Drama

Epic Theatre - Conventions

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Brecht's approach to theatre suits work which has a political, social or moral message. Perhaps you want the audience to consider the meaning in a parable (a story with a wider moral message). You might want to explore a theme or issue and make your audience consider varying viewpoints or sides to an argument. If so you can learn a lot from the distancing devices used in Brechtian theatre. Epic theatre (Brechtian theatre) makes audience active members of the theatrical experience as they are kept thinking throughout, not switching off. Use the Bite Size – Epic Theatre and Brecht study guide to define the conventions of Epic theatre.

Verfremdungseffekt (V-Effect)

The Verfremdungseffekt is achieved by using the following conventions:

Narration	Multi-Roles	Split-Roles	Gestus
Third-Person Narration	**Direct Address**	**Speaking Stage Directions**	**Symbolic Props**
Placards	**Non-Linear Structure**	**Song**	**Montage**