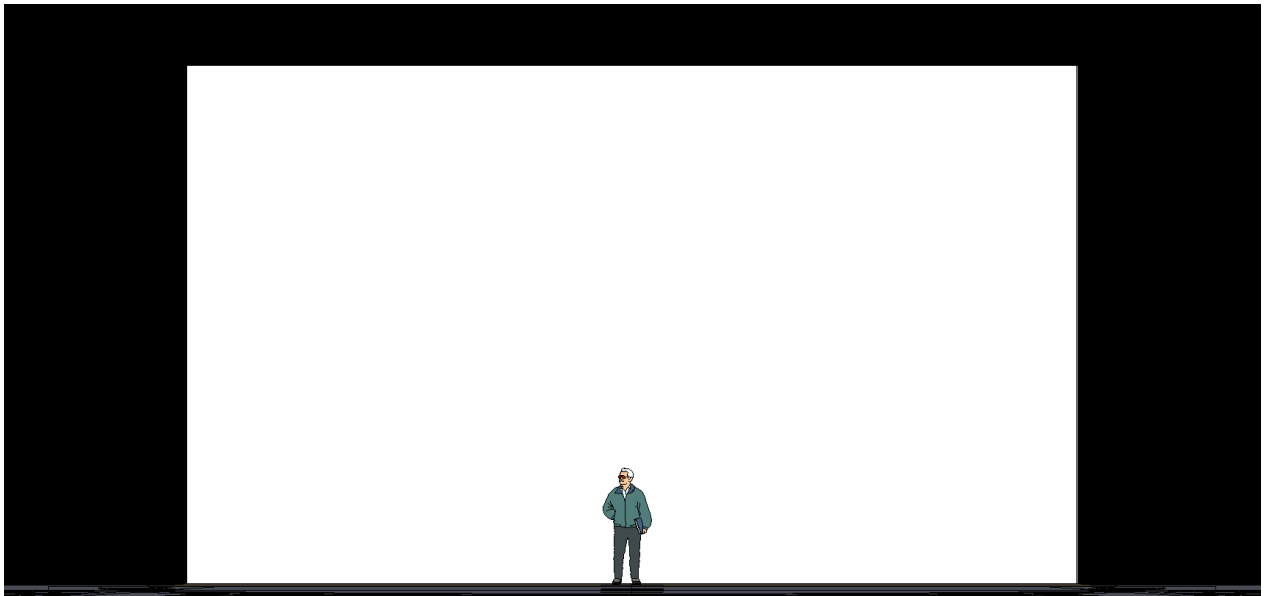


## PETER GRIMES

Draft show-conduite

### PROLOGUE

- White harlequin (first available pipe)

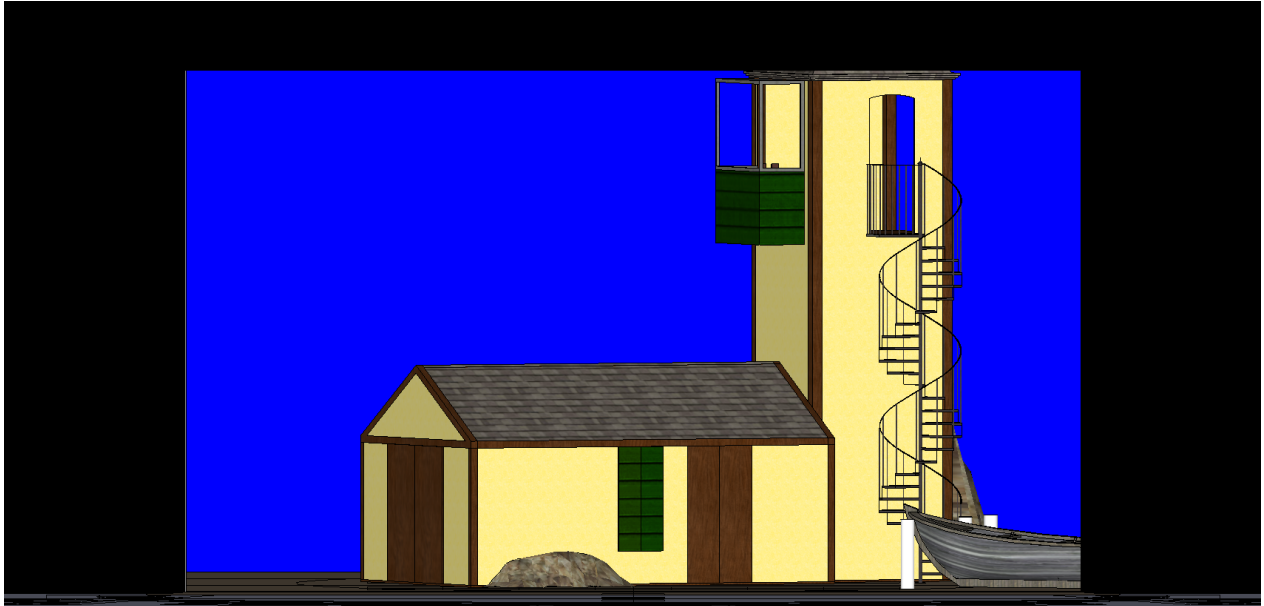


Stage set-up behind:

- A huge **net** looms over the whole set hanging from the pipes (details in technical file)
- **Benches** for the main characters and some choir. The number of benches will depend on what we can find in the fundus. The benches will not be seen, so whatever suits the necessity, is good.
- The Rector has a **cross with a chain**.
- In-front of the harlequin, Grimes stands desolated, a dead boy in his arms: is the cadaver of **William**, the previous apprentice. *This kid is one of the tiny ones I met. The one that under-covers John, the other apprentice.*
- **COSTUMES: The boy is dressed in underwear (boxers). Grimes in working trousers, ordinary pullover, shoes.**
- The trial takes places. Everyone, apart from Grimes and the kid, are shadows.

## INTERLUDE I

During the Interlude, the harlequin rises.

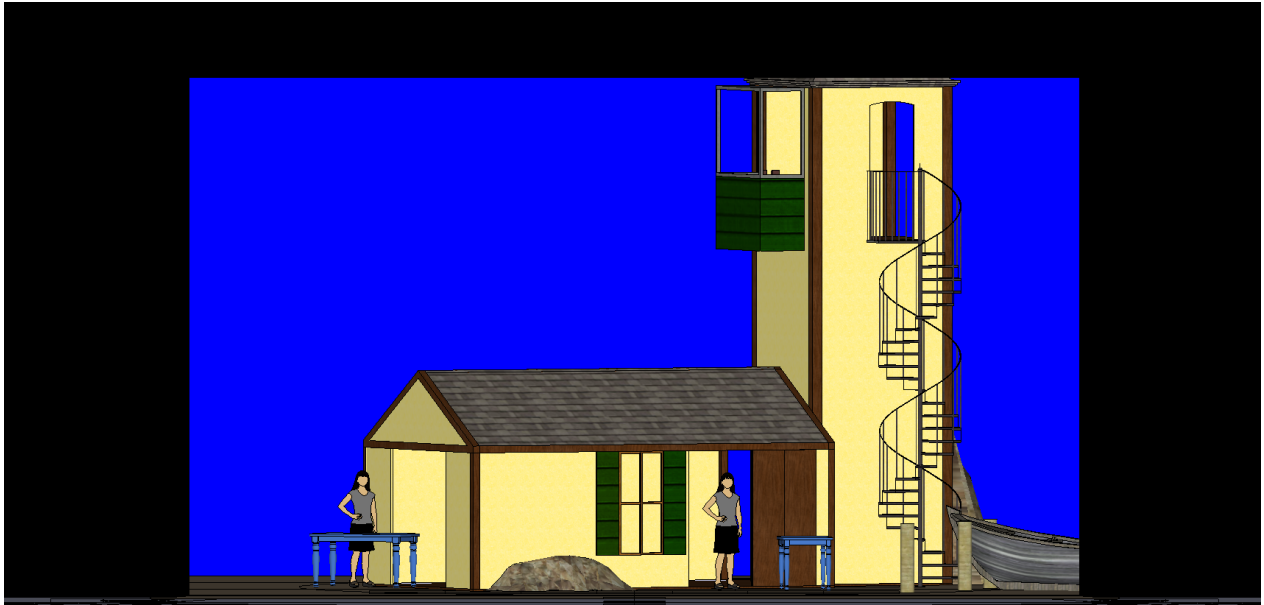


- Everybody is flat in the floor (apart from Ellen who is off and Auntie and the Nieces who are inside “The Boar”). The **net** is laying on top of everything...
- **COSTUMES: Choir, dressed with working clothes. Principals, dressed with their respective costumes.**
- **Four kids, dressed in white** (spirits), walk in and take away the cadaver of William. **(COSTUMES: The four have a quick change into village clothes for the next action).** These kids are the biggest ones in the group I have auditioned.
- Grimes dresses for fishing (**his boots and raincoat are inside the boat**), and pushes the **boat (“The Boy Billy”)** stage right, to the sea.

-

## FIRST ACT, FIRST SCENE (HARBOR)

- The day begins. People wakes up and stretch. The **net** slowly goes up.
- Balstrode tells-off the kids who are playing near the sea. **COSTUMES: The kids are bare chested and wet.** Ellen, brings in **towels and clothes.**
- Balstrode walks up the stairs, he has a **one eye longview glass.**



- Auntie opens the bar, brings out the **daily menu board**, a **table**, **cups**, a **keg of gin**.
- Someone opens the big side-door and brings out a **large table** and a **couple of chairs**. On the table, a **note book**, a **pencil**. **Coins in a box**.
- A **boat** is being pulled in using the **capstan**. Inside the boat there are **bags with the daily fish catch**, and **some fishing gear**.
- Enters Grimes, pushing his **boat**. He has a **bag with a fish catch**, too and there is **some fishing gear inside the boat**
- After everyone leaves. Auntie takes the **small table** inside. The **big table** is also taken inside and all doors closed. The storm is approaching.
- Grimes and Balstrode remain chatting.
- 

## INTERLUDE II

(During the Interlude, Grimes breaks the stairs, isolating himself. The stage turns “à vue” of the public to the next position).

(Tech. note: Inside the bar, 2 techs are hiding, one with a **huge fan** and the other with a **lighting machine (5000)**. When the set is in place, they place the machines and stay hidden behind the wall until the end of the act, because they have to intervene in some actions: slamming the door, breaking the window glass, etc).

We see the nieces “getting ready” (**dressing table**) and smoking opium (**narghile**). **COSTUMES: Nieces in provocative underwear.** There is also a **bed with pillows dressed with ordinary linen**, plus some **banal decoration**. **Oil lanterns** lightening the place. (Number of lanterns to be checked with lighting designer according to the luminance need). A **shabby curtain** separates the public area from the cabin.

- A **bottle of Laudanum** for Ned.

## FIRST ACT, SECOND SCENE (BAR)



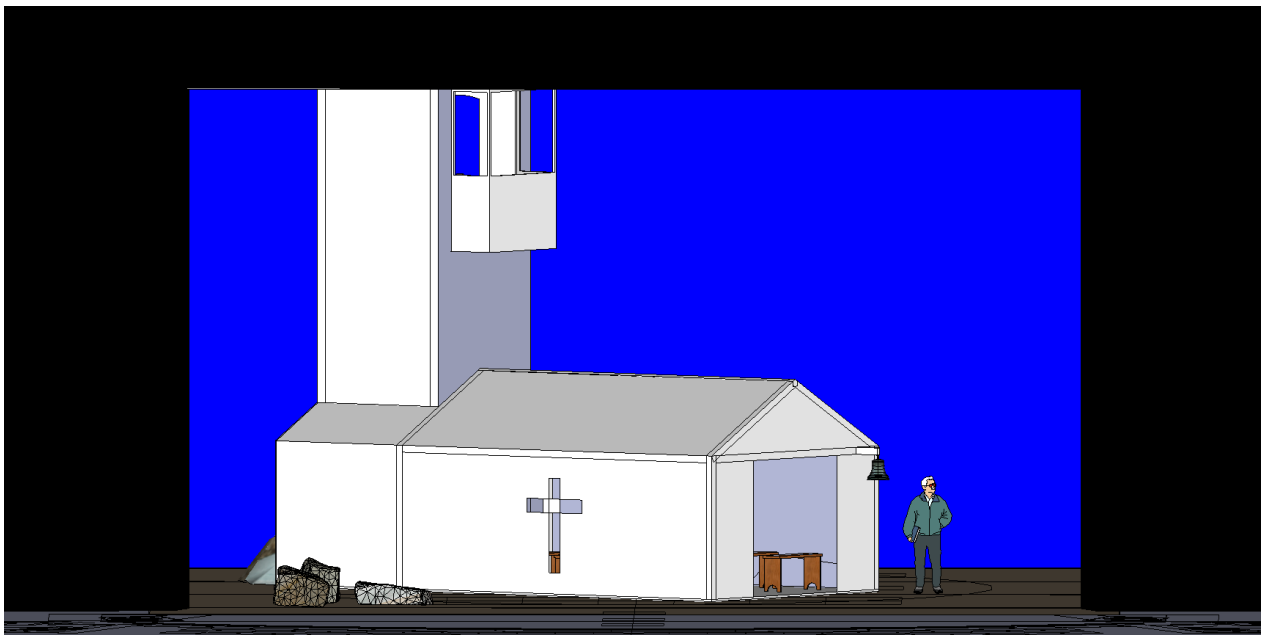
- In coincidence with the music, the front wall drops down.
- Inside the bar, we see some **tables and chairs**. (The number of tables will depend on the furniture we find in the fundus. Chairs, should be around 30)
- There is a **stove** connected to the roof chimney.
- **10 Bottles of diverse type. 30 tin cups.**
- **Poker cards.**
- **10 thick glasses with a candle inside.**
- **Wood matches.**

- During the storm the glass of window breaks.

----- FIRST INTERVAL -----

INTERLUDE III

SECOND ACT, FIRST SCENE (CHAPEL)



- **COSTUMES:** Choir, men with a kind of elegant overall and hat, Women with shawls. Everyone in shabby, poor elegant Sunday outfit. (The same costume as in the first act, plus a coat or a shawl on top). Principals, with their costumes.
- The **chairs** of the bar are now arranged as church seats. We may use a couple of **church benches** (depending on what we find in the fundus) near to the main door (only place from where they could be seen)
- **1 bell** (E-flat) in the front, to the right of the main door.
- **A harmonium** inside the chapel.
- **Three cliff rocks** down stage left (see DWG).

- Ellen carries a **basket** with inside **a jersey (the boy's size) on which she is embroidering an anchor**. Also, she has a **copybook, a pencil and a rubber** in the basket.
- **A Drum** for Hobson. (See with Conductor)

(The harlequin drops down at the end of the scene)

#### INTERLUDE IV

(Grimes and kid walk in front of the harlequin)

(Harlequin opens)



- Grimes and the boy are climbing the cliff using a **rope with nods** to help themselves.

#### SECOND ACT, SECOND SCENE (GRIMES HOUSE)

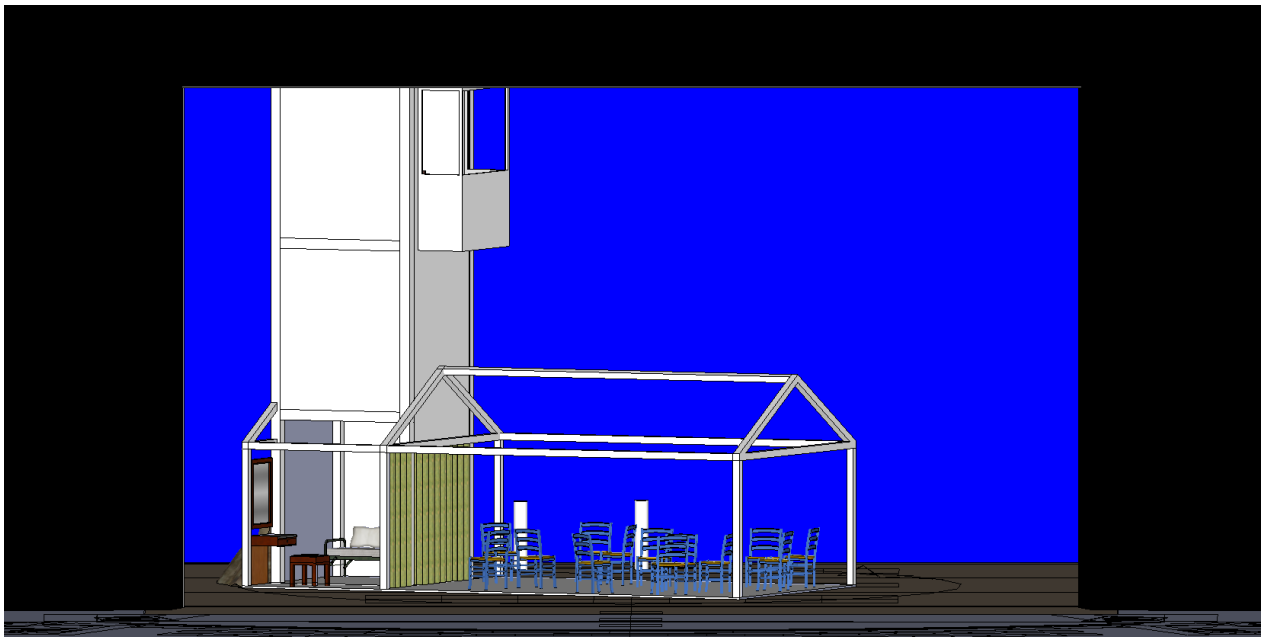
- **Oil lamps** to light Grimes house
- First floor: **Bed, mattress, pillow, covers**. Some **banal decoration**. **COSTUMES: The boy's boots, hat and raincoat** are on the bed. The boy himself carries the **jersey with the anchor pattern**.
- Second floor: fishing gear hanging and spread. **Nets, ropes, buckets, fishing rod**.

- And **old telescope** near to the big window.
- **10 fire torches (for the crowd)**
- **10 oil lanterns (for the crowd)**
- **A wooden ladder** to reach the steps of the stairs.

----- SECOND INTERVAL -----

INTERLUDE V

THIRD ACT, FIRST SCENE (OPEN AIR PARTY)



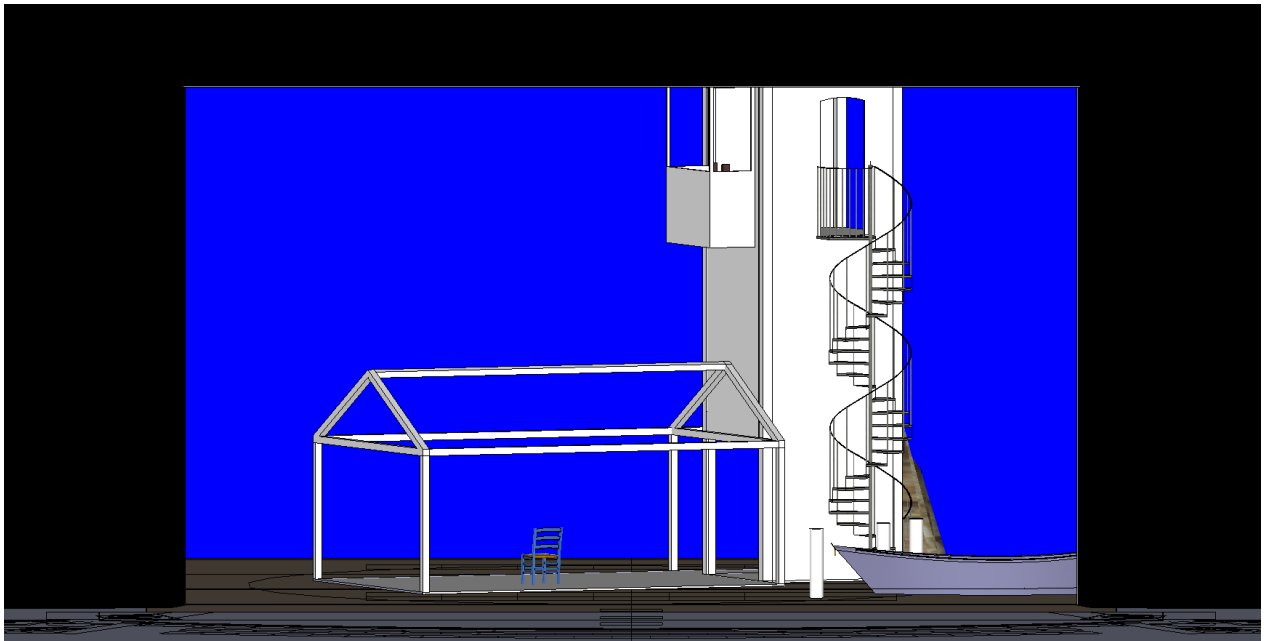
**COSTUMES:** Choir, as light as possible, removing layers of their initial costume. Principals, without jackets or other overalls. Nieces, very light and provocative.

- **Bottles of diverse type. Cups.**
- Only **chairs**. No tables.
- The nieces cabin is as it was in the first act.
- Musicians on stage (see to their needs).

- Dances (**choreographer**)
- The choir armed with chairs and bottles goes hunting Grimes. Only one **chair** remains in the center of the bar. The rest of the stage is absolutely empty.

## INTERLUDE VI

During the Interlude the plate turns to the next position.



## THIRD ACT, SECOND SCENE

- Grimes walks in from stage right, pulling “**The Boy Billy**”. On the boat, **3 kids (William, John and a third one)**, **dressed in white**.
- Once Grimes has left, the choir walks in bringing back **chairs** and **tables**. They reset the stage. Life continues. Some pretend to fix the broken stairs.
- The **net**, which has been hanging on their heads all night, goes down, trapping them once more.

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November 2016