

Laura Richardson

Professor Schweikardt

THEA 250

5 April 2020

### Mood Boards for Medea

For my time mood board, I focused on a lot of historical pottery and images from that time. This is because the art and craftsmanship dealt with a lot of stark and dark colors which I think fits perfectly with the mood of *Medea*. During the time period of *Medea* and everything prior to *Medea* a lot of events dealt with war and death. Thus, I grabbed pictures visualizing war and death from that time period with eerie coloring as well. This helps add to the tone and set up for the traumatic events in the play. Wars are cold, calculating, and bloody and that is what Medea similarly plans when she kills her children. She is planning an attack strategy against Jason and everything he cares about. A lot happens in the play as Medea tries to go back and forth between killing the children while also hearing the chorus' pleas. These images have a lot going on in them because of this. There are a lot of moving parts within the story of *Medea* just, as there are a lot of moving parts to the images. The time period was big on telling stories and the way they told them through their art seems bleak and depressing which is probably a good way to tell the story of Medea. It is dark and twisted so it would require the dark and twisted imagery the Greek's had at the time. They prided themselves on the theater and their stories so using images from their era and their stories seemed to fit well with what the design for *Medea* should go for. The pictures are arranged a little chaotically to represent the chaos represented in Greek stories of that time era and especially the chaotic mess that happens in *Medea*.

For my place mood board, I wanted to focus on every possible angle of what could be happening in the setting. While, the setting is outside of Jason and Medea's home, there are a lot of dark deeds that are done just out of sight of what is seen by the audience. On the board I made the center of it the big, grandiose, house or location that is typical of ancient Greece and where Jason and Medea would probably live. While it seems bright and normal on the outside, there is ominous going on in the wings and behind closed doors out of sight. That is why I have placed darker images of these dark hallways and locations surrounding the few bright pictures in the center. The shadows and locations could be shown similarly on stage with a bright set in the middle being surrounded in darkness or dark buildings and shadows. This could also represent the façade that Medea puts on when trying to trick Jason and his soon to be wife. While she appears to have good intentions on the outside, she really has nefarious deeds which she planned out meticulously. The act of the murder of the children itself happens in the house just outside of the audience's line of sight and while there is probably a nice entrance, all anyone could fixate on is the darkness behind the façade and the noises coming from the shadows. The one black and white image has a crowd to show how public the space really is and while the deeds are hidden everyone can still hear it being done. It is a place that has a dark ominous presence and that is because of the main character. It seems like a normal home but, Medea herself ends up tainting it with her plans and deeds.