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Creating Space

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Creating Space

A thesis submitted in partial satisfaction of the  
Requirements for the degree Master of Fine Arts

in

Theatre and Dance (Design)

by

Sherrice M. Kelly

Committee in charge:

Professor Alan Burrett, Chair  
Professor Andrei Both  
Professor Judith Dolan  
Professor Ross Frank

2012

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Chair

University of California, San Diego

2012

## DEDICATION

For my grandmother Joan O'Boyle,  
her drawings inspired me to pull out my crayons

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## LIST OF SUPPLEMENTAL FILES

File 1. Muzungu, Production Photos and Research

File 2. A Man, His Wife and His Hat, Production Photos

File 3. A Man, His Wife and His Hat, Research, Renderings and Paperwork

File 4. Kasimir and Karoline, Production Photos

File 5. Kasimir and Karoline, Research and Rendering

File 6. Kasimir and Karoline, Paperwork

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## ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS

Creating Space

by

Sherrice M. Kelly

Master of Fine Arts in Theatre and Dance (Design)

University of California, San Diego, 2012

Professor Alan Burrett, Chair

While in graduate school, I have been experimenting, trying to both hone and expand my aesthetics. It is my goal to present myself as a confident and adaptable designer—to take the director's concept and, rather than just give them what they ask for, give them even more than they could imagine. I strive to stay humble, to take suggestion without being defensive or protective of my design, to take risks and make changes without hesitation, all in the hope of creating a more cohesive and accessible final product. When I do not understand a choice made by the director or a fellow designer, I question it, only hoping to understand how my design needs to adapt to support a new choice. It is important to me to have strong visual ideas that shape the world of the play, but to be able to leave them at the wayside if they do not support the production. Looking back on my work, I have created designs that are bold yet simple. With each design I focused on creating or enhancing the world of the play, the location, or the mood. I have often found that limiting my options keeps design choices and ideas clear. I have tried to open my mind and learn from as many

designers and artists as I can. As a creator of moods and spaces, it seems essential to pull inspiration from everywhere.