



A HISTORY OF

THEATER

WRITTEN AND ADAPTED BY
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STAGE SCRIPT

A History of Theatre & Film



Page Count: 59



Age Group: 6+



No. Characters: 65

Logline:

From raucous Greek choruses to the chaos of a modern film set, *A History of Theatre and Film* hilariously traces the evolution of storytelling through whimsical vignettes, offering a vibrant and accessible journey through theatrical and cinematic history for performers and audiences of all ages.

Find the full character list on the next page

Synopsis

A History of Theatre and Film is a lively, comedic exploration of the evolution of storytelling throughout theatrical and cinematic history, presented as a collection of short, whimsical vignettes.

The journey begins in Ancient Greece, where the concept of theatrical storytelling is humorously introduced through a raucous Greek chorus and their absurd antics. From there, it leaps across eras and styles, highlighting iconic moments in theatrical history. The playful antics of the Commedia dell'Arte characters, Shakespeare's (or rather Marlowe's) creative genius in a bustling café, and Oscar Wilde's witty charm as he searches for creative inspiration amongst the characters around him.

As the narrative progresses into the 20th century, the Lumière Brothers introduce the birth of cinema, humourously showcasing the confusion and awe of early audiences. The bustle continues on a modern film set, where technical mishaps and miscommunications shine a light on the chaos of the production process.

The script blends historical events and fictionalized encounters introduces the history of theatre and film to young performers and audiences alike. It can be used as a full length production as well as individual narrative scripts, each story being rich in humour, accessible language, and dynamic characters for all ages.



A History of Theatre & Film

Narratives & Character List:

The Greeks: 9 characters

Servants 1-9

Commedia Therapy: 12 characters

Captain

Columbina

Doctor 1

Doctor 2

Pantalone 1

Pantalone 2

Harlequino

Witch

Brighella

Magnifico

First Actor

Zanni

Oscar Wilde in a Cafe: 12 characters

Oscar Wilde

Freddy

Dorian

Sibyl

Jane

Cecily

Mabel

Alexandra

Jackie/Jo

Miss Prism

Lady Bracknell

Gwendolen

All the World's a Stage Café:

11 characters

Cafe Owner

Shakespeare

Marlowe

Juliet

Macbeth

Lady Macbeth

Romeo

Tybalt

Weird Sisters 1 - 3

The Lumiere Brothers: 9 characters

Robert

Adam

Bertina

Catherine

Mary

George

Elizabeth

Auguste Lumière

Louis Lumière

Film Set Gone Wrong: 12 characters

Sally

Jackie

Dan

Director

Producer

Assistant

AD

Camera

Sound

AC

Costume

Make Up

Have fun with it!

A HISTORY OF THEATRE AND FILM

Written by Ian Breeds



THE GREEKS

The servants enter the stage through various entrances repeating the same chant "hurry hurry, quick, quick" they end up in Greek chorus style formation.

ALL

Hurry hurry, quick quick! Hurry hurry,
quick quick! Hurry hurry, quick quick!

SERVANT 1

Bring the dung-beetle his cake.

SERVANT 2

There it is. Give it to him, and may it kill
him!

ALL

(Cheer!)

SERVANT 3

Hey you scavengers, help me in the
name of the gods, if you don't want to
see me choke.

SERVANT 4

Come on, we need another! Keep on
mixing with all your might.

SERVANT 5

By god, no. I can't stand this awful
stench no longer.

ALL

Ewwwww!

SERVANT 6

We shall find something to help the
smell.

(to the audience)

Maybe, one of you can tell me where I
can find something to block a nose?

SERVANT 7

There is no work more disgusting than
to mix food for a dung-beetle and to
carry it to him.

SERVANT 6

This foul creature acts all high and mighty, refusing to eat unless we present him with a dung cake that's been kneaded for an entire day.

SERVANT 7

What an indecent, stinking, gluttonous beast!

SERVANT 8

I don't know what angry god let this monster loose upon us, but of a certainty it was neither Aphrodite nor the Graces.

SERVANT 9

Who was it then?

SERVANT 1

No doubt Zeus, the God of the Thunderclap.

SERVANT 2

But perhaps some spectator, some beardless youth, will say...

ALL

"What is this? What does the beetle mean?"

SERVANT 2

But now I'm going indoors to fetch the beetle a drink.

SERVANT 3

As for us, we will explain the matter to you all, children, youths, grownups and old men.

SERVANT 4

Our master is mad, not as you are, but with another sort of madness, quite a new kind.

SERVANT 5