

## Curatorial Statement: *Between The Acts*

Once entering the room, we ask that one take our entrance quiz to test your knowledge on the text; the questions are not serious nor are they difficult, for we added them to spark recollection of the text before one experiences the rest of the exhibition. The main themes our exhibition aims to address are: Individualism, Collectivism, Escapism, and Fulfillment. Throughout the various powerpoint links, one can explore our personal analysis of these themes as they are related to Woolf's final novel, *Between The Acts*. Our main arguments for the room, and the text are:

- Virginia Woolf utilizes her final novel as an act of self-reflection, and posthumously asks the reader to do the same -- perhaps *Between the Acts* can be viewed as Woolf's final act of pacifism and protest literature.  
And,
- World War II and how it caused separation between social classes which the characters of *Between the Act* represent.

Something we spent a lot of time brainstorming was the setting and atmosphere of the "room". We felt that the outdoor space could act as a medium for the exhibition-goers to experience and be transported to a 1941 English garden event. We added elements like the stage, chairs, trees, farm animals, and aeroplanes in order to invoke this atmosphere while keeping the looming themes of the war and reality in mind. Beyond that, we added photos to the stage in order to represent the way the stage and actors would have appeared. Costume renderings were added as a tribute to theatre arts, as well as to depict a character analysis of three main characters. To add to the immersive experience, we have added two videos: one of farm animal sounds and the other of aeroplane noises. We suggest playing both at the same time in order to

get a feeling of the noises that were being heard during the play; this adds to the theme of reality by depicting how the characters were able to ignore noises and suspend their disbelief. There's also a video included as to why we should read Virginia Woolf works like *Between the Acts* and how her work is influential. Towards the end, we recommend taking a look at our bulletin board which includes a recap of our entire digital project, just in case something was missed along the way.