

**Adapting theatrical decoration for two different theaters****An applied study on the play (If my heart was with me)****Assist. Prof. Dr. Mona Ahmed Hussein Hassan Al Sers****Assistant Professor, College of Design and Creative Arts, Department of Interior Design and Furniture Al-Ahram Canadian University**[mnsers@hotmail.com](mailto:mnsers@hotmail.com)**Abstract:**

The play “If my heart is with me” was shown at the Romance Theater in central Cairo in the Azbakeya neighborhood within the activities of the theater festival for higher institutes and private academies within the framework of participation in the competition of the Ministry of Higher Education for the 7-color band for students of the Higher Institute of Applied Arts on the sixth of October. The text was written by Salim Kitchener, and revolves around The events of the play are in an absurd framework that tends to symbolism, as it revolves around Antar Ibn Shaddad from the era of pre-Islamic era, coincidentally speaking to him with Shayboub, as they move through time and reach our present era.

After reading and analyzing the text and attending several rehearsals for the presentation and discussion with the director, it was agreed to deal with the show in an absurd manner that tends to symbolism, because the text is based on a fantasy idea whose events are inspired by the author's imagination. The researcher identified the main problem, which is: How to create an actual image on the stage that moves the spectator from the era of ignorance to our present time and from place to place where events move six different scenes until they end up in a mental hospital and achieve this despite the weak budget because the show is an activity My students on a limited budget?

The researcher wondered, is it possible to find a quick way to implement the decoration and change the scenes to move the spectator from one scene to another without feeling the events stopped or leaving the absurd dramatic atmosphere? Finally, is it possible to design and implement a decor suitable for displaying the text on two theaters, each of which differs in standards and specifications, as the novel was shown on the Romance Theater in May 2018, and then the El-Sawy Culture Wheel Theater in Cairo, Zamalek District, in July 2018?

Consequently, the researcher designed a decor in an absurd manner that tends to symbolism, as Antara Ibn Shaddad travels through time from the era of ignorance to our present time and moving from place to place until they end up in a mental hospital, and they do not believe the extent of human degeneration in moral values and humanity.

Cooperation was made with the director to design and create an expressive artistic image that contributes to confirming the director’s and author’s point of view with an attempt to achieve the functional aspect of decoration to serve the actor’s performance to make an integrated presentation of elements and find functional solutions to change the scenes of decoration and move it from one theater to another with limited time, space and financial capabilities.

The researcher reached several results, including that the plastic vision determines the data of the viewer while he sees the show; Whether it was in a comic or tragic or absurd context and others. Solving the problems of changing the decor and saving time and space remains one of the most important goals of the decorator and executor. The work of theatrical decoration for students and their participation in its manufacture and its coming to light on stage remains an

important and purposeful work where students gain experiences in the field of implementation and that the designer can overcome the weakness of the available capabilities and the absence of the auxiliary mechanism in achieving what may be in his imagination to give a more impressive and expressive image and to achieve His ideas came up with other ways.

**Key Words:**

Decoration- Theatre- Panorama.