

Activity #6. Technologies

A

The music that Laura Beth chose for the dance choreography 'Oppression of the Jews/Schindler's List' was the main music from the film 'Schindler's List.' The music is an orchestra piece with a dominant violin base. When listening to the instrumental piece you can hear the ascents that Laura Beth choreographed certain movements for. The music piece is extremely sad and depressing when you listen to it. You can almost feel the pain that the Jews went through as you listen to the music. Because the music is so expressive it was easy as a dancer to connect to the music and feel the choreography through the music. Laura Beth cleverly crafted the dance to compliment the music. I enjoyed dancing to the Schindler's List music as it really helped me as a character to connect to the back ground story of the forced oppression on the Jewish race. The music helped me accentuate my movements so that I could project the expression of my movements to the audience.

2

The costume worn for the performance were long black dresses that came down to our ankles with high cut neck with broad sleeves. The dresses have slits on either side of our legs so that we could move freely with in them. The dresses were black because in the film 'Schindler's List' the entire movie is in black and white with only the hint of red of the little girls coat. The black costumes allowed our bright, rich red props to stand out against the dark costumes showing the importance of the props. The black dresses were worn for the section 1-4. In the fifth section was the scene of death. Us dancers then helped one another to take off the black dresses revealing out nude coloured nighties, which symbolized us in the gas chamber being prepared either a cleansing shower or choked by death from the gas. The nude nighties just expressed to the audience that the Jews were stripped from all their dignity and pride and were treated with disrespect.

Martha Graham is an influential lady to the world of dance. She is highly known for being a pioneer of contemporary dance her quote - "The body says what words can not" is widely known in the world of dance and she is highly respected for her insightful comments of dance. This quote is perfect for this choreography as the Jews didn't have a voice during the Holocaust and as dancers we tried our best to express through our body projection the pain and agony the Jews would have been through. All the screams of pain and the desperate pleading for deliverance fell on deaf ears during the Holocaust and the Jews were left to push through the oppressive times. As our dance class performed the dance choreography we spoke with our bodies and this expressed more to the audience than words would have been able to. The audience connected more with the story of the Jews through our performance than listening to the history.

I decided the quote that I would like to use is a quote from Oskar Schindler himself, Schindler's List - "I was now resolved to do everything in my power to defeat the system." The quote is a powerful statement made by Oskar I felt it worked well with the choreography because the concentration camps were a programmed systematic state-sponsored murder by Nazi Germany Party leader Adolf Hitler.

3

A large majority of Jews were systematically killed in gas chambers. When Oskar states that he was now resolved to fight and defeat the system he is talking about the mechanical death machines that were used to kill over 6 million Jews. The courage Oskar Schindler had to stand up against the Nazi Party even though he was a member of the Nazi party himself was admirable and helped me to perform the choreography with passion as I thought of all the people that were killed in the Holocaust. The people that the courageous Oskar Schindler saved made the choreography so impactful and gave me a new found respect for Mr. Schindler. He was a saving icon of the Holocaust for many Jews.

1

