

## Script Treatment

Claire Trevor Theatre

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### Introduction

The following document is a lighting script treatment for *Spring Awakening*. This document will present the overall lighting ideas for the show and will go into detail for the four songs 'The Bitch of Living', 'The Dark I Know Well', 'Totally Fucked', and 'Those You've Known'. Research images are used throughout the document to help support how lighting will convey certain moments in the show. This is a working document, so I am open to any thoughts and feedback to this document.

### Overall

*Spring Awakening* is set in Germany during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The story is about teenagers coming of age and struggling to deal with their newly found sexual desires within their strict religious environment. The adults in their lives want them to conform to societal norm and they are struggling to find an out for their new sexual discoveries. The overall style of the show draws its inspiration from the German Expressionism art movement

### Lighting Concept

A main theme that is present throughout the play is oppression of the young teenagers from the adults in their lives wanting them to conform to what they think is right. The teenagers feel isolated and unsure of their new found desires. German Expressionism utilizes sharp, jagged, and unnatural angles and colors to convey the artists' inner feelings of lighting.

Lighting will mimic this with the use of textured light, unnatural angles, and a harsh no color palette to create a shadowed world (Image 1). This lighting will be primarily for the book looks. The songs are the characters inner monologues and an escape from the oppressive world that they live in. When the characters go into their songs, lighting will utilize a rock and roll concert style of lighting. During songs is when lighting will use bold saturate colors to highlight the emotions that the characters are going through and to show the emotional escape that they are desperately searching for (Image 2).



Image 1



Image 2

## The Bitch of Living

The teenage boys, Melchior, Moritz, Otto, Georg, Hanschen, and Ernst, are in their Latin class when Moritz shares with Melchior that he has been having erotic dreams. The song *Bitch of Living* is about the sexual frustrations that all of the boys are experiencing. The color palette for the song will be in the warm reds and ambers and will use sharp angular textured light to show the frustration that they are experiencing (Image 3 and 4). Spot lights will also be used to pull out each teenager as they sing about their own experiences.



Image 3



Image 4

## The Dark I Know Well

As the girls, Martha, Wendla, Thea, and Anna, are walking home Martha accidentally tells them that her father abuses her. As the other girls walk off stage, the lighting will shift into dark blue textured world surrounding Martha to express her haunting experience with her father (Image 5). A spot light will also be used to highlight Martha. Ilse joins Martha onstage to sing about her shared experience (Image 6). The world will open to include Ilse and she will also be highlighted with spotlight.



Image 5



Image 6

## Totally Fucked

After the teacher and the schoolmaster have searched through Moritz's suicide, they find the essay that Melchior wrote for him. They used the essay to try and put the blame of his death on Melchior and knowing that he has no choice, Melchior admits he wrote it and is expelled. Lighting will use linear textures to show the trapped and anxious feeling that Melchior has when he realizes that he has no other options (Image 7). The color palette for the song will use cool contrasting color to heighten the anxiety that that he is feeling (Image 8).



Image 7

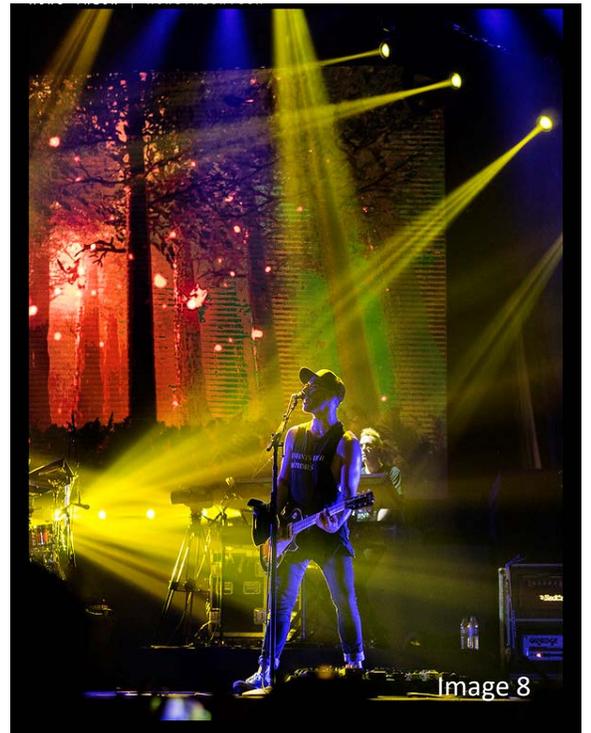


Image 8

## Those You've Known

After Melchior escapes from the reform school that his parents sent him to, he is wandering around the graveyard that Mortiz is buried in when he stumbles across the grave of Wendla. The color palette for the song will be cool blues to show his sorrow at the realization that Wendla has died (Image 9). When the spirits of Wendla and Mortiz appear to Melchior during the song they will primarily be lit with a lighting fixture that is located directly behind them. This light will completely silhouette them so that it will give them the appearance of being supernatural (Image 10).



Image 9



Image 10