

I chose the Accidental Death of an Anarchist due to the comedic and physical aspects that it had and the admiration I have for playwright Dario Fo. My character explores different types of impersonations and physical inflections which are greatly inspired by the well-known Zanni from Commedia dell'Arte. He also exposes the ineffective nature of the police force at the time and the abuse of power. I initially dove into the character blindly, not knowing what my next steps would be. However, after much research and inspiration especially from the Marx brothers, I found a fast-pace voice and quick mouse like movements that would capture the true maniac aspect of my character.

The Maniac is a witty and mischievous person who likes to interact with objects and the audience. I specifically adapted the script to suit the audience by limiting the number of names said and adding in dialogue that interacts with audience members, adding to the comedic aspect. I also translate to the audience the physical and absurdist aspects of this play by only utilising 3 specific props which are a table, filing cabinet and a phone and mime all other props such as the filing papers themselves. The fundamental props also allow me to use different levels and manipulate the space.

To further exemplify the gags of the play, my costume consists of a long blue coat and a turtle neck shirt inside with a striking odd pattern and odd socks. I also incorporated a bucket hat that is also able to fit into my pocket to further add comedy. Mime allows me to be more direct to the audience and further communicates the narrative journey of the maniac character. I also manipulate sound for e.g. when I mime the door opening and create a sound affect with my mouth, establishing a comedic and playful atmosphere. In conclusion, after finding the essence of my character and adding props and the mime, I have thoroughly enjoyed this process of developing my character and the play.