

Providence College

DigitalCommons@Providence

Playbill and Promotion

Summer and Smoke (1988)

Fall 1988

Summer and Smoke Designing Notes

Fr. Peter John Cameron, O.P.

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.providence.edu/smoke_pubs



Part of the [Acting Commons](#)

DESIGNING NOTES

- KEY:
1. Time and Date
 2. Costume Specifications
 3. Lighting Specifications
 4. Set Specifications
 5. Effect Specifications
 6. Property Specifications
 7. Sound/Music

ACT I

- 1.
2. Dramatic color contrasts to sky's intense blue - color harmonizes very important.
3. Day scenes - pure and intense blue light. Visual effects tremendously important. Night scenes - constellations (Orion, Great Bear, Pleiades), Milky Way, fleecy clouds.
4. 1.) Episcopal Rectory - parlor, Victorian American Gothic, no actual doors or windows; framework of Gothic design; strings of ivy; fragments of walls; romantic landscape in a gilt frame.
2.) Doctor's office - anatomy chart and same as above.
3.) The park - glorious Hill Public square - stone angel fountain - real water.
4.) Moon Lake Casino Arbor.
- 5.
- 6.
7. Music to be indicated.

SEQUENCE 1

1. Dusk, May, 1910.
2. Young Alma (10) - middy blouse, ribboned braids
Young John - dirty old sweater - "torn red sweater" p. 118
3. Misty, shadowy - lights indicate this is a memory.
4. Same
5. Fog machine mist throughout this scene.

Designing Notes, Con't.

Sequence 1 Continued

6. Box of handkerchiefs; backpack (John).
7. Alma singing scales - sustained note on P.

SEQUENCE 2

1. Same
2. Same
3. Same
4. Same
5. Same
6. Same
7. Children's voices calling "Johnny! Johnny!"

SEQUENCE 3

1. Evening, July 4, 1913 (shortly before World War I).
2. John: a hat
3. Fireworks; light change from faded sunlight to dusk; stars become visible.
4. Sections of roof, steeples, weather vanes - all with metallic surface backdrop.
Bench near fountain; steps at base of fountain.
5. None
6. Dr. B: silver-headed cane.
7. Scales into a patriotic anthem - Alma singing "La Golondrina" to guitar accompaniment.

SEQUENCE 4

1. Same
2. Alma: dressed in pale yellow, yellow silk parasol, purse, handkerchief.

Designing Notes, Con't.

Sequence 4 Continued

3. Same
4. More than one bench?
5. None
6. See #2
7. La Golondrina - crowd applause until p. 24.

SEQUENCE 5

1. Same
2. Same
3. Same
4. Same and "leaves of the palmetto" p. 32.
5. Gulf wind
6. Firecrackers present on stage floor, matches; filled flask.
7. Sound of Gulf wind.

SEQUENCE 6

1. Same
2. Rosa: silk, metallic ornaments, outrageous finery, lustrous feathers on hat, greenish blue, diamond and emerald earrings.
3. Same
4. Same
5. None
6. None
7. None

SEQUENCE 7

1. Same

Designing Notes, Con't.

Sequence 7 Continued

2. Same
3. Three bursts of fireworks.
4. Same
5. None
6. None
7. Crowd and sound of fireworks "Ahhh" - "Ahhh" - french horn, "La Golondrina" - explosion and "Ahhh."

SEQUENCE 8

1. Same
2. Same
3. Skyrocket - Roman Candle with 7 puffs - skyrocket - final skyrocket.
4. Same
5. Same
6. French horn case
7. French horn - explosion and "Ahhh" - explosion and "Ahhh" - explosion and long "Ahhh" - explosion and "Ahhh" - anthem music.

SEQUENCE 9

1. Wednesday, late morning/early afternoon - August 1 - 27 days - 4 weeks later!
2. Fancy, white-plummed hat; parasol; costume change for Mrs. W. and Alma.
3. Interior lighting of Rectory.
4. Rectory parlor interior; love seat with mirror over it; center table.
5. Telephone ring.
6. Telephone
7. None

Designing Notes, Con't.

SEQUENCE 10

1. Same
2. Costume change for John.
3. Same and interior lighting of Buchanans; indication of an upstairs for the Rectory.
4. Same and doctor's office: table; window indications for both interior settings.
5. Telephone ring in doctor's office; doorbell ring in Rectory.
6. Picture jigsaw puzzle; palm leaf fan; glass of bromo.
7. None

SEQUENCE 11

1. Same
2. None
3. Fade out - end of scene.
4. Rectory - a piano to "run over some scales;" office: banisters; a stairwell; working door; curtains; green plush sofa?
5. None
6. Cigarettes; matches.
7. Music - scales again?

SEQUENCE 12

1. August 1, 1913, same day, 8:00 p.m.
2. Vernon: open collar
Rosemary: thick-lensed glasses
John: white linen coat; white Panama hat; big silver pocket watch.
3. Lights on interior Rectory - up, and then fade - special on cross then black.
4. Rectory parlor: chairs for Roger, Vernon, Mrs. B. and Rosemary.

Designing Notes, Con't.

Sequence 12 Continued

5. Doorbell
6. Minutes of meetings; 8 inch thick verse play, paper on William Blake; 5 palm leaf fans.
7. Music to segue?

SEQUENCE 13

1. 2:00 a.m., August 2, 1913.
2. Alma: blouse with little pearl buttons; topaz ring set in pearls.
3. Lights up doctor's office - overhead hanging fixture out - general fade with special on anatomy chart then black.
4. Doctor's office: examination table? visible stairwell; light chair; door and side door.
5. Heavy iron clock bell strikes 3:00.
6. Box of white tablets; glass of water; bloody bandage; stethoscope.
- 7.

SEQUENCE 14

1. Saturday, August 4, 1913
2. Alma: costume change - including hat, gloves, and veil.
3. Lights up Rectory - fade
4. Same
5. None
6. Sermon; pen; matches; cigarettes
7. None

Designing Notes, Con't.

SEQUENCE 15

1. A little before 10:00 p.m. that same evening.
2. John: white linen suit
3. Lights up on arbor and hanging lantern lit.
4. Arbor: table, two chairs, hanging torn paper lantern.
5. None
6. Wine bottle and two wine glasses.
7. Mexican music - piano blues.

SEQUENCE 16

1. Same - 10:00 p.m.
2. Same
3. Same to fade on tableau of 2 Almas.
4. Same
5. None
6. Matches; cigarettes.
7. Hoarse shouts from Casino - prolonged shouts - scales.

ACT II

SEQUENCE 17

1. A Friday night later in August, 1913.
2. Alma: change
3. Sky and constellations - lights up Rectory - fade out - lights up doctor's office.
4. Rectory: tiny table.
5. Doorbell
6. Cut glass pitcher of lemonade with cherries and orange slices.

Designing Notes, Con't.

Sequence 17 Continued

7. Mexican music

SEQUENCE 18

1. Same
2. Rosa: Flamenco costume, gold beads; Gonsales - coat, belt with 2 revolvers; Alma: robe.
3. Fade out Rectory - lights up doctor's office - lights up in Rectory - fade out in both.
4. Doctor's office: swivel chair, desk, couch.
5. Wind blowing curtains, blood
6. Castanets, wine glass, blank gun revolver, roll of bills.
7. Accordion music - guitar "La Golondrina" - murmur of wind - scales.

SEQUENCE 19

1. The next morning
2. None
3. Lights up doctor's office - fade out on tableau of two Johns.
4. Doctor's office: table, couch
5. None
6. Coffee tray, towel
7. Alma - "I heard the voice of Jesus say"

SEQUENCE 20

1. Late November afternoon just before Thanksgiving.
2. Mrs. W.: brilliant scarf; Mr. W.: eyeglasses; Alma: dressing gown.
3. Lights up Rectory
4. Rectory - same

Designing Notes, Con't.

Sequence 20 Continued

5. Alma: hair hanging loose
6. Ice cream cone
7. Sousa March - roll of drums.

SEQUENCE 21

1. Same
2. John: spacely dressed, starched collar; Nellie: "very adult clothes," high heels, feathers.
3. Lights up doctor's office.
4. Office: same
5. Blush
6. Loving-cup trophy; anatomy book; sack of peppermint drops.
7. Band music

SEQUENCE 22

1. 4:00 p.m., December afternoon before Christmas.
2. Nellie: former clothes childish, now very fashionable - jacket; Mrs. B: flowing black veil, black gloves.
3. Lights up park - fade out.
4. The park: same
5. Great wind
6. Fancy basket with Christmas gifts, small package wrapped in paper with silver stars and sprig of holly, pin, lace handkerchief, card.
7. Sound of strong wind - music?

SEQUENCE 23

1. Same afternoon, 5:00 p.m.
2. Alma: russet suit, matching plume hat, gloves, purse.

Designing Notes, Con't.

Sequence 23 Continued

3. Sunlight - behind cloud - brightens and lights up office.
4. Office: new white equipment.
5. Bell tolls
6. Microscope, slide, matches, prescription pad, pen, solitaire ring.
7. Singing wind rising and falling - scales.

SEQUENCE 24

1. Dusk, the same day.
2. Mr. K: checked suit, derby; Alma: veil, purse.
3. Lights up park - radiates red on park and office - fade to black.
4. Park: same
5. None
6. Pills wrapped in white paper.
7. Train whistle - repeat and repeat.