

## **Takeaways from Actors' Think Tank**

**February 23, 2022**

**Elaine Del Valle - Director/Writer/Actor**

**Preferred means of communication -**

**Instagram - [Elaine Del Valle \(@elainedelvalledirector\)](#)**

Sandra Bulk

snbulk1@gmail.com

Elaine, I took away so much from your talk, but I think the one message that really stuck with me is: "You're on the right path. When you see people's talent, recognize it. That can make all the difference."

Gabi Faye

actressgabifaye@gmail.com

Stand your ground and stake your claim - ask questions to help others realize your worth. Your bravery to ask questions or say no deepens your value.

Ana Hoffman

ana@anahoffman.com

"Your truth cannot be taken away from you, stand in it, don't give away your vehicle, if it's yours let it be that b/c it might be the best that you are."

Shelby Hightower

shelby.k.hightower@gmail.com

So much wisdom throughout, but my favorite nugget was to really take your time to truly ingest a re-direct and even repeat it back to them once you think you've gotten it to make sure that you know what they are asking for, because it's a crucial moment of the audition.

Dina Laura

dina.laura@gmail.com

Elaine showed me that you can drive in more than one lane... as long as you're prepared to be very busy and keep your eyes opened at all times! Thank you, Elaine, for being a true inspiration!

Shauna Hansen

purepilates@gmail.com

My biggest personal takeaway from Elaine were the moments she discussed how she came to writing her one woman show. She talked about how possibly she didn't know what she was writing about, but that she had encouragement from her Acting teacher, Wynn Handman. That perhaps the story of her Father might not have looked right to everyone on

paper, but it looked right to her. She told her story and she created her own work. She did not give away her vehicle. I was truly moved.

Catalina Conrad

Catalinaconrad007@gmail.com

If something is getting in the way of what you really want to pursue, let it go.

Rosalyn Jamal

arjamal@verizon.net

One thing that resonated with me was when Elaine said that "I am the solution to the Casting Director's problem," as well as, to work hard and do your best because hard work is eventually recognized.

Mike Provenzano

mike@mImprov.com

There were a bunch of great pieces you shared with us, and the one that resonated with me was when entering the audition room think about it as though you are the solution to their problem. Going in with confidence really shows and definitely makes a difference.

Rich Henkels

rkhenkels@gmail.com

In a business where you can be in several lanes, identify which one brings the most joy, makes you happiest and is most fulfilling and commit to that, doing the other things incrementally, but stopping before it stops being rewarding and gets in the way of doing what you love most.

Paul Blumenthal

pblumenthal@comcast.net

It is better to create your own work to be seen, as you want it to be seen, using fine actors you believe in and not necessarily named actors.

Victoria Stevens

vickiestevens1@verizon.net

1Takeaway: I learned that sometimes when the industry doesn't understand where you fit in, you have to make projects for yourself to show them. Creating your own projects make you proactive and you become less dependent on others to create your career for you. Love this advise so much.