Abstract

For thousands of years humans have struggled to survive and thrive within society. In environments where one can be limited by their race, gender, religion, or sexual orientation, this struggle is intensified ten-fold. Not only do individuals have to face prejudice in their everyday lives, but they must make the decision whether to stay safe by adhering to societal expectations or to take a risk and defy these expectations. Set against the backdrop of the 1967 Detroit race riots, Dominique Morisseau's *Detroit '67* focuses on an African American family that is not only struggling to survive, but to thrive. I created a scenic design that focuses on a realistic childhood home that acts as a safe haven but limits the characters' ability to grow and thrive.

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