

ATC 3M: Making a Dance Film

THE TASK: Create and Plan a short Dance Film based on a theme. (Film length – 1-2 minutes)

Step 1: In your group, brainstorm ideas based around your theme. Narrow down some re-occurring images, moods and ideas associated with your theme.

Step 2: Make a wish list of how you can create these ideas in your dance film. Think about the following elements, choreography, lighting, costumes, music, and location. Create this list as if you had an unlimited budget, time and geographical restrictions. Since some of your ideas might not be entirely possible. i.e. filming at the Eiffel Tower. Create a reality list that is possible considering your resources. For example if you are filming during class time you have a limited number of locations that you can film at (ie. your school). Work from your wish list to create the most similar effect that might be possible.

Step 3: Create and assign roles. Discuss possible roles that need to be created in order for you to complete the assignment. Assign each person a job title and a brief job description. Possible roles include (but are not limited to): costume coordinator, director, cameraperson, dancer. All students should have input on the choreography. You may split roles (i.e. two camera people, who are also dancers).

Step 4: Create the content. What is the choreography? Go back to your individual movement phrase that you created in class. Show each other your phrases and teach the movement to each other. You may wish to use this choreography, and/or develop some more. Take notes on the choreography in your notebook (on-going with the class).

Step 5: Plan a storyboard. This is the “script” for the film. Include the following: All of the shots, camera angles, approx length of shots etc. Label the choreography. Example: opening sequence. Write out the choreography on a separate page. Review the criteria for a storyboard to make sure that you haven’t missed anything.

Step 6: Rehearse what you will be filming (movement, etc.) so that you will not be making changes while filming. Review performance skills during this time.

Step 7: Work with your group to film your work. At this point you should not be making changes to the work.

Step 8: Edit your film so that you can present it to an audience.

Step 9: Present your film to the class or another audience (as arranged by your teacher)

Step 10: Reflect and self evaluate. Use the evaluation sheet to evaluate your group. Self-assess your group work as directed by your teacher.

Note: Hand in all of your process work as directed by your teacher

