

DIGITAL THEATRE+

MASTER CAST Extension Exercises and Questions



EPISODE FOUR: Creating the World – Simon Stephens with Bunny Christie, Paule Constable, and Ian Dickinson

GOAL: Annotate a script with this practical exercise.

SUPPLIES: A script, pen, and paper.

EXERCISE: Create a grid with the following columns:

- Scene number
- Page number
- Time and/or location
- Who is in the scene?
- What happens in the scene?
- Notes (anything that stands out to you - a sound, weather conditions, etc.)

As you read through the script, fill in each column with the necessary information, recording anything you notice.



BUNNY SAYS: Completing the grid in this way does not need to be labour intensive. However, doing this exercise means you have read through the script thoroughly and you are beginning to immerse yourself in the world of the play and its rhythms.





EXTENSION QUESTIONS:

1. How can life experience make a valuable contribution to work within theatre design?
 2. Describe the value of learning on the job and shadowing other designers.
 3. What are the four essential elements of theatre design?
 4. Describe each of these essential elements in relation to collaboration with a theatre director.
 5. What does Bunny Christie say about the importance of bravery, intuition and being open to thoughts and feelings during the creative process?
 6. How does Paule Constable describe her relationship with set and costume designers?
 7. What does Constable mean by “respond to framing and find a language”?
 8. What does Ian Dickinson feel is critical for a sound designer to do during rehearsals?
 9. At what point do the design elements come together?
 10. What similarity does Christie describe between the moment when design elements come together, and an orchestra plays?
 11. What role do the timing and rhythm of spoken word play in theatre design?
 12. What comparisons does Dickinson make between the role of a DJ and sound designer in “sculpting the audience’s journey”?
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