

Beyond Realism: The Actors' Project 2020

Expression of Interest

'Your own identity and self-knowledge are the main sources for any character you may play' (Hagen, 1973, p.29).

Uta Hagen, a professional actor and teacher of acting developed her own theories based on those of Konstantin Stanislavsky's System. Today, finding innovative ways of storytelling with the application of modern technology in our own homes, with our own identities is vital. Hagen could not have been more correct!

Beyond Realism takes components of Stanislavsky's System combined with Hagen's ideas to go beyond realism. The project invites students to explore the tension between the theatrical craft of acting and the performance environment of the internet, which sits halfway between film and television.

Drawing on autobiographical events, you will build and perform a *three-minute fictional character monologue*. The project offers specific acting skills relating to the outcome of realism as a storytelling style, mentorship and an ensemble aspect. *Beyond Realism* culminates in a cyber-performance concluding with a process debrief.

Some experience of acting is essential.

Maximum eight (8) students.

Must be available for all dates.

Key skills development:

- Acting tools that are specific to realism as a performance style
- Transforming autobiographical story into theatrical fiction
- Performance technique including physical, vocal and internal transformation
- Creative writing specifically for solo performance
- Setting the scene with props, location, costuming and technical devices
- Ensemble dynamics
- Collaboration
- Working as a solo performer: finding my unique qualities
- Self – care specific to professional acting

Dates:

Wednesdays 3pm – 5pm

5th August 12th August, 19th August, 22nd August, 2nd September, 9th September, 2020 inclusive.

Structure:

- Six x sessions on the building process of character and practicing acting skills.
- Six x directed writing sessions
- Six x individual mentoring sessions with feedback and directing notes
- Weekly investment online is 2 hours.
- Additional time required for preparatory exercises and rehearsal of approximately 1 hour per week.
- Total investment of time required: 3 hours per week for six weeks
- Individual mentoring sessions take place during the allocated time.

Selection Process:

These spaces are limited. Please answer the questions below to the best of your ability and send them along with your expression of interest by the due date.

1. What do you want to gain from this project on acting?
2. What is your experience in acting?
3. How would you describe your interest in acting and performance?
4. Are you willing to invest the required time for the duration of the project?

Expression of interest closes on the 30th July, 2020 at 6pm. No late applications will be accepted.

Bibliography

Hagen, U 1973, *Respect for Acting*, MacMillan General Reference, New York.