

Acting Lesson

Written by

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OLIVIA

Theatre and Film. But both forms of entertainment contain different ways of being portrayed. One is in front of a live audience and the other you have multiple takes to get it right. But there are also similarities.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Let's start with the audition process. For both theatre and film acting, for the audition you want to be prepared. This includes having lines memorized, being on time, being in a presentable outfit. With my experiences with theatre, every director has been different.

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For example, my junior year of high school, I had auditioned for the school play where we had to read sides for our audition. Sides are small scenes or monologues from the show. For my senior year of high school, the fall play required us to prepare a monologue. The two musicals I auditioned for, on the other hand, required us to prepare not only a monologue but a song as well.

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When it comes to acting there are major differences.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

With theatre, you have to cheat out, project, make the entrances on time, and wait till the audience stops reacting in order to continue. And that is just for the actors. There is so much going on backstage that is getting done in order to make a show continue and run smoothly.

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Cheating out is important in theatre because the audience gets to see the front of the actor or actress and will also be able to hear them better. Projecting is important in theatre because that is how the audience hears you unless you are in a massive theatre where you have a mic. When performing in theatre you are in front of a live audience. If you mess up, you can't just restart, you have to continue on with the show like nothing happened. Also, the audience may react in a way that the actor will need to wait to move on. Another thing with theatre is that you have to perform big so the people in the back can see what is happening on stage.

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Film on the other hand is different. Even though the actors are performing in front of others, you have the opportunity to mess up. You can do multiple takes until you get it right and the director gets to see the scene performed in different ways. Film is also up close and personal. With a camera it can capture everything a person does clearly. An actor would play their part as if they were that character and not have to worry about not being seen. When acting in a film you can face the person or people you are talking or interacting with. The camera would be set up in a way that it can see the actor and their reactions to what is happening in the scene.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

In theatre it is important to project. This means that an actor or actress needs to speak loudly and clearly in order for the people sitting in the back to be able to hear and understand them. With experience in high school shows we don't always have access to microphones so we have to rely on being loud.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

With film acting, projecting isn't as important. When an actor or actress is acting for a film they can speak in a regular voice or even whisper. There is always a microphone to pick up the audio.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

There is also the difference of how something is being portrayed. In a stage performance a story has a start to finish. Whereas for a film a scene that may come later in a movie or episode may be recorded first. Then a scene that may appear earlier may be recorded at a later point. This all depends on what is available to the director at that moment.

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As a conclusion, acting can be difficult at times with the memorization, the ques, and the bright lights in your face but it can be very fun. I enjoy it immensely and found some great people throughout my theatre experience.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Something that I have learned from experience with acting in both film and theatre is that everyone supports one another so don't be afraid to put yourself out there.