



Assignment

The Minstrel Show

Instructions:

In your group, using Web and print resources, research the genre of the minstrel show. Your research should address the following issues:

- What historical climate contributed to the development of the minstrel show?
- What was the basic performance format? (tambourines; entrance pattern; stage placement; interlocutor, etc.) ?
- What was American composer Stephen Foster's relationship to the development of the minstrel?
- Comment on the minstrel show as a sensitive racial issue, particularly during the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s.
- (Optional): Keeping in mind that the minstrel show is a racially sensitive issue, and that any reproduction must be done with sensitivity and good taste, consider preparing a brief demonstrate the format (entrance, stage placement, interlocutor exchange, songs, dances).