

Choreography: “Crime of the Century”

Example 1 – Youtube Title: [“Ragtime – Crime of the Century – Evelyn Nesbit edit 2011”](#)
Let’s work out basic placements first. I want to move our judge to USL on the main floor and in front of a bench. Let’s place the jurors DS of the judge at, roughly, MSL. I do like their placement of Stanford White DSR and Harry Thaw DSL. Let’s follow that arrangement. Evelyn will be USC on the famous swing. We’ll place Young Brother on USR outcrop. We’ll add reporters (Sob Sisters) and public MSR. In reference to the example video, I’m not sure what I really like. I do want some full chorus animation as the song progresses. I like the reenactment of the shooting. Let’s follow that. We should also give the various groups some unified movement as evidenced at roughly 1:15. As for Evelyn, I can give her basic blocking on the swing, or I can leave that up to you. We just need to communicate to determine either way.

Example 2 – Youtube Title: [“‘Crime of the Century’ – RAGTIME – Belmont University Musical Theatre”](#) I really like the use of the chorus girls as an added component of the number. I like the two groups working diverse choreography (the jurors and the chorus girls). I do NOT want our judge moving in the number. I think we need to spend a little time considering the motivations. We should split the difference between truthful behavior and the fictional world of musical theatre. This number can roll into excessively goofy without a little consideration.

Example 3 – Youtube Title: [“Crime of the Century – Ragtime”](#) There are a few things that I really like about this piece. I think they bring in the chorus in an effective and fluid manner. Let’s, essentially, choreograph a rushed entrance and placement of our jurors and their group. I love how the **swing rises and falls**. I’m hoping that’s possible. I also like the sense of attraction that the jurors have for Evelyn. That should be incorporated into the choreography. Yes, it’s a little over-the-top, but we can find an appropriate level.

Example 4 – Youtube Title: [“RAGTIME Crime of the Century”](#) I think what I really like about this production is something far-removed from the choreography. The base **structure of the set** is very interesting. It’s almost reminiscent of [Boardwalk Empire](#) to me. A tiny bit off from our era, but it’s close. Anyway, it’s a different take on the number. The **costumes** are much more conservative, which may not be on the mark. I think we’re trying to reflect the mix of Vaudeville in a bit more. Our ladies in attendance are to be seen as accompaniments to Evelyn’s stage work. They hammer home the theatrical treatment undertones of the trial.

Example 4 – Youtube Title: [“Emily Skeggs Sings The ‘Crime of the Century’”](#) I found this link earlier and posted it in the general list of choreography examples. I still like it. There’s a wonderful sense of flow and progression as the number unfolds. The choreography is executed in a very clean manner. I love the dip, sweep SR combo of the chorus girls that start at about 1:13. Very fluid. I’m wondering if we might not consider adding a third chorus group. We have the jurors, the chorus girls, what about our audience in attendance at the trial?

Main Points:

- Place the jurors MSL and the chorus girls MSL. Place the judge USL on the main floor

- Plan on Evelyn's swing being positioned USC, but on the main floor
- Bring all actors in this scene in a fluid manner. Choreograph their entrances.
- Reenact

Notes:
