

The Human Voice

Lilian Meyers

Concept

“The Hysterical Woman”

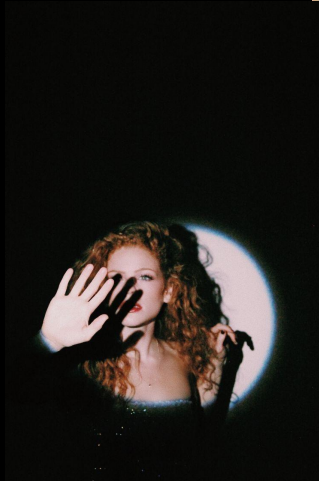
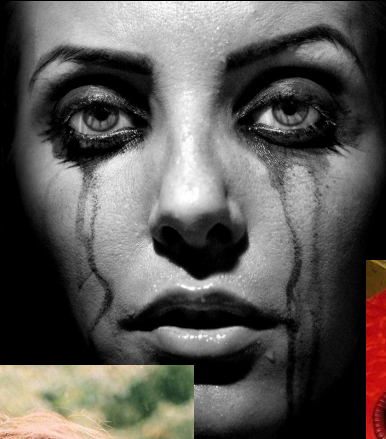
- Exploring the pain and fear present in this script
- Using a 60's aesthetic
 - Taking a moment of peak beauty only for it to decay



Concept cont.

- 98% of the play you only see the woman's lips as she speaks
 - Use props around the lips to tell the story of her anxiety and mental state through the show
 - Drinking
 - Biting nails
 - Smoking
 - Taking pills
 - Smearing lipstick
- When it is revealed in the text she has the cord around her throat, the light will expand to show her full disheveled self. Messy hair, mascara running down cheeks, and the cord around her throat.

Because the story waits until the end to reveal this fact, I want to also leave my audience in suspense until the final moment.



Beat 1

At first glance
everything seems
normal, a woman on the
phone late at night.



Beat 2

Then we see her nerves
grow through small
hints, such as smoking.



Beat 3

Or, drinking.



Beat 4

Though we cannot see
her, mouth acting keeps
us up to date on her
feelings during this
phone call.



Beat 5

These props and nervous tics solidify the audience's sympathy and mental state of our character.



Beat 6

Until we see her start to
destroy herself, or what
she hoped this phone
call would be.



Final Moment

The final moment reveals the full story of our actor and her state during this phone call.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FgyP8gv1XKg>