

Learning Places Fall 2016
Chin/Swift

SITE REPORT [part II: performer/spectator] Master Harold And the boys

**“MASTER HAROLD”
... AND THE BOYS**
written and directed by
Athol Fugard



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INTRODUCTION

The performance *Master Harold And the Boys* is played in the Irene Diamond Stage in the Signature Theater. The setting is in a small South African tea shop in 1950. Two black men and a white boy joke and have fun together. However, a phone call triggers some issues of family, race and power. Main performers are Sahr Ngajjah, Noah Robbins and Leon Addison Brown.

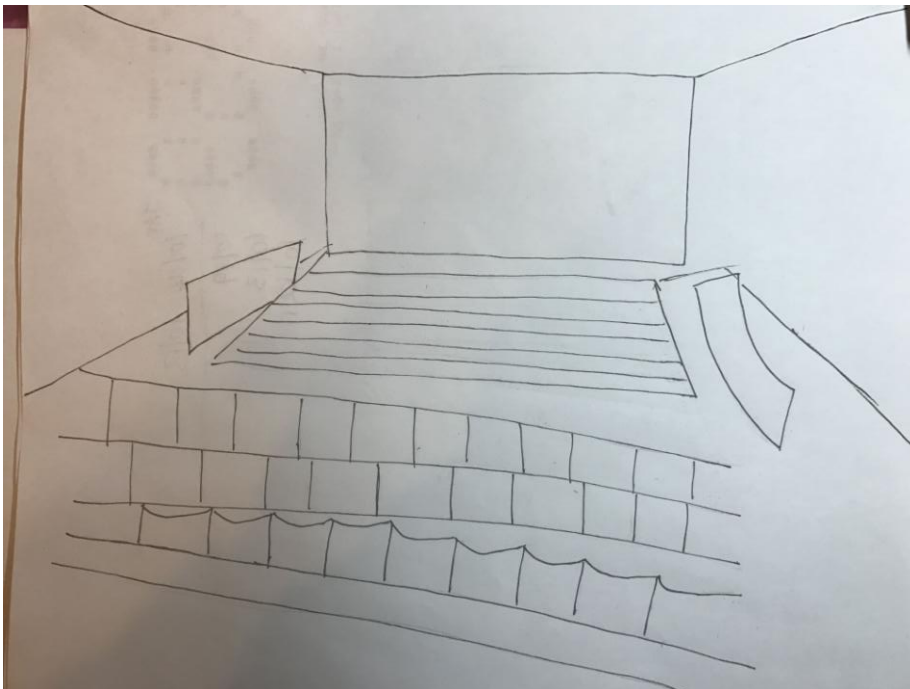
PRE-VISIT REFLECTION

Prior to site visit, I am planning to observe and analyze the stage effect, the props, the music, the costume, and the performance of the actors, etc., as well as the reaction of spectators. I am also interested about the content of the story.

SITE DOCUMENTATION (photos/sketches)



https://static1.squarespace.com/static/54c86404e4b08901cc3f33c4/5531249be4b09f388bcd2899/5590717ae4b003b3116c83a3/1435529603485/827_1diamondtheatre_signature_center_frank_gehry_jamesewing_3488.jpg?format=1000w



The picture and sketch are important because they show the structure and design of the Diamond Stage.

QUALITATIVE SITE OBSERVATIONS

1. Description of architectural elements of the auditorium where the performance was held (stage arrangement (proscenium, thrust, in the round, etc.), seating arrangement (amphitheater, orchestra and balcony, etc. aisles, types of seats, risers, etc.)

The proscenium is not very big but has been used the most of it. Overall the space is narrow, therefore the seating space is limited. And the balcony area is sort of small and simple. They do have comfortable seats provided.

2. Description of the physical element on the stage (set pieces, technologies, lighting,)

It sets in a restaurant in a long, rainy afternoon. The costume of performers is old fashioned. The props are complete such as the mop Willie uses, the soup Hally drinks, the tables and chairs. The sets are very real. There is actual water dropping outside the walls. The lighting changes as the performance needed.

3. Description of audience (socio-economic, community identity)

Most of the audiences are middle-class seniors.

QUANTITATIVE DATA for Area of Study

Subject	Data
Size of performance space	Relatively narrow
Number of spectators (range)	250-300
Length (in time) of performance	100 minutes
Cost of performance (if any)	\$32
Other data	

QUESTIONS TO RESEARCH FURTHER

QUESTIONS:

1. What are the themes of the performance?
2. What are some reviews about the performance?

RESEARCH METHOD/SOURCE FOR EACH QUESTION ABOVE:

1. Question 1
 - a. Enote.com
 - b. Litcharts.com
2. Question 2
 - a. theatermania.com
 - b. <http://thestagereview.net>