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Make-up for the Stage

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MAKE UP THEATRICAL

AN HONORS SPECIAL STUDY
DIVISION OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF DRAMA
OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

MAKE-UP FOR THE STAGE

BY
MICHAEL TINSLEY

FALL SEMESTER 1972

INTRODUCTION

Experience never ceases to be the best method of instruction. It is for this reason that I decided to pursue as my special study in make-up for the stage, the chairmanship of the make-up design for Ouachita Theater's fall productions.

My interest in the theater was increased when I became involved with past productions at Ouachita. In a summer course in 1972, the intrigue of stage make-up became especially interesting. The concepts of being able to alter physical appearance to aid in taking on a different character by brushing and blending color on the face is the basis of stage make-up; the effects of a well done make-up can startle and even fool a person. This, then, was the element that first sparked my interest in attempting this work.

BEGINNINGS

The first step for the make-up designing is an individual character analysis. For the production of The Glass Menagerie, there were four characters to plan for. Their individual character sketches follow on the next few pages.....

AMANDA WINGFIELD

I. Physical Description:

Age: Fifties
Race: White
Health: Good
Physical Type: Thin
Facial Structure: Aging
Color of Skin, Hair: Pale and Graying
Beauty-Ugliness: Fading Beauty

II. Psychological Character:

Sufficiently intelligent to realize her situation and perhaps lacking in reasoning as to how to overcome it.

She wants to establish for herself and her unmarried daughter, a comfortable existence; her determination and dominance over her children will help her get it; her lack of malice and love for her son will keep her from getting it.

Her temperament is mainly domineering; resulting in impatience and sometimes anger; at the bottom of all of this is her true goodness and love.

III. Social Character:

American; Protestant; Housewife; Mother;
Member DAR;

She is existing in a shabby apartment; never going out much; in constant worry of her son deserting her.

TOM WINGFIELD

I. Physical Description:

Age; Twenties

Race; White

Health; Good

Physical Type; Moderately Sedate; indoors job

Facial Structure; Hard lined and shaped

Color of Skin, Hair; Healthy but not ruddy, blond

Beauty-Ugliness: Average

II. Psychological Character:

Intelligent; writes poetry; not content with his situation either; has means to get out but doubts as to leaving his family unsupported.

He wants to move; get out of his depressed state by going places; tries to substitute with escape of watching movies, drinking, and dreaming.

He is sometimes cruel and may seem to be always pessimistic and hard; he is really a sensitive individual.

III. Social Character:

American; Factory Worker; son; Member of Merchant Marine; Poet at heart.

He works in a shoe factory by days and by night goes to movies, drinks in bars, and writes.

LAURA WINGFIELD

I. Physical Description:

Age: Twenties

Race; White

Health; Good

Physical Type; Sedate, has slight limp caused from
attack of pleurosis in teen years.

Facial Structure; Soft lines.

Color of Skin; Hair; Pale, Blond.

Beauty-Ugliness; Pretty but Unobtrusive.

II. Psychological Character:

Intelligent but without goal; extremely shy;
willing to exist but not live.

Her motives are secretive; she realizes her situation
but seems content to remain dormant; she feels imperfect
and thus does not attempt to express her feelings.

III. Social Character;

American; High School Drop-out; a Dud.

Her potential is undeveloped.

JIM O'CONNOR

I. Physical Description:

Age; Twenties
Race; White
Health; Good
Physical Type; Athlete in past, now much less active;
Facial Structure; Good Looking.
Color of Skin; Hair; Healthy and Blond
Beauty-Ugliness; Good Looking and Attractive.

II. Psychological Character:

Intelligent and ambitious; popular in high school;
Studying radio and television.

He wants to establish himself in every social
situation; in marriage, business, and fame.

His situation in relation to Wingfields is one
of a passing acquaintance.

III. Social Character;

American; High School Hero; Singer; Potentially
Successful.

NEXT

The next step after character analysis is the individual make-up plan. For each person to step by step create a correctly perportioned face or the illusion of old age, an itemized guide is prepared by the designer. Make-up Plans for the four characters in The Glass Menagerie follow on the next few pages.....

AMANDA WINGFIELD

Base: Light sallow color, adding small amount of darker stick with reddish tint.

Shaded and Highlighted Areas: Old Age.

Wrinkles: Eye, mouth, forehead, cheek, and neck lines.

Eye Treatment: Bags.

Cheeks: Sunken.

Lips: Rouge No. 3

Nose: Shade sides.

Chin: Thin.

Neck: Lines.

Hands: Shadow sides of fingers and line tops of hands.

Special Features: Gray hair; Pulled to back in first act, then in Act 2, worn down in back.

TOM WINGFIELD

Base: Dark reddish stick with light sallow color. (12,16)

Shaded and Highlighted Areas: Corrective with some overemphasis on brow lines to give frowning effect.

Wrinkles: Mouth.

Eye Treatment: Highlight on portion under brow to bring out the eye.

Cheeks: Shadow under cheek bone

Lips: Small amount of No. 13

Nose: Shade both sides to correct.

Chin: Highlight

Neck: Lines to bring out Adam's Apple

Hands: Base and Few lines.

Special Features: Part in hair close to middle.

LAURA WINGFIELD

Base: Light base used by Amanda to produce paleness.

Shaded Areas: Highlight cheeks with number 16.
Shade sides of nose and eyes.

Eye Treatment: Shade in sunken area above eyelid to end
of eyebrow.

Cheeks: Highlight and blush.

Lips: Rouge No. 3

Nose; Shade Sides to Correct.

Hands and Arms: Base.

JIM O'CONNOR

Base: 12 and 16

Shaded and Highlighted Areas: Correct.

Eye Treatment: Liner

Lips: No. 13

Nose: Shade to Correct.

Hands; Base.

Special Features: Part Hair in close to middle.

TO DEMONSTRATE

To supplement the other material here, there follows a pictorial make-up demonstration very similar to that performed on the actress who played Amanda Wingfield in The Glass Menagerie.

Exposure No. 1- The actress as she appears with no make-up; her face has been cleaned with cold cream to prepare the face for make-up.

Exposure No. 2- Showing one side of the face with highlight and shadow as it appears when applied with brush; the other side has been blended.

Exposure No. 3- The side which has not been blended; Notice the highlight and shadow on specific areas such as forehead, temple, eye, nose, mouth, cheek and jowls, chin and neck.

Exposure No. 4- The side which was blended.

Exposure No. 5- Both sides now have been blended.

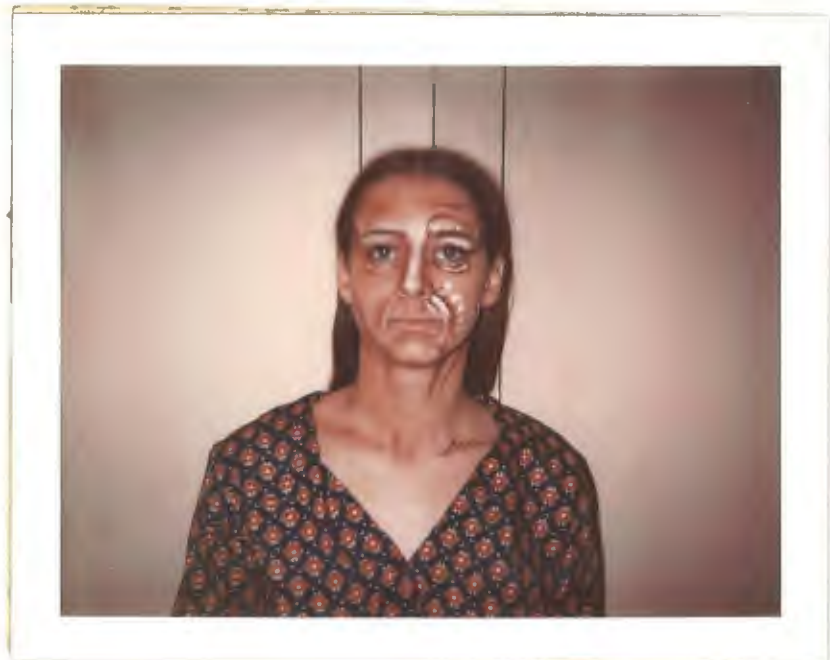
Exposure No. 6- Blush on the Cheeks, eye shadow of a pale color blue, and lip rouge have been added; the hair has been gathered in back to complete the effect of this demonstration.

Exposure No. 7- Pictured are the materials that were used; tissue, cold cream, three base colors, liner for shadow, clown white for highlight, hair pins, cheek blusher, lip rouge, eye shadow, and powder.

Exposure No. 1



Exposure No. 2



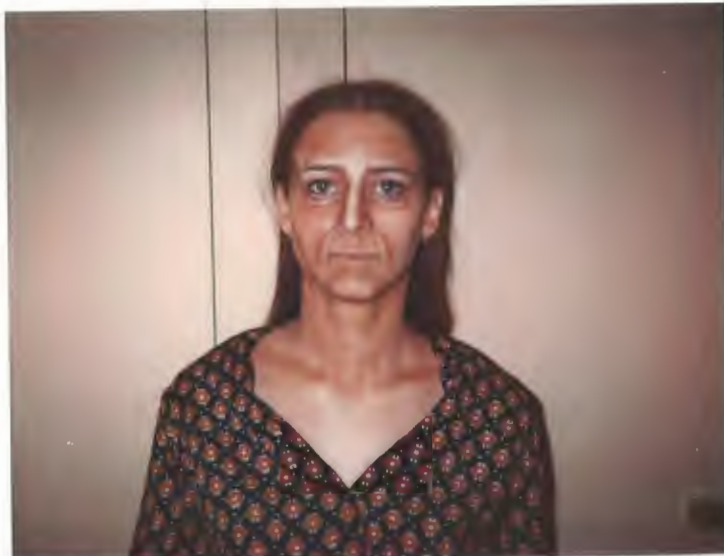
Exposure No. 3



Exposure No. 4



Exposure No. 5



Exposure No. 6



Exposure No. 7



IN CONCLUSION

The material presented in this portfolio represents many more hours work than it took to prepare it. Among the duties which have not been mentioned of the Chairman of Make-up is to assist in preparation for each performance, and after the performance to clean the mess which has been forgotten in the excitement..

The study was rewarding and enjoyable. The excitement of the theatre is one of experience; as well as being enjoyable it is a learning tool.