## UTC THEATRE COMPANY

## BRAND GUIDELINES

written by D+J Brand Consulting







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## **PROLOGUE**

Hello! Welcome to the Identity Standards and Implementation Guide for your refined brand.

A brand guide is a valuable tool for calibrating current and future creative direction with the core identity of the UTC Theatre Company. Just like a map, you can ignore this guide, but you won't get where you want to go if you do.

Think of it as your brand's cue sheet.

In this guide, you'll see examples of how to use the logo and how not to use it, the versatility of the typefaces, fitting tones of voice, which colors are right and which are wrong, and more.

Places, please...

## UTC THEATRE COMPANY VALUES

On the one hand, high production value, insightful interpretation, and a distinct flavor lie at the heart of each production. On the other, the UTC Theatre Company is devoted to the development and education of students in every facet of stagecraft.

Like any set, every piece matters.

Driving this dual excellence and commitment are a set of values, principles that have taken root and manifested into culture:

- pursuit of excellence
- celebration of life through an exploration of performance
- collaboration
- playfulness, but not absurdity
- inclusion, but with standards
- collegiate professionalism

Unlike other forms of entertainment, theatre can put the burden of understanding on the audience, inviting them into a once-occurring feature for their consideration. The virtue of a performance lies in its perishable nature: a play is live, always tangible, always in 3D. This art is corporeal. And, the Company is committed to safeguarding the quality of that unique experience.



## **DIRECTOR'S CONCEPT**

Life is a play. Performance occurs everywhere. The UTC Theatre Company wants to pull you onto their stage for a time—to take a different viewpoint—whether that's in a concert hall, on a website, or through a poster.

It doesn't matter if you're a part of the audience or part of the cast; the UTC Theatre Company will flip your preconceptions. Students may join the company with one idea of theatre, but the students' perspectives are turned on their heads—for the better—by the time they graduate. They are ruined for bad theatre and poor performance. In any career, theatre students are better prepared to think creatively and act professionally.

Likewise, audience members come to be entertained but find themselves engaged by the drama and insight of the Theatre Company stage. They will not easily forget these performances.

When it comes to the brand elements, each piece matters. From the design of a pencil or scarf to the website, each item needs to communicate this big idea: The UTC Theatre Company pulls you in and shows you something new.



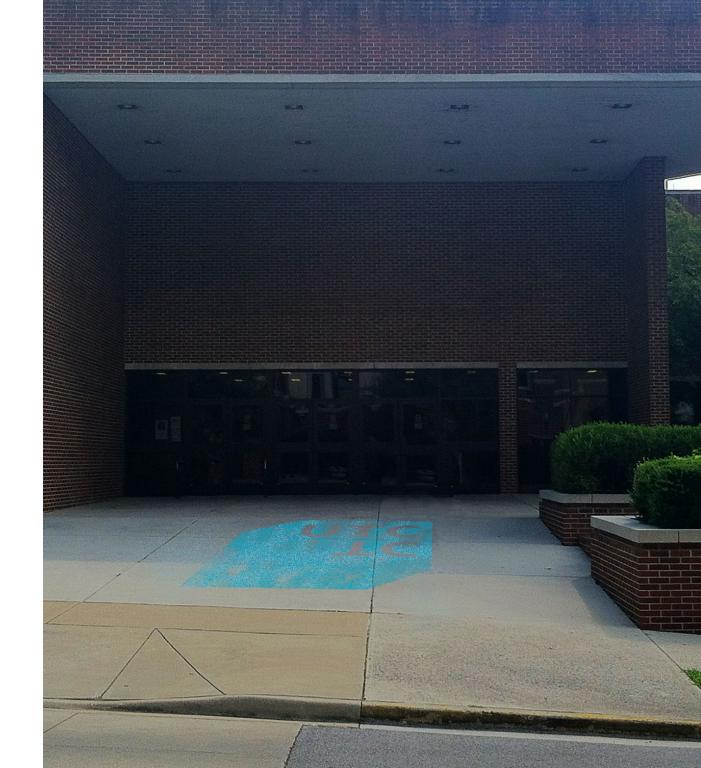




## **TOOL KIT**

This brand guide is the manual that goes with your asset tool kit. Everything in this guide uses the assets and elements found in the Dropbox folder we've shared with you.

Here you'll find overviews, rules, and guidelines. The tool kit you get can be used in every facet of the brand. In the pages that follow, we'll show you how.









## **IDENTITY**

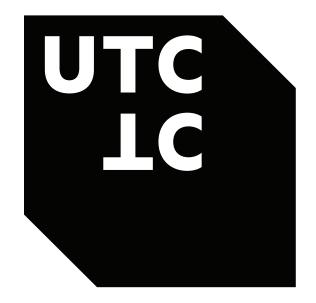
This logo concept was developed from the playful notion that theatre is always in 3D. Strong, simple, and cleanly defined, this mark is difficult to forget and easy to implement.

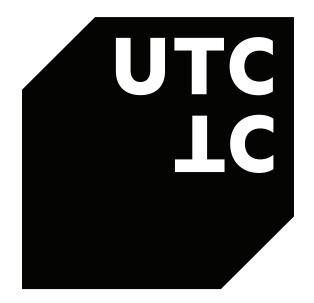
The cube has a geometry of motion, a sense of space. It seems to be occurring, not just existing, in the same way stories on a stage are not just retold but unpacked.

As theatre is always reaching towards new insight and interpretation, so this logo seems to be stretching itself upward.

Carefully omitted lines leave this mark open to some interpretation, the slightest hint of optical illusion. Theatricality preys on the senses to better provoke thoughts and emotions, and so this visual gently toys with the viewer.

Occasionally, you can use the letters without the cube when it makes sense as more of a motif than a standalone logo, with the option to distinguish the "TC" in grey. An example would be the business cards you'll find on later pages.





TC

T(

UTC LC

**UTC THEATRE COMPANY** 





**UTC THEATRE COMPANY** 

**UTC** 

**UTC** 

TC TC

UTC LC

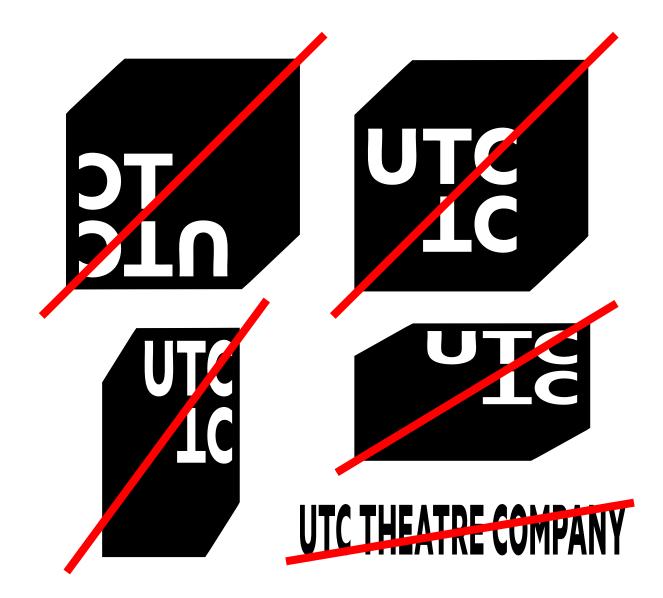
UTC LC

UTO

## IDENTITY: WRONG USES

Never stretch, bulge, change the color of, or flip the logo. Always hold "Shift" when changing the size of the logo in a design program. Consult the brand colors when changing the appearance of the logo. This logo must remain level, and always right-side up.

Observing these proportions signals to onlookers that you respect the consistency of the craft. The subliminal implications are that you perform productions exactly as you meant to, never haphazardly or thoughtlessly.



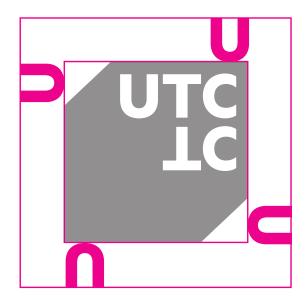


## IDENTITY: CLEAR SPACE

Your logo is friendly with other design elements. However, like everyone, it needs space: clear space. Use the "U" as a tool to determine the proper clear space around the logo.

Simplicity is strong, and this logo is meant to be strong. Think of the clear space as giving your logo room to shine, instead of jostling for elbow-room.







### **DELIVERY**

For those areas you do have tag-lines, copy, information, etc., adopt a consistent voice.

Theatre is home to turns of phrase and clever wit unrivaled. Don't write your emails like Shakespeare, but let the voice embrace the fact that you represent the disciplines of drama and delivery.

Be confident in being clever. Let wit work its way into the verbal personality of the Company. Remain accessible, but have fun. Don't take yourselves too seriously. You get to have the most fun on campus.

Show off the pride and passion of what you teach and who you train.

## GRADUATION IS THE ROOT OF ALL HEARTACHE

THEATRE CO.:
EDUCATING
ENTERTAINMENT

# CURRENTLY CASTING AUDIENCE MEMBERS

## STILL IN SHOCKING HD

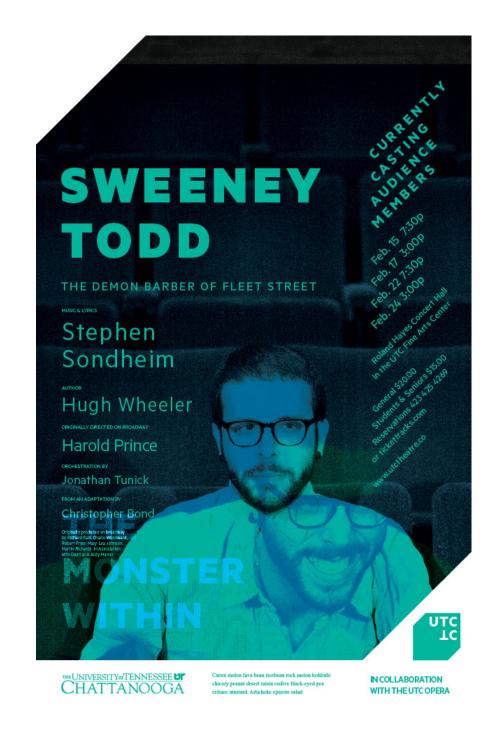
## **COLORS**

When standing alone, this logo is distinct and pronounced. Keep it potent with black and white.

Go for good contrast with the design, but, when you have a wide range of color options, choose a color of medium brightness so as to be noticeable but not distracting.

BLACK CMYK 100 100 100 100 RBG 23 1F 20 SPOT Proc. Black COLORS INSPIRED BY IMAGE

## UTC



## **TYPOGRAPHY**

Typefaces form the core and the constancy of your visual brand. Look to these typefaces as foundation. Soon, they'll be just as much a calling card as your logo.

## **METRIC**

Metric, your primary typeface, has a wide range of weights, which means a wide range of impact and context. Metric is confident but not overbearing, lending itself well to the various styles of different seasons and performances. Think of it as the visual anchor tying the designs to the UTC Theatre Company identity.

## Goudy Old Style

This is your secondary typeface. It's a great compliment to Metric and nods to the more historic temperament of theatre.

## **UTC THEATRE COMPANY** ROLANDHAYES Currently Casting **MY THREE ANGELS** MIDDLETOWN **SWEENEY TODD** ANTIGONE

## **UTC THEATER COMPANY** will flip your perspective.

THEATRE COMPANY produces art for the public. However, unlike a mural or sculpture, the medium only last for a moment in time. Just a handful of people are fortunate to see one of the few performances of each show. However, THIS DOESN'T MEAN THAT THERE WON'T BE A LASTING IMPRESSION. The Company prides itself in her ability to PROVOKE THE MIND AND CURIOSITY OF THE AUDIENCE. The goal being that each person who witnesses a show would FIND NEW PERSPECTIVES. Whether they agree with the perspective or not, THE COMPANY WANTS THE AUDIENCE TO LEAVE THINKING.

CURRENTLY
CASTING
AUDIENCE
MEMBERS

2012/2013 SEASON

METRIC BLACK titles / logo

**METRIC BOLD** headlines

**METRIC SEMIBOLD** sub-headlines

METRIC MEDIUM bold in body copy

METRIC REGULAR some body copy

METRIC LIGHT captions or fine print

METRIC THIN captions or fine prints

Goudy Old Style some body copy

### **PHOTOGRAPHY**

Highlight the people and promote the idea that the UTC Theatre Company is always active, whether preparing or performing.

The first column of images depict the use of space around an actor to highlight the individual.

The second column of images show how several actors can be well presented, directing attention through intentional cropping.

The third column captures the energy and warmth of a large group of actors engaging the stage. The image is presented in a way to make the image feel full and energized.

The fourth column includes images that show the backbone of the theatre. These images can include directors, crew, and others. These images should always show movement and strong direction.

The final column shows cold and empty scenes. These image do not show the life and vibrance of the Company.













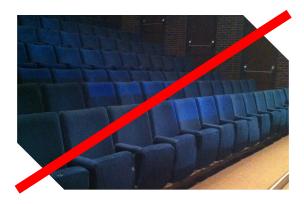












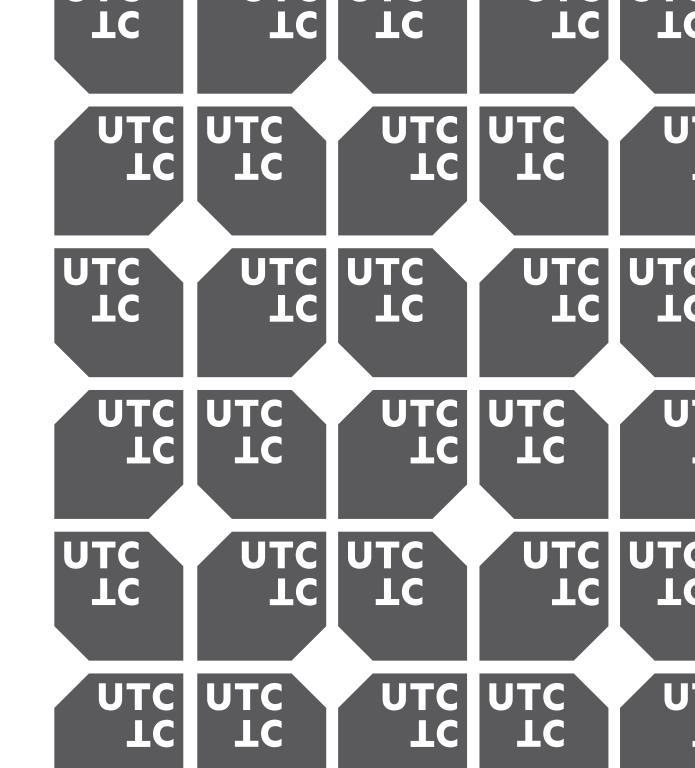






## **PATTERN**

Theatre carries with it a sense of rhythm and pace. But, a good performance employs unique accents that direct attention and hold interest. Utilizing the logo in a pattern creates an interesting visual.



	TC	TC	TC	TC	TC	TC	Ţ
TC TC	TC TC	TC TC	TC TC	UTC 1C	TC TC	UTC LC	TC
	TC TC	TC TC	UTC LC	TC TC	UTC 1C	UTC LC	T
TC TC	TC TC	UTC LC	UTC LC	UTC 1C	TC TC	UTC LC	TC
	TC TC	TC TC	UTC LC	TC TC	UTC 1C	UTC LC	UT
TC TC	TC TC	UTC LC	TC TC	UTC LC	TC TC	UTC LC	TC TC

## **STATIONERY**

Pens, pencils, paper, playbills, and more are each brand representatives. Whether focusing on students or audience members, let this brand trickle into the simple tools of the trade.

While the University may stipulate using the main UTC brand for official letterhead and business cards, this gives a sense of how the UTC Theatre Company identity can take form in those contexts: subtle, clean, and placed well to attract just a moment of consideration.





August 31, 2012 ATTN: Mr. Jonathan Mansfield D+J Brand Consultining 333 Ringgold Road Chattanooga, TN 37412

Dear Mr. Mansfield,

Veggies sunt bona vobis, proinde vos postulo esse magis celery komatsuna avocado shallot lettuce squash.

Taro summer pursiane pea pea sprouts gumbo lotus root peanut bamboo shoot squash azuki bean sea lettuce plantain nori mung bean celtuce gourd broccoli catsear. Lotus root kale onion silver beet arugula peanut soko broccoli plantain bush tomato maize. Corn parsley okra avocado burdock mung bean bell pepper cress soybean cabbage sierra leone bologi earthnut pea courgette onion water spinach bamboo shoot dulse.

Brussels sprout shallot bamboo shoot corn sierra leone bologi quandong komatsuna earthnut pea. Silver beet chickpea artichoke maize kombu chicory bok choy pea sprouts pumpkin. Bush tomato sweet pepper garlic endive coriander squash fennel collard greens corn turnip turnip greens. Ouandong desert raisin caulie coriander zucchini soybean seakale peanut courgette mung bean salad gram cress watercress. Onion leek catsear peanut parsnip cress corn cauliflower sweet pepper beet greens winter purslane.

Best,

M. Smotherman

Mac Smotherman Department Head



## **APPLICATIONS**

The UTC Theatre Company is a sort of wonderful club. As such, obvious applications will be clothing that students wear running to and from rehearsals, in class around the Fine Arts Center, and after graduation. These items can come to have potent sentiment for the Theatre Majors.





SUCCINCT AND EASILY RECOGNIZABLE



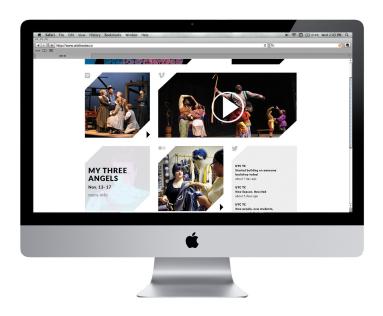
## **SPLASH PAGE**

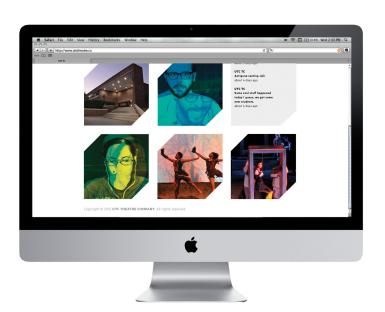
For this splash page, we extended the main identity mark. Here the shape functions as a window. A viewpoint. As stagecraft is driven by story, so this page is driven by the content it aggregates. It's designed to be modular and simple to update. Pull videos and photos from sites like Flickr and Vimeo, or announcements from Twitter.

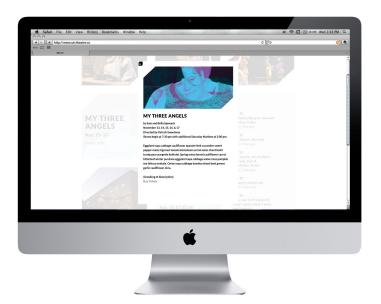
Keep the aesthetic bold and clean. Utilize the grid to contrast the action of the images with strong order. In this way it feels like every visual piece on the site is featured.

Use this site as a net to snag interest and attendance from students and audience members. Let it be playful and lively, like the Theatre Company, and reflect well on the Department.











## **POSTER FRAME**

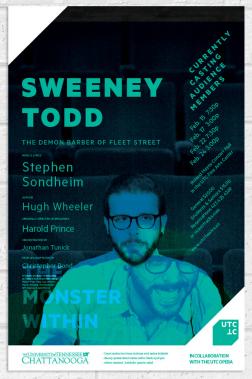
In order to build recognition we created a template for your posters, following the cube motif of your main mark. Let the season designs vary according to the productions and designer, but frame each poster the same way. It's not important to observe the cube dimension within the frame, unless so desired.

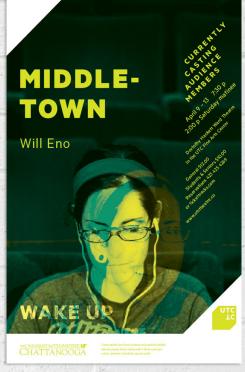
Use Metric as your primary typeface, and Old Goudy as the secondary. But, feel free to explore other typefaces when necessary for the design. Be sure future designs don't violate the Theatre Company identity, while giving them room to exist.









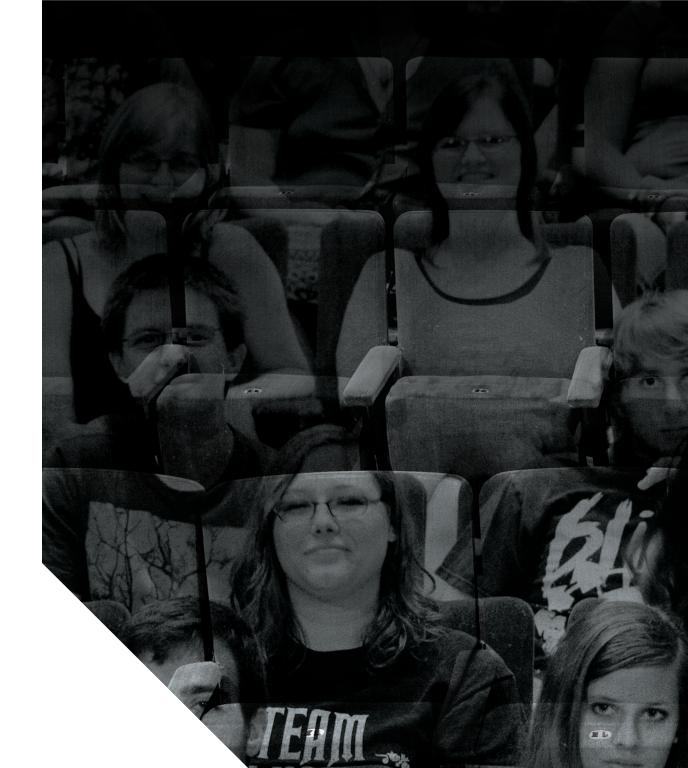


## **EPILOGUE**

And thus concludes stage direction for the UTC Theatre Company identity.

This brand is youthful, contemporary, purposeful, and clever. It captures the spirit and personality of the Company it symbolizes.

This identity was cultured and grown out of your values. With this unified brand and clear sense of who you are, you're ready to make waves.





## D+J

Call or email anytime with questions, curiosities, or quandaries.

www.dplusj.com



