Tips : Ideas For Actors

Ideas for Actors

BY JON JORY

A SMITH AND KRAUS BOOK

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Synopsis

Until recent times, acting wisdom was passed on through an oral tradition called "tips". Presented here are 250 tips, including the way to set a laugh, the use of opposites, a clear definition of "actions", how to use a "breath score", and even how to react if you're fired.

Book Information

Series: Career Development Series
Paperback: 225 pages
Publisher: Smith & Kraus Pub Inc; 1 edition (March 1, 2000)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 1575252023
Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.5 x 8.5 inches
Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars  (See all reviews)  (16 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #116,820 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)  #128 in Arts & Photography > Performing Arts > Theater > Acting & Auditioning  #670 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Performing Arts  #9661 in Books > Humor & Entertainment

Customer Reviews

If this book is any indication, Jory must be a marvelous teacher. Clear, concise, and direct, this is the one book about theatre I wish I'd had when I was in school. Targeted mainly toward actors, this is a wise and lucid compendium for ANY theatre artist, or for any patron who wants to understand more about how a play works onstage. Jory covers all the major themes and topics in pithy one-page descriptions, and clearly relates them to one another. Although he obviously has definite ideas about how to approach a play, he also emphasizes that the actor (playwright, director, etc.) as artist is responsible for making the work organic. He's also very strong on discipline and professional behavior. This book is for anyone who loves the theatre, and can be heartily recommended for beginners and seasoned professionals alike. Appropriate especially for actors and playwrights, it's full of insights for directors and the rest of the technical team as well. Should be required reading for all university-level theatre programs. Keep it in your script bag when you go to rehearsal, just in case you need a little reminder of why you do this.

In my opinion, this is a book every serious actor needs to have. I've been lucky enough to have Jon
as a professor, and "Tips" is the next best thing to being able to actually talk to the guy in person.
He's got a lot of down-to-earth, nuts & bolts type advice in very straightforward language. While
many theatre people are want to use flowery language and get caught up in the lofty ideal of being
an "artist", Jon is much more interested in helping actors serve the STORY they are helping to tell,
in a way that a PAYING AUDIENCE will be glad they saw. Jon has a lifetime of experience with the
theatre; "Tips" gives you a pretty darn good distillation of that experience.

One-page tips on everything from acting strategies (such as figuring out one's character) to
rehearsal/dressing room etiquette. Interesting and helpful; probably most practical for actors in their
early 20s/just starting out.

What an invaluable resource for both novice and experienced actors! This is a concise,
well-organized professional guide to acting. To quote from the book's cover, "Until recent times,
acting wisdom was passed on through an oral tradition called 'tips.' Presented here are 205 tips,
including the way to set up a laugh,...a clear definition of 'actions,'...and even how to react if you're
fired." The author, Jon Jory, spent three decades as the producing director at Actors Theatre of
Louisville, where he brought new plays to festivals all over the world. He and Actors Theatre have
won many prestigious awards, and Mr Jory was an honored recipient of the American Theatre
Association’s Award for distinguished service to theatre, among others. His tone is conversational
and the tips concise, and the book is highly readable.

This book contains so many tips for actors! Whenever I had a question, I could easily flip to the
page that talks about my question and within 5 minutes, my question is answered. I highly
recommend this book to any actors, especially those that have just started pursuing acting.

I really enjoy this book. The reason being is its page after page of ideas for the actor to consider.
Some things I already knew and some things had never even crossed my mind! My favorite part,
every page gets right to the point, no fluff. I recommend this book to any actor looking to improve in
a variety of ways.

This is a super book for any actor from novice to seasoned professional, loaded with brief, one-page
tips one can read whether stuck in traffic on the way to rehearsal or stuck in an endless cattle-call
audition.
This book is invaluable for both actors and acting teachers. It’s concise, very much to the point, and offers quick solutions for problems actors invariably encounter. I highly recommend this book over many others!

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