

Takeaways from Actors' Think Tank, June 14, 2022

Lain Kunin - Julie Schubert Casting

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Rich Henkels

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Head shots need to look natural and authentic, not made up and perfect. They should resemble "real life", as that is what people like Lain are looking for when they cast shows. So much mental energy seems to go into self tapes and this crystalizes the objective for me.

Mike Provenzano

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Thanks for a great hour with us!! For me I would have to say that learning that pilot season is very different now due to streaming is something I really never realized. This obviously makes sense due to how many platforms are out there now. Seems like a great time to create quality content!!

Marcie Ryan

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Takeaway: Lain's comment about how to choose a scene, pick a scene with a beginning, middle and end ensuring there is an emotional arc and/or emotional growth, also choose work that may reflect the casting director's current projects. Always be thinking about your goals and working on your craft, and always be prepared. Thank you.

Gabi Faye

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Lain shared some great examples of how to prepare for an audition. It's not just knowing your character or preparing emotionally. but also knowing who might be in the room, their jobs on the show, and doing your homework by learning the tone of the show, should you be unfamiliar. Being talented is not enough, you must also be smart when it comes to the audition process - successful actors understand the crucial meeting point of craft and business.

Shauna Hurley-Hansen

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So Happy to spend such an informative hour with Lain on Tuesday evening. I heard Lain use real Actor language. Grounded, Ability, Conversational, Real Life Experiences, Simplicity. If you're coming into a Casting Director workshop pick a scene that has an emotional arc, where it really goes somewhere, turns and has emotional growth. So

wonderful to hear from an industry professional that clearly loves what she does. Thank you very much Lain.

Shelby Hightower

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"Be an authentic, real person"

Also, have a scene repertoire. Smart.

Tyler McKenzie

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Lain was fantastic! I could spend another hour with her! She reminded all of us to stay grounded in our auditions. And the only difference between a theater and film audition is where we are sending our energy! Which is incredibly useful for me right now!

Luca Cundo

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Your diversity in your experiences is so motivating.

Paul Blumenthal

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When auditioning, always be aware of where you are and bring your own materials to the room that are appropriate for the tenor of the audition.

Greg Wagner

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Enjoyed, the insight in regard to looking for new faces, focused on the work and experience, and not the social media handles of actors.

Dina Laura

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Lain was a breath of fresh air, who clarified the role social media plays in casting—which is not much, thankfully. She put my mind at ease, and I'm so glad Lain shared her insights with us!

Lynia Love

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What connected with me was when Lani spoke about an actor not having to have a big social media following and how it is not a factor when casting for projects.

Kelly McCaughan

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Lain reminded me that the casting director is always on your side. Sometimes it can feel overwhelming but you must remember that everyone wants you to 'win'. Thanks, Lain!

Sandra Bulk

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Thank you so much for all your insights, Lain! I was so happy to hear you say that you're usually looking for just real people - people who are a "slice of New York." I LOVE all the Marvel, action, and sci-fi shows and movies, but I always wondered if there would be a place for me in them. Hearing that there could be was so encouraging!

Craig A. Woolridge

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When self-taping, always work with a reader when possible.

Victoria stevens

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Takeaway: I learned so much from Lain but one thing that I will remember to do from now on is use sides that are similar to the shows that Lain cast when I meet her in CD workshops. I have a hard time picking sides and now this helps me narrow down which ones I should be doing for the classes.