    - Create mood – (what we hear is what we see)
- **Sound track:** all of the music and sounds that are featured in a film; sounds chosen by a composer
  - **Three classifications of sound:**
    - **Diegetic:** sound that comes from something in the environment.
    - **Nondiegetic:** sound that is not part of the logical environment; sound that is added for the effect (underscoring).
    - **Internal:** a mix of the other two types; when a character hears a sound in their thoughts.

### Lighting



- Lighting is chosen by the film's cinematographer and then approved by the director
  - **Lighting is important because it:**
    - Communicates mood
    - Suggests setting
    - Makes the actors visible
  - **Types of lighting**
    - **Low-key:** characterized by a lot of shadows with sharp contrasts between dark and light.
    - **High-key:** characterized by brightness, openness, and light.
    - **Side:** one side of the actor's face is lit more than the other so that one side of their face is darker than the other.



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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Front:</b> when a character is brightly lit, without shadows.</li> <li>▪ <b>Properties of lighting:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Color</b></li> <li>• <b>Angle:</b> where the light is in relation to the actor.</li> <li>• <b>intensity:</b> how bright or dark it is.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>               |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Set</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location where the film is made           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>It can be:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indoor or Outdoor</li> <li>• Built for the film or found (filmed on location)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chosen or designed by the Production Designer of a film.</li> </ul> |

### E. Elements of Drama

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Plot</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refers to the action; the basic storyline of the play.           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Six Stages of Plot Structure:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial Accident</li> <li>• Preliminary Event</li> <li>• Rising Action</li> <li>• Denouement</li> <li>• Falling Action</li> <li>• Climax</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Theme</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refers to the meaning of the play.</li> <li>• Theme is the main idea or less on to be learned from the play. In some cases, the theme of a play is obvious; other times it is quite subtle.           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Some General Themes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conflict between two individuals</li> <li>• Conflict between man and a supernatural power</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

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|                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conflict between man and himself</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Characters</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The people (sometimes animals or ideas) portrayed by the actors in the play. It is the characters that move the action or plot. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Characterization</b> is the way an author presents a character.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| <b>Dialogue</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This refers to the words written by the playwright and spoken by the characters in the play. the dialogue helps move the action of the play along.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Music/Rhythm</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While music often featured in drama, in this case Aristotle was referring to the rhythm of the actors' voices as they speak.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Spectacle</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This refers to the visual elements of a play: sets costumes, special effects, etc. Spectacle is everything that the audience sees as they watch the play.</li> </ul>   |

## F. Elements of Theatre

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| <p><b>Performers</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People onstage presenting characters in dramatic action.</li> <li>• The audience is coming to see a performer pretend to be someone else.</li> <li>• When the actor/actress is on stage, they must be believable as the character they are portraying.</li> <li>• If they are not believable, then the audience will be less interested in the production.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Audience</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The essence of theatre is the interaction between the performer and audience.</li> <li>• Theater needs to experience live. There is a "call and response" atmosphere that cannot be witnessed in a movie theater.</li> <li>• In a live theater experience, when the audience laughs out loud, or cries, then the actors respond to that energy.</li> <li>• In a movie, there is no connection between the actors and audience, only reactions from the audience.</li> </ul> |



### Director



- The director makes certain that the performers understand the text and deliver the script excitingly and appropriately.
- The director also makes sure the blocking, costume designs, set designs and other aspects of the show blend together to make a production that works together.
- All the aspects of theater should compliment each other, and the director oversees all these things.

### Space



- Another necessary element of theater is the space in which performers or audiences come together.
- It is essential to have a stage, or some equivalent area, where actors and actresses can perform.
- It is also essential to have a place for audience members to sit or stand.


### Visual Aspect




- Consists of costumes, lighting, and some form of scenic background
- **Nonvisual Aspect-** sound and background music

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Script</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A final element essential to theater is the text that is performed, and it must be present for theater to occur. Another name for the text is script.</li> <li>• One key element for writing is CONFLICT. The characters should have a goal to reach, but to reach that goal they must go through a series of conflicts. Without conflict the story would be bland and boring.</li> </ul> |
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## E. Genres of Motion Pictures

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Motion Picture</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motion pictures are recorded using specifically designed cameras that capture the images on rolls of film.</li> <li>• After being processed and printed, the film is run through a projector, which shines light through the film so that the images are displayed on a screen.</li> <li>• Movies are also accompanied by sound.</li> </ul> |
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## F. People behind a Motion Picture

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Actors</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play the roles of the characters in the film. They do more than just act. They prepare themselves for the role both mentally and physically only then can they begin to face the camera.</li> </ul> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Producers</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handles finances, which includes; paying for the production of the project, hiring actors and the production team, supervising</li> </ul>   |



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|  | <p>production process, and making arrangements for distributing the finished film to theatres.</p>  |
| <p><b>Scriptwriter</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develops stories and ideas for the screen or adapts interesting written pieces of work as motion pictures</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Director</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Studies the script, plans and visualizes how the film should be portrayed, and guides the actors and the production crew as they carry out the project.</li> </ul> |

#### REFERENCES:

**REFERENCE:** Geron C., Santos M., Velasco V., Trinidad J. (2018) Art Appreciation. Philippines. Panday Lahi publishing house, Inc.

<https://www.slideshare.net/RS016/elements-of-theater>

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