

Slavs!

Lighting Approach

Lighting Design 3

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I see the play having a dark and eerie tone though out the play. Most Americans view Russia to be this cold dark and dreary place (whether it is or not), to go against this ingrained belief should lead to disaster. Thus I suggest my lighting to be dark with it very evident where the light is coming from. When it is not possible to have it dark with shafts of light the feeling should be flat and boring.

For the outdoor scene (preface) a plan on a bluish white (cold) look. It might be worth trying to get it almost painfully bright. Although this will be contrasted to the rest of the play I think it will serve two purposes. It will help make the following scenes look darker (reaction of the eye) and it will impose a bit of reality. Since it is never exactly said when in the morning it is I suggest it is late enough in the morning that the sun is already reflecting brightly off of the snow.

In the following scenes inside the “Kremlin” I see a florescent almost flat look. This might be attained by using only a front wash (blue with a hint of green). To change locals the wash could be darker in different areas of the stage. During the long speech by Aleksii the use of a down spot might be in order.

In Act 2 we jump to the brain storage area. This act has more possibility for the use of shafts of light. The main source of light should seem to come from a lamp on the desk or some ware in the room. Also the jars of brains would look particularly eerie if they are backlit with a florescent blue (we have all scene a bad Frankenstein movie). Another shaft could come from the “door”, filling in as the door opens. And of course we can't forget the red lights at the end of the act!

In Act 3 we jump to a Siberia in a hospital. To work in the shafts of light theme, a use of window gobos could be used. The window gobos should be from a low angles and coming in from one primary direction. This choice can be attributing to the fact that Siberia is far north and any sunlight would most likely be low on the horizon. Again at the end of this act we can't forget those darn red lights.

The prologue could then make use of a blue/gray down light. This light should be flat and even though out the whole stage as if the light is coming from no ware. The act as a whole should be boring, suggesting that there time in haven is boring.