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Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup> 2013

### Auterism: Tim Burton

In our world today, there are just so many activities that one can do to keep themselves busy. One can play videos, play sports or hang out with friends. One thing that everyone has been doing to entertain themselves, is watching a movie. People have been watching movies for years now and still are. Films have become such a big part of our culture, and with so many films comes many different directors. Each director has his or her own style when it comes to a movie. They add their own little touch to the film. One director that is really well known for adding his style to a film is Tim Burton. Any viewer that watches his films can completely tell he directed it but, how do people know it's his film? Tim Burton uses many different styles and techniques of mise-en-scene and themes to show the viewer his autorism.

Mise-en-scene plays a very big part in Tim Burton's films. Mise-en-scene translates to "put in the scene." It is what we as the viewer sees "mise-en-scène refers to everything that appears before the camera and its arrangement—composition, sets, props, actors, costumes, sounds, and lighting." The director chooses what they want the set to look like, what they want the actors to wear and how they want the lighting and so on. In cinema they decide how they want the camera position angles to look like (high angle, low angle, etc.) They also choose the primary, secondary and tertiary motion as well. Now, Tim Burton always pays very close attention to all this. He is well known for having many dark and creepy movies; from the film Beetlejuice to Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter and everything in between. Tim Burton just

has very dark storylines that viewers can't get enough of and with a dark storyline comes a dark scene.

Tim Burton likes to use a lot of dark colors in his scenes. In the film Edward Scissorhands, a great example of mise-en-scene is when Peg Boggs (played by Dianne Wiest) first walks into the home of Edward. As soon as she walks in Edward's house everything turns dark, as if almost having this dead feeling to it. Everything is either black, gray or dark gray. It makes the viewer's feel very uneasy about the place. To help make the scene even more dramatic Tim Burton uses a lot of wide shots on Peg when she is in the castle. He does this to show the viewer how unsuperior she really is. It makes Peg look extremely small compared to everything else around her. The whole castle is colorless. It is filled with blacks and grays but not real color. Peg on the other hand is wearing all these bright and happy colors. This was not a coincidence though. Tim Burton chose this costume for her to show the viewer's how out of place she really is. It emphasizes even more that she should not be there and that she does not belong. All these little things help make the scene that much more dramatic and really captures the viewer's attention.

Now, Tim Burton is also well known for his animated films. They too, are fairly creepy and are not your typical happy Disney film. Although they are animated, they still have to plan out the scene and how they want it to look and feel. For example in the movie The Nightmare Before Christmas, there is the Christmas world which is happy and full of life and there is the Halloween world which is dark and scary. In order for Tim Burton to make it that way he has to plan out how he wants the places to look. What makes the place happy what makes it twisted

and scary? He has to decide all these things as well for example in the scene when the Boogie Man first captures the real Santa Claus. As the Boogie Man is singing all these things are happening. First off, the room is pretty dark (which is only normal for Tim Burton) but there are a lot of colors and lights in the scene as well. From bright neon orange to neon green and even more, all these colors were put into the scene. Tim Burton as the director had to choose what he wanted it all to look like. So although it is an animated movie, there are still some decisions that have to be made to make the scene. Even though it is not really life, it still has to be done. Animated movies still have to design the set, choose the light, even the costumes. It still all plays a big part in the film too.

Overall, Tim Burton has a very special way of using mise-en-scene. He often uses it in a darker way. He makes things look and feel very dark and gloomy. From the lighting to the camera angles and shoots, he really pays very close attention to it all which a director should do. It is a director's job to make sure everything is up to standards and look amazing at the same time. They want to "wow" the viewers and make them want to watch the movie over and over again. This is why it is so much work being a director and why mise-en-scene is just so important. Without mise-en-scene a film would be nothing. Tim Burton uses it in a way that everyone can tell it is his film. He has his own dark and twisted style that makes his movies so unique.

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