

The Apollo



Playbook VOLUME:1

An instructional guide to designing visual effects for classic theater.

"The Crucible"



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"The Crucible"

Author: Arthur Miller

Notes

The show is written with very intense drama. As the lighting designer, you must help echo that intensity carefully. The scenery is fairly sparse so the urge to complicate the lighting might be strong. Please be careful as the fine line from assisting the action to distracting from the action can be easily crossed.

Act 1

Setting

Small bedroom in home of Samuel Parris.

Lighting Indicators

Morning sunlight streaming in from window on left. A candle still burns near bed. It is spring 1692 in Massachusetts.

Color Suggestions

AP6600  **Harvest Gold** - Morning sun through window

AP4800  **Ice Blue** - Morning sky

AP4700  **Timid Blue** or

AP7250  **Nude Gold** - Candlelight

AP7700  **Peach Amber** - Warm overall wash (this could be used throughout entire show to enhance skin tones, add general illumination, and work with the other recommended colors)

Side Note:

Consider adding red backlight (**AP8200**  **Scandalous Scarlet** or **AP8350**  **Bludgeon Red**) used sparingly as a wash on floor to increase the tension in the scene as indicated by the script

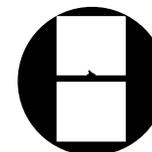
Pattern Suggestions

Window
4020



(or)

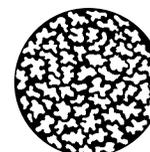
Window Plain
6001



Side Note:

Window gobo #6001 projected on floor near window to indicate the sun streaming through the window and to add detail to the scene.

Foliage Breakup
1027



Breakup Twig
1040



Side Note:

Consider a large break-up in the red backlight to add depth and texture to the floor.

Act 2

Setting

The common room in John Proctor's house.

Lighting Indicators

Fireplace at left (main source). A door opening to the fields at right. "It's almost dark" spoken by actor. The room is low, dark.

Color Suggestions

AP7400  **Apollo Gold** - Fireplace

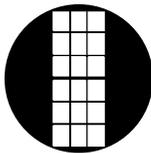
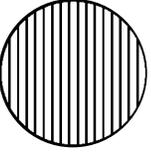
AP7600  **Apollo Orange** - A second color can be alternated with **AP7400** to indicate flickering firelight

AP7700  **Peach Amber** - Warm overall wash. See Act 1 notes

AP4270  **Rhythm & Blue** - Outdoor early evening light

AP3500  **Apollo Lavender** - Outdoor night light

Pattern Suggestions	Breakup Camp Fire 2448  Gobos focused in fireplace can be used as a chase to give firelight effect.	Ocean Ripples 2277 	Side Note: An alternate effect would be a Smart Move® rotator with Apollo #2277 and Crushed Dichroic "Fire" pattern rotating and focused in the fireplace.	Crushed Dichroic "Fire" 	
	Clouds Full 1102 	Night Sky SR-1102 	Early evening cloud gobo seen through doorway on a flat or cyc.		
	Fireplace Victorian 6061 	Staircase Enclosed 6084 	Side Note: Apollo carries two patterns which could be used to indicate the fireplace and the doorway scenic elements.		
	Breakup Fire Natural 2477 	Side Note: To simulate the flickering of a fireplace, consider using two fire patterns (Apollo #2477) with AP7400 Apollo Gold and AP7600 Apollo Orange alternating as a backlight focused on the floor to give the scene a bit more realism. BE CAREFUL that it does not distract from the action and dialogue.			
Act 3	Setting: Vestry room of the Salem meeting house.				
Lighting Indicators	Sunlight pouring in through two high windows. The room is solemn, "even forbidding."				
Color Suggestions	AP7050  Fatherless Amber and AP3300  Whispering Lavender - Use both of these for sunlight through windows Side Note: The two colors can be alternated subtly to echo the coldness or dramatic events of the scene AP7100  Hot Cocoa - Beam pattern on cyc or walls AP7700  Peach Amber - Warm overall wash. See Act 1 notes				

Pattern Suggestions	Beams 2 2202  Beam gobos on floor and/or walls.	C. Morrison - Breakup Sticks 2 2208  Jagged gobos on walls or cyc (used subtly to add depth to setting and scene).	Window Three-Column 6020  Window gobos on floor.
Act 4	Setting: A Salem jail cell.		
Lighting Indicators	Moonlight seeping through bars in window. Lantern light (enters). It is early morning before sunrise in the fall.		
Color Suggestions	AP4300  London Blue or AP4600  Electric Blue - Moonlight AP4700  Timid Blue or AP7250  Nude Gold - Lantern light (the same light source that is used in Act 1, if scenic elements allow it) AP8350  Bludgeon Red - Red light - to accentuate intensity of scene AP3200  Submissive Lavender - Sunlight outside as sun comes up and to indicate drama that ends play AP7700  Peach Amber - Warm overall wash. See Act 1 notes		
Pattern Suggestions	Breakup Twig 1040  Opening moonlight break-up on rags (Sarah Good)	Horizontal Lines 1033  (or) Bars 2330 	Noose 3061  Side Note: A custom gobo design for the gallows could be used if realism is important. The gallows could be projected outside of the door, on the cyc, or even on the floor as if the sun is rising behind the gallows.
Notes	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>The End</i></p> 		
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