

Design Statement for *The American Clock*

The American Clock is a play set in the era of the Great Depression in the history of the United States. It paints a portrait of the country and the individual making its way through the chaos, pain and recovery of the 1930's. Arthur Miller has created a play that is both epic and intimate- it paints a portrait of the country and the individual making its way through the chaos, pain and recovery of the 1930's. Miller writes, " There's never been a society that hasn't had a clock running on it, and you can't help wondering - how long?"

My design idea was to situate the action of the play in the context of time, the movement of the "gears" of social organization and in the space of the vastness of the United States. The individual expression of culture with music, dance and the human spirit play on top of and through the scenic space. The imagery presents the ticking of the cultural clock, the gears of the society meshing and provides an open space while allowing individual spaces for the many scenes of the play.

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