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THE TRAVIS TECHNIQUE FOR ACTORS

PART A - THE INTERROGATION PROCESS FOR ACTORS

**with**

**MARK W. TRAVIS**

**ONLINE CURRICULUM**

*NOTE: This master class is presented in two separate courses.*

*Part A – The Interrogation Process for Actors*

*Part B – The Power of Staging for Actors*

**THE GENESIS OF THIS MASTER CLASS**

**In August of 2019 Mark was invited by**

**the Actor's Equity Foundation of New**

**Zealand to present a one-day master**

**class on The Travis Technique and**

**how he works with actors.**

**Equity Foundation and the actor**

**members wanted to learn how actors**

**could use The Travis Technique in**

**their own preparation and performance.**

**This two-part course is a recording**

**of that master class.**

**Required Reading for Part A:**

***Manchester by the Sea* by Kenneth Lonergan**

**Suggested Reading:**

***DIRECTING FEATURE FILMS: The Creative Collaboration Between Writers, Directors, and Actors,* by Mark W. Travis**

***THE FILM DIRECTOR’S BAG OF TRICKS: How to Get What You Want From Writers and Actors,* by Mark W. Travis.**

**These books are available in most bookstores and**

**Amazon.com in either print or electronic versions.**

**PART A – THE INTERROGATION PROCESS**

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| **SESSION** | **Title** | **Time** | **Content** |
| ONE | INTRODUCTION AND THE FIRST READING OF THE SCENE | 25:00 | Mark Travis has a totally unique approach to directing and especially working with actors. He will guide you through his approach to the rehearsal process working with professional actors. |
| TWO | THE INTERROGATION PROCESS AND SIMULTANEOUS MONOLOGUES | 25:00 | At the core of Mark’s approach is this adjustment: *Stop Directing the Actors, Collaborate with the Characters.* In a few minutes Mark with demonstrate how he can stimulate powerful performance by only connecting with the characters. |
| THREE | Q&A WITH THE PARTICIPATING ACTORS | 13:00 | It’s important to understand how these techniques are affecting the actors. We have seen the emerging of the characters, but what is happening inside. During this Q&A the actors will share their personal experiences. |
| FOUR | Q&A WITH ACTORS IN THE AUDIENCE | 33:00 | Now the actors in the audience have an opportunity to ask both Mark and the participating actors questions about the process. Hopefully they are asking the questions you would like to ask. |

*Before you move on to the second half of this course you need to do some important preparation.*

*Now that you have watched the Interrogation Process and Simultaneous Monologues, imagine that you have been invited to interrogate one of the actors in “Manchester by the Sea.” Write out the questions you would like to ask that particular character. Make a list of the more secret or hidden areas of that character’s life that you would like to discover. What are the boldest questions you can ask? What are the most daring insinuations you can make about that character? Be daring. Be courageous. You can’t make a mistake.*

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| FIVE | INTRODUCTION TO THE BUDDY SYSTEM | 11:00 | What you have witnessed in the first half of this course is how Mark, a skilled director, can use these techniques to build and stimulate a character. Now the question is: How can actors do this without a skilled director. The Buddy system is the answer. |
| SIX | THE FIRST BUDDY EXERCISE | 30:00 | In the next three sessions (6-8) you will get to watch as six actors try the Buddy System for the |
| SEVEN | THE SECOND BUDDY EXERCISE | 16:00 | first time. As they struggle and make their own personal discoveries, Mark works with them, |
| EIGHT | THE THIRD BUDDY EXERCISE | 12:00 | making adjustments and giving each of them new tools. |
| NINE | FINAL Q&A ABOUT THE INTERROGATION PROCESS AND THE BUDDY SYSTEM | 18:00 | In this final Q&A Mark answers a broad spectrum of questions and reveals more details about these techniques and shares stories of how this approach has empowered other actors. |
|  | A GREAT STORY ABOUT SIR LAURENCE OLIVIER | 1:00 | Arguably one of the greatest actors to have worked during our time, this story shares what happened when Sir Laurence Olivier reach the level of performance we are all seeking. |

**CONTACTING MARK**

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**VIDEOS ON LINE:**

**-** [**Film Courage Interviews**](http://bit.ly/2myeZDN)

**-** [**The Travis Technique of Directing**](http://bit.ly/2EICW1k)

[**- TIFI ONLINE WEBINARS: The Travis Technique of Directing, Write Your Life and The Power of Staging**](https://tifi.teachable.com/)**, The Travis Technique for Actors**