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To The Actor



Synopsis

How does an actor learn to: * Call up emotion? * Develop a character? * Strengthen awareness? These are essential techniques for every actor, and Michael Chekhov's classic work *To the Actor* explains, clearly and concisely, how to develop them. Chekhov's simple and practical method - successfully used by professional actors all over the world - trains the actor's imagination and body to fulfil its potential. This handbook for actors (and directors) has been revised and expanded by Mala Powers. It includes: a previously unpublished chapter on 'Psychological Gesture', translated into English by the celebrated director Andrei Malaev - Babel; a new biographical overview by Mala Powers; and a foreword by Simon Callow.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Some of the techniques I learned from "Respect for Acting" by Uta Hagen were causing me serious problems in my acting. I was trying to balance too many notions in my head at once, and it was compounding anxiety and tension, and hampering my awareness on stage. This book gave me a lot of useful replacements for those cumbersome method techniques. Imagination is ultra-important and this book teaches you how to develop it. Chekhov will teach you how to find true honesty from your imagination, and how to connect your physical body with your imaginative powers. This is a brilliant man, who devoted his life to finding and sharing a hopeful approach to acting. Stanislavsky openly regarded his great talent, and told him he had a great responsibility to try to share what he knew with future generations. He took that to heart and now we have this book. I only give it 4 stars,

because I believe that a quest for an acting technique is personal, and this can't be the solution for everyone, nor was it the complete boxed-up solution for me. If you have had problems with "The Method" give this a shot, though. Check out his other book, "On the Technique of Acting." It provides some useful complimentary information.

This is an outstanding introduction to the technique of Michael Chekhov. The principles listed in this book are invaluable to any actor in training, auditions or in the professional world. With companion texts, such as THE MICHAEL CHEKHOV HANDBOOK & LESSONS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL ACTOR, this book is invaluable in its description of exercises as well as foundation activities of this technique. A vastly spiritual and energetic technique, the philosophy of Michael Chekhov is phenomenally freeing to one's personal imagination and encourages the student and professional to celebrate "creative individuality" through images, visions and use of the sensory imagination. As well, Chekhov's philosophy of beauty as internal to each artist is explored, discussed and made concrete. Overall, this is also a great source of inspiration to all artists concerning the courage to believe and create and express their inner lives --and how these discoveries and expressions of self can be employed in the living of roles and in the analysis of dramatic text.

Thank you so much! The book is absolutely amazing! A classic! It's also in as good, if not better, condition than advertised. Probably the most used book by actors in the world, and I can see why. The techniques, especially "psychological gesture", have been admired and used by the best... Jack Nicholson, Anthony Quinn, Gregory Peck, Johnny Depp, Anthony Hopkins, Marilyn Monroe, and Clint Eastwood... just to name a few. Again, thank you so much.

There are certain books you read to further your skills. This is one of them. Please start with Stanislavsky, then move to this and Strasberg novels.

Bo wonder Yul Brynner liked the way this man taught acting. This is an interesting bit of history. Thank you,

one of the best books for actors and directors about the freedom in acting. its is absolut for practioners: you have to DO it, to train yourself. and it works - than!

This is a great book especially to acting-beginners because it teaches you a lot of the fundamentals

and skills you need for acting.

A book every actor should read. The older copies are starting to fall apart but still in very good condition for practical use.

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