

Expressing your Stanza Through Movement and Sound

Clarify *what* you are communicating

1. Choose a facilitator to make sure everyone's ideas are heard and to help the group make decisions.
2. Discuss the meaning of your stanza and the adaptation it is expressing. Feel free to underline key words, draw pictures etc., so that everyone in the group is clear on precisely what you are communicating. Though the stanza is about a very specific adaptation, you are still interpreting what you want to say about it. Be very specific.
3. Apply the five Ws (Who are the characters, where are they, when are they there, what are they doing, why are they doing it?) as you see fit. What is the emotion or mood?

Creating the Picture

1. You may use tableaux (frozen pictures, or statues). Think about how you might use stillness to express ideas. Consider how you fill the space forward and back, side to side, high and low. Know what you're thinking and what your face is communicating.
2. You may use movement. Think about the quality of the movement, the rate of movement; how you might use slow motion. You may combine movement and stillness.
3. Know where your eyes are focusing, and what that communicates.

Creating the Sound

1. Who is going to say which line? To whom are they speaking (the audience, themselves, another character)?
2. How can you use your voice most effectively to communicate your idea in terms of rate, pitch, volume, and silences. Which words do you want to emphasize? How do you feel about what you are saying? What is the emotion of the line? Let the words hypnotize you.
3. Are there any sounds you want to add to enhance communication.

Performance Pointers

1. Know your opening and ending positions.
2. Face the audience. Let the audience see all of the actors.
3. Speak so the audience can hear you.
4. Rehearse!