



Takeaways from Actors' Think Tank, September 29, 2022

Danny Galvin - Showrunner Assistant

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Luca Cundo

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It never crossed my mind that showrunners are ahead of directors for television series

Justine Reiss

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Loved this: Everything is a constellation, You can draw a line to the thing that came before, but often you have no idea where you are going until you end up there. Then you can look back and connect those dots.

Mike Provenzano

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It was great learning what a Show Runner does from your perspective Danny. I think what stuck with me is your pivoting and being where you are supposed to be now and to remember that a rejection is just a redirection.

Sandra Bulk

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Danny, from the definition of "showrunner" to the new-to-me term "overall," I learned so much from you today! I think what has stuck with me most was

how your improv work with Second City influenced and enhanced your writing. Yet another reason to build a solid improv foundation!

Rich Henkels

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Watching actors go “deeper and deeper” into portraying a character in a scene, and having to do it multiple times, must have been fascinating. It drives home the fact that, while giving it our all, all the time, we also have to “budget” our focus and our energy such that we always deliver continuity, and don’t run out of gas before getting “THE” take!

Paul Blumenthal

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Be aware of the people around you, do not keep your blinders on, and know what came before.

Failure is just a pivot: a right turn or a left turn, just a redirection ... you will find something else.

Shelley Brietling

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I found it very interesting when Danny spoke about how important Improvisation is when it comes to life lessons, trusting and listening skills. Not only does this technique influence an actor’s craft but can also support any one in general as a whole. Danny stated that his four years of improv helped him to become a better writer. I found his message to be very helpful. He has suggested that we can all learn from improv, use its teachings and incorporate it into our daily life and work.

Jamie Vaughan

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Takeaway - To always see the big picture and trust that immediate disappointments can sometimes lead to even better opportunities.

Shelby Hightower

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I was enthralled by his answer to my question, when he talked about the actors giving their all for emotional scenes, but still digging the deepest for their close ups and managing their stamina. Wow. This profession is much harder than it seems.

Kelly McCaughan

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I love the story Danny told about being devastated about not getting into USC but later realized it worked out for the better. I always try to remember that just because something isn't happening in the time that I want it to, doesn't mean it won't happen in a better or different way down the line.

Gabi Faye

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Danny! I'm so proud of you and your journey. You are an example that beyond talent, work ethic, a down to earth personality, and a little humor help guide you to great opportunities. Stay the path, be friendly and ready to learn, and the world awaits you! So excited to see what's next for you.

Stacey Marie Keba

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My takeaway from Danny's session today is that production companies often work with studios like Warner Brothers or Universal to secure funding and in return find projects for the studios, and those projects may fall under a mandate of a project type needed.

Catalina Conrad

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“Showing up, asking questions, meeting people, you’re doing what you need to do to keep your options open.”

Lindsay Michelle Reed

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Before Danny, I didn't know anything about a show runner's job. Now I know the show runner maintains the creative thread and continuity.

Mariel McIntosh
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Thank you Danny for taking the time to connect with ATT and giving us insight through your eyes. One of your points(out of many) that stuck with me was, when you talked about telling/pitching your story. You made reference to creating stories that put a twist on an old idea and making a story in a way that only you could tell it. That really hit home with me. I will definitely keep that in mind when writing my own scripts.

Jeannette Nina
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Thank you for being a wealth of information! I loved learning the inner workings of the showrunner role as well as being reminded there is no straight line on this journey. Closed doors only mean there is a window open around the corner.

Jackie Diehl
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The relationship between the actors and the show runner really stood out to me. I know it may not be the same everywhere but at least with Danny's experience it was exciting to hear how these creative minds collaborate. Also, when you can't get through the door, sometimes there's a window for you to use instead!! Thanks Danny