

Mood Boards-Medea

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THEA 250

Time

For my Time mood board, I wanted to show the differences between the idealized life of a woman who would become an American citizen through marriage to an American and the realities of women living in the United States. I picked images of Japanese war brides (the nationality I would have Medea be in this production) and layered them with images of sexist advertisements and advertisement slogans. I wanted to show the way these women were expected to be obedient to their husbands and conform to the American way of life, as they were expected to. The two images that do not fit this pattern are a picture of women wearing avant-garde “dresses”-of an oven and a suburban house, which I felt very much represented the expectations of women in the time period of the late 40s to 50s, the time period I am focusing in on. I feel like the juxtaposition of the photos of women and their American husbands and the advertisements show the conformity and attitudes towards women that Medea faces and eventually rebels against. This period was one of the first periods that came into my mind when I thought about what time I wanted to set this play in if I was to set it outside of the original time period and I wanted to be able to convey the sexist attitudes. The slogans themselves helped me show the average American mindset. I also wanted to use these particular slogans because it helped me represent the two different sides of conformity Medea faced, to accept “her place as a woman” and to conform to the American culture and way of life. The Feminine Mystique cover was also included because it covers issues of the female experience that mirror the play in many ways.

Place

For my mood board for place, I focused in on the American Suburbs of the 1950s. I picked this because I wanted the contrast of the ideal American Family in an ideal American House in an ideal American Neighborhood and the acts of sadness and violence that occur within the house.

It is the feelings of foreignness and issues fitting in that I want to focus on, in both as both a foreigner and a feminist, and a perfect, busy, American suburb would be an ill fit for a Japanese Medea. For this mood board I tried to create a sense of uniformity of the streets of this Suburbia by matching up pictures of different neighborhoods by their roads, creating a collage type effect in which one could drive from one picture to another seamlessly on the same road. I did this in order to show a sense of order and uniformity that people in the suburbs conform to in order to achieve the dream life everyone is expecting when they move into such a neighborhood. I placed the advertisement in the middle because I felt it exemplified the idealism that Jason and Medea, among many young couples, would feel moving to a new and beautiful land such as Corinth, and I felt it reflected that sentiment regarding suburban neighborhoods. The pictures of the houses were placed in such a way as to feel like they are popping off the map, yet part of the larger neighborhood. The beautiful houses and suburban area photos are meant to greater exemplify the veneer of perfection each family is expected to project. The entire collage is done in a mix of black and white images and color images not only to better differentiate different pictures but to show the underlying chaos and disorder that occurs in these neighborhoods, and that although everything may match on the surface the emotions and feelings of the play do not necessarily match the image that is being projected.