

Takeaways from Actors' Think Tank, June 23, 2022

Lynda de Zorzi - Commercial Producer

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Kelly McCaughan

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I liked when Lynda spoke on how It's not always on the actor when they are asked to do something again or get redirected to try something different. Sometimes, the director/client needs to see something because they want to do it for 'safety' and/or make sure they have what they need. Never take any re-directs etc. personally.

Mike Provenzano

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Thanks for a great session today Lynda!! You threw a lot of great shares at us and I think the one that stuck with me that I can easily implement is to wear my glasses for my slate. While this seems small, I love the fact that you said it allows casting to add layers to us individually so I'm going to give that a go starting today!!

Sandra Bulk

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Thank you so much for an eye-opening session, Lynda! I've known there are many layers involved in any production, but I've never had the nuances illustrated so clearly as when you described all the steps you need to take simply to light a candle on set. You summed it up beautifully when you said, "You have to do a lot of kowtowing to a lot of people to get that :30 spot."

Justine Reiss

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Loved how Real and Down to earth you are Lynda!

It's important to Delegate, I learned this as a producer.

BUILD. Your rolodex, you never know what you will need like a zoologist at the Bronx Zoo.

Be quick to respond, don't ask dumb questions about timing, how long you'll be on set and be on time or the entire production can get thrown off.

Her superpowers are:

BEING SUPER organized, tuned into a walkie/person in front of me and an air-pod at the same time and, learning to put together a good team.

Luca Cundo

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"An impression is an impression", what an amazing quote.

Jackie Diehl

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It really stood out to me when Lynda said that sometimes an actor's background during the audition can actually help them or give them personality when it's not just a basic acting backdrop (but also not a trashy looking background). I was under the impression that 99% of the time it's a bad thing to not have a basic backdrop. Thanks for being so awesome and friendly! Please tell little George Bailey to strike a pose for me and I'll draw him 😊

Rich Henkels

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"You guys are the unknown of a project"... We spend all day taking care of all the other elements, but talent is who brings the story to life and everyone brings a little something different to a set and scene, which means the final product isn't always exactly the way it was drawn up or envisioned. If they say, "We love it! Let's do it one more time!" They mean "We love it!". It's not always YOU when we do one more take!

Gabi Faye

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Lynda really stressed the importance of creative solutions both in both producing and acting. I loved hearing about the rolodex she's built up over the years and having to quickly flip the hole for the actor's arms lol! For actors, remember that your real life location can add to or take away from an audition, same goes for what you wear/how you style yourself. Roll with the punches and use your intuition. Our industry is full of unexpected turns, so an element of flexibility is a must! Lynda really exemplifies that in her personality alone, and in the stories she shared with us.

Shauna Hurley-Hansen

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It was wonderful to have Lynda's joy and ebullience shared with Actor's Think Tank today. Such an informative session and I appreciated Lynda saying that as far as Actors go, she is looking for your personality, how you address yourself and and that she loves a size card! Great! I have to add that my personal favorite moment was Lynda doing a killer impression of a French female client asking for an elephant to use in Brooklyn in less than 48 hours for a shoot. Magnifique! Thank you Lynda!

Shelley Brietling

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When you don't know-connect with someone who does know. Don't be afraid to ask questions. Keep connected and network. It is your best resource.

An impression is an impression: keep it upbeat because you never know who you are going to meet.

Shelby Hightower

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The Elephant. Walking through the tunnel. That image will never leave me! And what a great analogy for all of the work that goes into a production. Great reminder! Art is a collaboration.

Mariel McIntosh

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One of the many things you made me think about is that other professionals in the field also need reels. Not just to showcase their work but to also use them to book jobs. Having their work be similar to the clients vision is essential to the process.

Lindsay Michelle Reed

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When submitting add your size card. It helps having the information up front so you know people's sizes. If there is a quick turn around with casting, the wardrobe departments can get a head start if they already have your sizes.

Marcie Ryan

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It was so nice meeting you. All the information you provided was excellent. I especially appreciated the insight on the production side.

Wow..the role of producer is all encompassing, you have to be the problem solver onset , and know what is happening at all times.

Maintaining relations and networking, keeping contacts for future reference. I really enjoyed the conversation and appreciate all the insight.

I also loved hearing about George Bailey, and I have come to the conclusion that you are a fan of "It's a Wonderful Life" or Jimmy Stewart, probably both. My favorite film and actor.

Kaitlyn D.

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So many great nuggets of information from Lynda, but my overall takeaway was that producer works really really hard to make things happen, and I've garnered a newfound respect for their work. I had no idea that part of their job entails meeting crazy demands like getting an elephant at the last minute! Thanks Lynda!!