

ACTORS' THINK TANK NOTES

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Tessa Faye - Actress, Casting Director, Coach

I. Slates

- a. She watched online before hand
- b. She never saw anything like this before and thought it was 'so awesome'
- c. "I learned a ton out of watching all of you"
- d. It throws her off as a casting director if you are really different than what she expects from your picture
- e. Our slates were clear
- f. She, and other CD's will only retain about 45 seconds of 90 seconds....so slow down and be ok with saying less
- g. Backdrops look awesome!
- h. The slate is your opportunity to catch their attention. Take your time on it and anything you do different (i.e. Mike getting to show his awesome new book!) is memorable!

II. What separates the way you see your clients?

- a. I am a career coach, I WANT you to have a career in the arts!
- b. Coaching is how she helps people earn money and then she also started directing and casting
- c. She will ask her clients Five Questions:
 1. What are your dream roles?
 2. How do other people cast you?
 3. What do you NOT want to do?
 4. What is your dream / actual goal?
 5. Who is on your team? Who do you talk to about your goals?

III. Goal Setting

- a. She was in an NY acting class and occasionally the teacher would ask them to think about "what if this is as good as it gets?"
- b. Sometimes the advice she gives is to "keep doing more of the same."
- c. 2% of people who call themselves actors are actually employed
- d. You may think you have hit your peak....and then something better happens
- e. Celebrate what is good for you...all of the little victories
- f. Tiffany Haddish said the reason she casts so many comedian friends with her is because they had an unwritten agreement that "whoever made it first would take care of the rest.'

IV. Community

- a. This business without community feels like presentation
- b. Austin Pendleton is currently working on a production at a theater in OH because of his sense of community

V. Confidence

- a. You have to have confidence!
- b. GET CONFIDENT!!
- c. Know that you are so good at what you do!
- d. Be EXCITED for people to see your slates and other things that you do!
- e. Be confident and get it out there!

VI. The Perfect Client

- a. The perfect client is trusting and willing to work things differently
- b. You should have a monologue ready to go
- c. Think of acting class as part of your arm and the job as the other part. The elbow is your audition. The elbow / audition is what joins the two!
- d. Monologues are not a perfect test of your ability but CD's may ask for one and you should be ready. Its a way for a CD to see if you can act.
- e. Your monologue should be 1 min. and the first line should be a good transition into the character. Perform it slower than you think you should. Last line should be an obvious end.
- f. Own it when performing your monologue
- g. This is an opportunity for a CD to think about you
- h. Motivational / Courtroom monologues are great...like Aaron Sorkin

VII. Resume

- a. She will first look at the name to see if they are famous or if she knows them
- b. Then she looks for the weirdest credit they have
- c. Looks to see if there is something she connects with

VIII. Opportunity

- a. Be disciplined
- b. Doors will open and you must be ready
- c. Any interaction can change your life
- d. Be confident in the job you did
- e. "Get Up To The Plate"
- f. Find a away to audition for a CD if there is something you want!
- g. ATT gets you one step closer to so many people
- h. Cd's employ a lot of people so try to form relationships with their assistants...they will be the future CD's anyway!

IX. GO FOR IT!!!!

- a. Plant seeds whenever you can
- b. Love what you are doing!
- c. Do not let anybody talk you out of following your dreams
- d. Her goal is to see a client make it big!
- e. She did see Sarah Cooper get really popular during the pandemic

X. Reaching Out

- a. When reaching out, shorter is better
- b. Use a signature with a pic
- c. Do not be discouraged if a response is short, people are busy and be glad that you have started a relationship!