WHAT IS AN IDEA MORGUE?

A “Morgue” is a collection of ideas and inspirations that helps collaborators to translate their “take” on a play into

poetic choices for the production. It is another form of “script analysis” that not only helps create a unified “vision” for

the play, it is an archive of research. Directors and designers might grab a box and just throw things in it as they do

their pre-production prep, or they may store it digitally in a folder with links and files. It can include dramaturgical

research about the playwright, notes on the structure or meaning of the play, ideas about characters, and guidance

for design choices that establish an approach to the look and feel of the production.

Morgues can consist of tangible objects, sound and video clips, photographs, etc. Some items in a morgue may be

copied directly into the design of a show, while others serve as a mere “vision board” of “food for thought” as the

project develops.

READ “BORN YESTERDAY”

PRETEND YOU ARE GOING TO DIRECT IT. GATHER IMAGES IN A POWER POINT OR WORD/PDF

DOCUMENT ABOUT IDEAS FOR YOUR IMAGINARY DESIGN TEAM AS FOLLOWS

A SLIDE WITH AT LEAST TWO THEMES OR MESSAGES YOU FOUND IN THE STORY

AT LEAST 3 IMAGES ABOUT THE SET

AT LEAST ONE IMAGE EACH OF SOMEONE WHO LOOKS LIKE THE RIGHT “TYPE” OF PERSON TO CAST IN

THE THREE ROLES (3 IMAGES TOTAL)

AT LEAST ONE IMAGE EACH FOR THE COSTUME OF THE CHARACTERS (3 IMAGES TOTAL)

AT LEAST TWO SONG TITLES AND THE ARTIST(S) WHO PERFORM THEM TO BE USED IN THE PRE-SHOW

OR CURTAIN CALL

INCLUDE A LABELED, ONE SENTENCE DESCRIPTION OF EACH ITEM EXPLAINING WHY YOU CHOSE THEM

FOR YOUR VERSION OF THE SHOW.

PREPARE YOURSELF FOR A SHORT “SHOW AND TELL” TO BE SHARED WITH THE CLASS