

Movie Critique: Mise En Scene



Mise en scene is a film that covers the obvious features of films - the actors and the settings. It comprises of props, make-ups, and costumes besides other artificial and natural details which characterize the filmed spaces. *Mise en scene* incorporates cinematography and film editing process which influences the film's appearance to be true in the viewers' eyes. The various design assist in conveying the vision of a film through creating a sense of space and time, as well as setting the mood and in some instances proposing a character's thoughts.

Mise En Scene has employed certain techniques in the film with an aim of creating dominance. For instance, Enid who is the major character in the movie is distinguishable from all other characters and objects. In comparison to the largest objects in the film, the techniques successfully portrayed Enid to be the most appealing. The creation of dominance is further portrayed by Enid's mode of dressing that matches what is expected of the main character. For instance, she dresses in brightly colored clothing unlike the entire coloring of the movie which is characterized by dull colors. Similarly, Seymour a character in the movie is dressed in brown and dark clothes which are dull colors, thereby making Enid outstanding. The film is characterized by moderate lighting; an issue that is perceived to be as a result of lack of brightly lit scenes; moreover, movie does lack many shadows. Despite that imbalance in shadow and light, *Mise En Scene* still managed to retain its mood. It is probable that moderate lighting suited the film because it is a character grounded drama/comedy.

The shot and camera proxemics throughout the movie fitted it appropriately.

For instance, when characters are far from the locale, they resembled mere specks. Everything captured in the film is in the right angle as evidenced by clear objects which were photographed on the eye – level. Colors used in the film are symbolic. When the characters are in the kitchen, Enid is seen to be a different person due to her brightly colored clothes. On the other hand, Seymour dressed in clothes which look resembled the kitchen wares. Enid is portrayed to metaphorically append some color to Seymour's life. The film has used lenses effectively in photographing. In some instances in the film, broad areas are covered appropriately thereby increasing the depth's illusion although a number of times image edges are distorted. In addition, the movie's pictures are clear.

The use of transparent contrasts are evident in the film. For instance, Seymour who is wearing dull clothing matches with most backgrounds in the film. Seymour is large in size thereby making Seymour to stand out more than Enid and other characters. The other objects which can be compared to Seymour are the boxes which are brown in colors. Seymour's size and the boxes appear to be more dominant than the brightly colored clothing of Enid. The film portrays a lot of information to the objects displayed in front. Although several objects are can be seen at the back of characters in the movie, concentration majorly focuses on the items that are seen in front. The organization of objects in two-dimensional space is well utilized in the film. As such, it is evident that the film uses the open form sparingly; open form displays various images and creates curiosity. For instance, when Seymour and Enid are displayed in the screen talking, other characters can be seen on the table having coffee.

Mise En Scene allows Characters in the film to move freely without being cut off by the edges. The film is set such that it allows two planes to be in focus. This makes it possible for the front characters to be seen clearly. The film uses the profile position of photographing the characters. For instance, during

photographing, the characters seemed to be lost in their own thought which is a characteristic of many movies. The distance between the characters in the film is intimate; a clear indication that the characters are good friends even when they not acting.

Consequently, *Mise En Scene* utilize numerous techniques in films in order to attract attention. Characters in a film wore different clothing in order to be differentiated. Major characters in the comedies are prominent. The film also utilized varied styles of photographing thereby according the film a unique arrangement.