

Crime and Punishment

Production Final Report

February 8, 2010

AVT Strategic Team

Nalin A. Ratnayake, Producer and Artistic Director

Courtney Marietta, Operations Director

Jeremy B. Gruca, Technical Director

Karen Gruca, Production Stage Manager



SUMMARY

Antelope Valley Thespians staged its first full-length production, “Crime and Punishment,” January 16-24 in the garage theatre on Almond Valley Way. The production run experienced many challenges; however, the final product was universally declared a success for AVT. Total attendance was 112 over the six-show production run. The production closed with a net financial balance of +\$15.54, which includes the donation of the first show ticket revenue (\$175.00) to the American Red Cross for humanitarian assistance after the earthquake in Haiti. Community support for the project is riding very high as we proceed onward.

PERSONNEL

The cast included Kevin J. Hogan as Raskolnikov, Anna Delrosario as Sonia, M. Steven Felty as Porfiry Petrovich, Marmeladov, and a Tradesman, and Kara McCollum as Alyona, Lizaveta, and Mother.

The play was produced and directed by Nalin A. Ratnayake and stage managed by Karen Gruca. Jeremy Gruca was the Technical Director. The Technical Team consisted of Jessica Katzman (lighting design), Sarah Bialobroda (lighting operation), Lucas Nemeth (set and jack-of-all-trades), Anna Delrosario (costume and properties), Courtney Marietta (sound design and operation), and Kara McCollum (makeup).

INFRASTRUCTURE

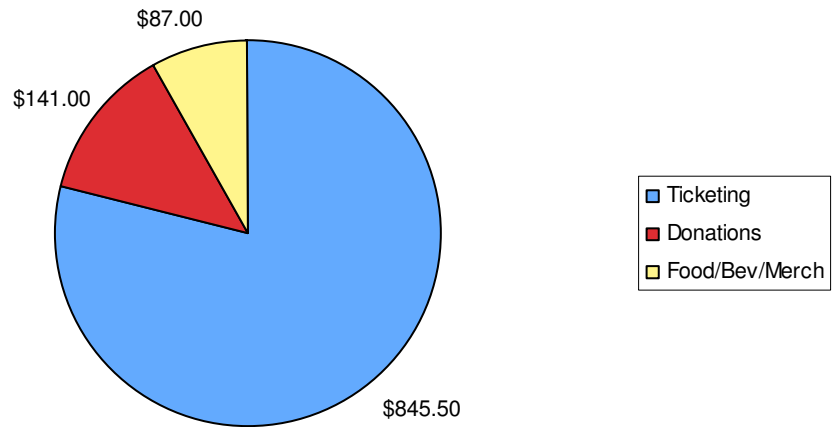
The garage theatre space underwent a significant upgrade from the setup for “Voices”. The walls and ceiling are now painted black, and the lighting count is 16. Additional curtains were rigged across the main garage door rails, and insulation in the form of styrofoam panels were added to the bay doors. Additional chairs and folding tables were added, as well as electrical cords and equipment.

FINANCIALS

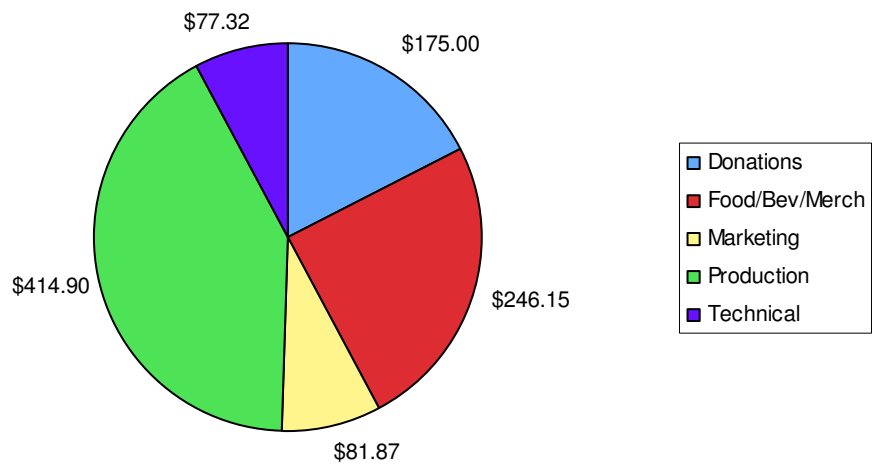
Total expenditure for the production was \$1077.96 (including the \$175.00 donation). Total revenue was \$1093.50. The Technical Team is credited with realizing a major cost savings to AVT via innovative use of cast- and crew-owned materials. Only \$77.32 of the budgeted \$250.00 for tech was used. Production expenditures and revenues are shown in Figures 1 and 2. These charts include direct production expenses only; they do not include theatre infrastructure, business operations, or patronage.

Since project inception in January 2009, AVT has spent \$3,270.18 and brought in \$1,138.50. The deficit of \$2,131.68 has been covered by direct financial backing from the Producer.

"Crime and Punishment" Revenue by Source



"Crime and Punishment" Expenditure by Source



LESSONS LEARNED

The Strategic Team combined their own recorded lessons learned with those submitted from the cast and crew, and decided which should be captured in a list of action items.

Action Item	Assigned to
Production direct expenses should be bought on their own transaction because of the way the financial software handles job numbers.	PAD/OD/TD
No more production cycles that cross the holiday season.	PAD
More backstage lighting is needed, suggested rope-light for ground.	TD
Make sure glass door from the tech crib is secured when not in use.	TD
A dedicated prop table should be provided as soon as props are available, and should be enforced with actors and crew.	TD/PSM
A dedicated costume storage should be provided as soon as costumes are available, and should be enforced with actors and crew.	TD/PSM
More rehearsal time was requested.	PSM
Reduce clutter in garage for next show, perhaps purchase shed for external storage. What is this, a garage?	PAD/TD
Regular tech meetings are needed to make sure full crew knows what is going on.	TD
Draft actor policies for absences. 1st unexcused = warning. 2nd = understudy / replace at PAD/PSM discretion. Tech week is <u>mandatory</u> . Hand out policy at audition, make sure actors know upfront.	PSM/PAD
Understudying will not be a general policy, but will be handled on a case by case basis.	PSM/PAD
Tech plan and staffing assignments should be completed early in the production cycle.	TD
A zoomed scan of the script should be delivered to stage manager as early as possible.	PAD
Stage manager should know about production, tech meetings, and changes to any tech or production decision.	PAD/TD
TD should receive an actual Tech Req form for any deviations from the approved tech plan.	PAD
Actor or crew owned props/costumes should be loaned to AVT for duration, and TD/PSM need to know. Have a list for who owns what and if we still have it.	TD/PSM
Enforce off-book date.	PSM
Minutes should be taken at all Production and Tech meetings, and sent out to whole production team.	PAD/TD
Send out combined (brief) weekly update to cast and crew.	PAD
The Rolling Action Item List (RAIL) with task dependencies and due dates will be reinstated and maintained by the Producer.	PAD

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The cast and crew of “Crime and Punishment” deserve tremendous accolades for their talent, perseverance and patience as AVT built its first full-length production from scratch. Despite significant challenges, the final product was exceptional thanks to the hard work and efforts of the team. The lessons learned from this production will be applied to future production cycles, in a philosophy of continuous improvement.

The word is out that AVT means business and can produce excellent quality drama. A thank you everyone who worked on the project, and our friends, family, and fans for their support.