

Don Case

Actors' Think Tank - April 21, 2021

Don expects to be back in his office casting in about a month, for those who are comfortable

He loved all of our very clean backdrops

Casting virtually can be distracting when actors allow things like dirty dishes and unmade beds be in their background

If the scene calls for an opportunity to use your home, you should do so (livingroom, office, etc.)

Many actors do not have the art of a good self tape with good lighting and clean backdrop down yet.

If he receives a tape with bad sound or lighting he will most likely delete it. Very rarely will ask someone to re-do it....he just does not have time for that.

Don feels that many CD's and Agents are happy to stay virtual for as long as possible. He wants to stay safe but does not feel that it is healthy to stay home. "We need to be in person."

During auditions it's important that he use people's individual talents and not necessarily do a blanket audition where, for example, everybody dances.

He does love people "when he is getting paid for it." In his office he is 'on.' He exudes energy and makes his office a space where everyone, especially actors, can feel and do their best.

The audition starts the second you walk into the office.

He does cast a lot of commercial and spokesperson, but has also casted plenty of tv and theater.

He is always looking for new people.

Don has been an actor so he really knows what it is like to be in our shoes.

"My job is to give people an opportunity."

He booked Lauren Graham on her first commercial.

Yes, you are nervous during an audition....but slow down and listen! Listen to everyone....the director, the other actor, etc.. NOT listening is a big mistake.

Make your headshots look like you. Especially women can get caught in this with HMU.

Don usually goes with agent recommendations for jobs because turn around times are tight and it's tough for him to take the time to think about someone he met or got info from.

Having an agent is very important.

VO is great and can create another career.

Don does not think you should put commercials on a resume. He is a 'resume guy' and will search 'Special Skills' when considering if you may be a good fit for a commercial.

VO auditions can be misleading, especially if done at home. He doesn't know how long that audition took you or how many edits you made.

Giving multiple takes is great. Use the opportunity to change your range of intention...maybe go cool or edgy.

It seems like everyone is teaching a lot of classes and taking a lot of classes now...it never used to be like that.