

In Baz Luhrmann's Strictly Ballroom images of defiance, emotion and triumph are used through visual and ~~3~~ written texts to shape our response to the worlds presented in this text.

The film begins ~~with the~~ and ends with the red theatrical curtain opening which boldly announces that what ~~we are~~ the viewer is about to see is a performance and not real life. It may cause the audience to reflect on real life situations, but clearly it is a film about the ridged society of ballroom dancing.

As the audience sees the dancers preparing themselves, through silhouette shots, males fixing their bow ties and tails and the females perfecting their false appearances. These images allow the audience to see ~~images of~~ the falseness of the ballroom society. The audience is introduced to a authority figure, Barry

Fife, Federation President of the Ballroom Society. The audience is automatically placed below him as the camera is ~~factored~~ ^{tilled} up. ~~and it is~~ ^{Still,} through visual images you can still see his distorted, overweight figure, large bushy eyebrows and his nylon suit. This image allows the audience to see his corrupt persona, which helps shape our feeling and perception of Barry Fife.

In Scene 27, after Scott and his partner Liz have lost the Warratah Dance Championships... because of Scott's desire for artistic freedom a image of defiance is presented. Scott defiantly holds Barry Fife's gaze as he states "you can dance any steps you like. It doesn't mean you win!" This quote provokes emotion from the audience and helps shape their perception of ~~the~~ ballroom society. With the loss of Scott's glitzy partner Liz the shyly admiring Fran approaches

Scott to offer her dancing skills.

Presented as an image of ~~a~~ a "ugly duckling", wearing a long 'pink T-shirt', with patchy skin and frizzy hair. ~~She~~ ^{Fran}

is totally at variance to that of the other females presented in the film. The

quote "a ~~open amateur~~ ~~has no rig~~ beginner has no right to approach an

open amateur" presents an image of pomposity from Scott, as the ballroom society is segregated into ~~of~~ classes.

In the image "Sunbaker" by Max Dupain, a ^{masculine} individual is clearly shown as toned and tanned. This image

presents a man who is relaxed, unhassled

and to an extent, lazy. As the sun,

surf and sand are presented as bright

and tranquil this also portrays the

Australian environment. As this individual

is relaxed and unhassled by the filth

and imperfection of society. A masculine

Image is also presented in the film Grease.
With John Travolta as Danny and Olivia
Newton John as Sandy each change
their image to meet the standards of
one another. Danny changes from a man
wearing leather jackets to wearing a high
school sweater which is totally at variance
to that of earlier scenes. Sandy is first
presented wearing, frilly dresses to a
sexy woman in a tight leather outfit.
These images shape ~~my~~^{our} response to the
worlds presented through visual ~~images~~^{texts}
~~Luhmann~~ In scene 59¹, ^{in Strictly Ballroom} Luhmann makes
an effective use of montage as Fran
is transformed. Images are presented of
Fran wearing figure shaping clothes, her
skin is smooth and of course she
takes off her glasses as hollywood heroines
did to reveal themselves as beauties. Also
is this scene parrell shot are shown of
Doug, Scotts father moving in and out

of the spot light, as Scott and Fran dance on the roof top. Contrast are also made between Scott and Fran's home as the camera pans across dumped cars and a railway line. Fran's Spanish culture is presented through images of her father Rico and her grandmother Ya Ya. As close up shots are made of them teaching Scott how to dance with truth and passion.

The film ends with Barry Fife being exposed as the corrupt persona that he is and in true Hollywood fashion Scott gets the girl, as Fran and Scott dance together in defiance about the ridged Ballroom Society's steps and rules. As Scott proves that "a life lived in fear is a life half lived".

Through visual and written images Baz Luhrmann shapes our response to the worlds presented in Strictly Ballroom

through images of defiance, emotion
and triumph.