

Abstract

The concept of theatrical instructions is regarded one of those concepts which plays a pivotal role in crystallizing the author's vision since it guides readers, actors, directors and cinographers to formulate a vivid vision about drama and its atmosphere, in addition to the dialogue which occupies the largest part of the text. Thus, the concept of (instructions) has become one of the significant issues in the theatre, where it has paid due attention to artistic vision which is raised by the playwright, then the author's vision and the director's vision are interrelated in theatrical performance.

Child theatre is one of those theatres for which special dramatic texts are written. Such texts are characterized by unique features which are not usually found in adult texts. The child sees, through dramatizing those instructions which refer to events and facts in visual form on the stage through a group of visual elements represented by material and non-material elements which formulate the rhythm of the performance via approaches and methods followed in theatrical direction of child theatre.

The present study comprises four chapters. Chapter one constitutes the research problem represented by the question: *How are the author's instructions utilized in designing visual elements in child-directed theatrical performances?*

The present study aims at investigating the manner of utilizing the author's instructions in designing visual elements in child-directed theatrical performances. The study is spatially limited to Iraq, while the temporal limits range from (2010 – 2020) of the history of Iraqi theatre. The objective limits, however, include (utilizing the author's instructions in designing visual elements in child-directed theatrical performances).

Chapter two is dedicated to the theoretical framework. It has three sections: section one studies the concept of theatrical instructions and its significance in addition to the role they play; section two tackles child-theatre and its educational and cultural importance; the third section studies visual elements in child-

theatre: its effect and formation. It also touches upon previous studies and research indicators.

Chapter three constitutes the procedures of the study. It includes research community, research tools, and research sample in keeping with the topic of the research. As for the analyzed samples, they include the following: (The Eight Days of the Week) by (Salah Hasan), directed by (Iqbal Na'eem) ; (Ten out of Ten) by (Majid Drandash), directed by (Hussain Ali Salih); the last play is (The Tale of a Screaming Cock) written and directed by (Hussain Ali harif).

Chapter four is devoted to results and discussion. The most important one reached at is that theatrical instructions are the result of interpreting the author's vision of visual elements inside the literary text. In view of the results of the study, the following conclusions are reached: theatrical instructions are the result of creative intuition of the author within the dramatic text since it creates imagined spaces which make up an integrated system of visual elements belonging to the performance. These are embodied in a form of a written instructive text in a prose style which allows the reader to understand and interpret the general atmosphere of the scene as well as to clarify the features of characters.

The present study recommends emphasizing and giving due attention to child-theatre which has a lot of educational and cultural attitudes that form one of the sources of society development.

Finally, the present study rounds up with a list of references, sources, appendices and abstract in English.

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**Utilizing the Author's Instructions in Designing
Visual Elements in Child-Directed Dramatic
Performances**

A Thesis

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