

- Involving the audience
- Deliberate cruelty
- Stylised movement (visual poetry)
- No scenery, just symbolic objects
- Words stripped of meaning
- Improvising the play (no script)
- Assaulting the senses (to release audience emotions)
- Sounds (cries, screams, noises to make the audience uncomfortable)
- Non-verbal language
- Confronting images
- Strong lighting
- Mood
- Small stage / encircled audience
- Puppets



**ANTONIN
ARTAUD**
1896 - 1948

Highlight the
"UNDERLYING
BRUTALITY OF
LIFE". Shatter
"FALSE REALITY"

The audience
should be in
"VORTEX"
trapped,
powerless &
"PHYSICALLY
AFFECTED"

Words are
insufficient
to express
meaning

"IMPOSSIBLE
THEATRE"

Theatre should
be a force for
the
"LIBERATION OF
THE HUMAN
SUBCONSCIOUS"

"AVANTE-GARDE
THEATRE"

Theatre made
up of a "UNIQUE
LANGUAGE"
halfway between
"THOUGHT" &
"GESTURE"

"EXTRAORDINARY
REALITY" not
tainted by morality
or cultural ideas

"SPECTACLE"
*'to shock the
spectator into
seeing the
baseness of his
world'*

THEATRE OF CRUELTY

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THEATER OF CRUELTY

Mrs. B's

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