

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

INTERMEDIATE MATRICULATION LEVEL 2023 FIRST SESSION

SUBJECT: Theatre and Performance

DATE: 24th May 2023 TIME: 4:00 p.m. to 6:35 p.m

PART 1 - THEATRE EVENTS, PRACTITIONERS, AND HISTORY

Answer any THREE questions in essay form.

Answer all questions in English.

Start each answer on a separate page.

Write the question number of each answer in the left margin.

Questions carry equal marks.

- 1. Discuss at length the origins and roots of Western theatre practice and how its elements influence contemporary theatre.
- 2. Select a playwright of your choice from the fifteenth **OR** sixteenth century. Elaborate on their work and the contributions they made to theatre, while bringing their historical context into your argument.
- 3. In the week ending 15th January 2023, 13,755 people watched the musical *Wicked* on Broadway. In the same week, the musical *The Music Man* grossed over 3.5 million dollars in ticket sales (https://www.broadwayleague.com/research/grosses-broadway-nyc/). What is it, in your opinion, that allows Broadway musicals to remain an extremely popular form of theatre production?
- 4. "Actors cannot just be pawns or puppets manipulated by directors. They must use rehearsal work as a basis for their own private work, which they then feed back into the production" (*Stanislavski & the Actor*. Jean Benedetti. 1998).

 Comment on this quote in light of the development of Stanislavski's system, as well as the

rise in importance given to the actor's craft in the twentieth century.