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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Lighting Design in Devised Work

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

in

Theatre and Dance (Design)

by

Anthony Jannuzzi

Committee in charge:

Professor Alan Burrett, Chair
Professor Robert Brill
Professor Tara Knight
Professor Manuel Rotenberg

2016

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The thesis of Anthony Jannuzzi is approved and it is acceptable in quality and form for publication on microfilm and electronically:

Chair

University of California, San Diego

2016

DEDICATION

To Mom, Jen, Kara, and Jen.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to all the teachers in my life, for getting me this far.

ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS

Lighting Design in Devised Work

by

Anthony Jannuzzi

Master of Fine Arts in Theatre and Dance (Design)

University of California, San Diego, 2016

Professor Alan Burrett, Chair

As a lighting designer working in the business of theater it is quite rare to be asked to weigh in on the plot, specifically the story elements and script, of a typical production. I was given this opportunity during my final production at UCSD, the show *Movers and Shakers*. This piece, produced by Holum-Stein Productions, was given to us as a work in progress, with a loose plot for the second half of the show roughly outlined but with none of the normal trappings one usually finds in a script for a production of this size. Elements were missing like lines of dialogue, time of day and so forth. This production was what has been called a devised show, meaning that the

actors, designers, and director are invited to take on the role of not only being interpretive artists, as in a typical production, but also as generative artists, having a direct hand in the way the story would play out. This role led to some interesting challenges over the course of the production.

Throughout the process of *Movers and Shakers*, from design meetings to technical rehearsals, I was consistently called upon to have an opinion about other areas that are not traditionally under the purview of a lighting designer. Throughout this process, I was challenged as I had never been before, causing me to learn and grow as an artist in unique and interesting ways that will have a direct effect on my work as I transition into the professional world.