

Takeaways from Actors' Think Tank, August 4, 2022

Rich Baker- Improv Expert and Coach

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Luca Cundo

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Rich, thanks for joining us buddy. It was good to see the members of the group in a different light when we were playing those little games.

Rich Henkels

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People, adults don't build enough "fun" into their days. For some of my classes, for the retirees, improv class is like "bingo night". I think I need to incorporate that line of thinking into my life.

Shelby Hightower

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Funniest meeting ever! I loved when he said, 'Dare to fail. The worst that can happen is that you learn something.'

Justine Reiss

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Thanks for your time RICH, the ability to play and have fun creates a positive mind shift, we could feel it in the group and need this as creatives to get out of our heads and out of our own way!!

Don't be afraid to fail or do this imperfectly - I WANT you to fail.

Improv is about trusting your instincts and thinking on your toes for auditions but also in life!

Tyler McKenzie

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"I need to take an improv class after today's session with Rich! One thing that struck a chord in regards to improv is that the words don't matter, it's all about who I am connecting with in a scene. That, to me, is very freeing."

Rosalyn Jamal

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My takeaway is that Improv should be fun, spontaneous and supportive of the other actors onstage. I loved Rich's definition that improv is making up theatre on the spot with one or more people; its ensemble connection and scriptless acting.

Jackie Diehl

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It's not in the words. It took a weight off of my shoulders to hear this - especially since improv can be scary! Celebrate the failures, just be present and stay connected to your scene partner, and don't worry about the words. Great advice, thanks Rich!

Shauna Hurley-Hansen

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I really appreciated Rich's heightened sense of fun and his understanding that all good Acting and Improv is about connecting. Rich said that if you're not improvising while you're acting, I'm not watching it. You have to listen and really be affected by your partner or partners. It was also enlightening and amusing to have some heartfelt laughs with each other. Like Rich said, support each other and make each other look good. Thank you Rich.

Chris Evans

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Improv requires listening and being aware of what is happening right now. The core of improv is to support each other and make one another look good

Gabi Faye

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Just go for and dare to fail, the worst thing that happens is you learn something. Which is not so bad at all!

Colleen Wyse

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"Improvise a little" means "write a couple of new lines for us."

Marcie Ryan

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Takeaway - Had so much fun with Rich Baker and wanted to do more, really did not want the session to end. Reminded me how much fun Improv is and that I really need to get it to some sort of class or workshop. The whole idea of supporting the group and not thinking just reacting allows a freedom to just go with the flow and to just support your group. Really had a fun time, great session.

Lindsay Michelle Reed

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Your job isn't to be funny it's to learn, practice, support and have fun!