

REHEARSALS

DIRECTING ACTORS PART TWO

Rehearsals are our:

- LABORATORY
- WORKSHOP

Purpose of Rehearsal

- Discover the Structure of the Scene
- Identify the Event of the Scene
- Encourage Moment to Moment Acting
- Make the Event Happen

Do Film or TV Directors Rehearse?

MEL BROOKS REHEARSED YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN FOR 3 WEEKS

LUMET REHEARSED EVERYTHING

VEEP REHEARSES FOR A MONTH

Dustin Hoffman speaking about his use of rehearsals directing
“Quartet” said:

“Acting is best when it
is effortless. To get
effortless takes time.”

Dustin Hoffman

Why?

Because

“Quality
is a probabilistic function of
Quantity”

Dean Simonton

Gladwell talking about 10,000 hours quoted Psych Dean Simonton
it's saying the same thing as Vorhaus' Rule of Nine!

IN ORDER TO MAKE
GREAT CHOICES...

YOU HAVE TO WORK THROUGH THE BAD CHOICES

"The more successes there are," he says, "the more failures there are as well"—meaning that the person who had far more ideas than the rest of us will have far more bad ideas than the rest of us, too.

- The value of rehearsal is to get past clichés and get to a deeper level

put another way

“The game is what you catch
not
what you spill”

Nathan Myrvold

We Play the game in

A SANDBOX!

Play time – Most Actors love a workout ---- actors love to play --
GIVE THEM

PERMISSION
TO
PLAY

You be the
REFEREE

Getting into the
Sandbox
is like having
Sex with Actors!

How many of you think that sex is a nasty job that has to be done to make babies and is therefore done in a dark room as quickly as possible?

“THE LOVE YOU TAKE
IS EQUAL TO
THE LOVE YOU MAKE”

The Beatles

BY THE TIME THE ACTORS HAVE PLAYED THEIR WAY TO A CHOICE –
THEY WILL OWN IT!

YOUR GOAL IS TO

Use Rehearsal To

- Explore the Beginning
- Identify the Game
- Breakdown the Moments and Beats
- Mine the Comedy

- Identify the Target (Event)
- Find the Staging
- Search for Accidents

Let's break that down again

THE BEGINNING

WELL BEGUN
IS
WELL DONE

EXAMINE THE ENTRANCE

IT'S A REVEAL! Just as an exit is a Disappearance....

IDENTIFY THE GAME

MAKE A GAME
-
FIND THE PLAY

“Toys and games are
the prelude to serious
ideas.”

Charles Eames

THE GAME HAS RULES – THEY PROVIDE THE STRUCTURE OF THE
SCENE...WE ARE SEARCHING FOR ITS STRUCTURE...THAT IS ARMATURE
FOR THE EVENT.....

BREAKDOWN

involves

- KNOWING THE CIRCUMSTANCES
- KNOWING THE OBJECTIVES
- IDENTIFYING THE OBSTACLES
- FINDING THE MOMENTS
- RECOGNIZING THE BEATS

ASK:
"HOW DOES
THIS SCENE
CONTINUE?"

COMEDY MINING

BE OPPORTUNISTIC

DIRECT
THE
DRAMA

FUNNY
WILL
FOLLOW



explore the MOMENTS

Mark Duplass:

For Mark, one of the top surprises of working on “Zero Dark Thirty” was realizing that Kathryn Bigelow’s process was “almost exactly the same” as theirs: “It was a fully lit room, there were three roaming cameras, a premium was put on performance, improvisation was not only allowed but encouraged. We were not there to march the orders of the script and exact them; we were there to discover what the best version of that moment could be.”

STAGING THE SCENE

Space Exploration

WHERE DO THEY WANT TO BE - HOW TO THEY GET THERE??????

Stage the Beats

The Turning Points in the GAME -- the staging of the beats follows and Articulates the structure --

PREPARE FOR ACCIDENTS

Louis Pasteur said “Chance favors the prepared mind”



Life is Accidental
Make Accidents Happen

My Directing teacher used to yell at us

"Don't Be Afraid
To Let Life
Interfere
With Art"



MAKE A TARGET!

The value of having a target



REPETITION

DOESN'T IT GET BORING?
DOESN'T IT GET STALE?

“REPETITION” is a French word for Rehearsal”

PAINFUL
but
PRODUCTIVE

BE THE OYSTER

TELL ABOUT THE SAND



Inspiration
begins
with
Frustration

SO WE REPEAT – WE REHEARSE...

HOW TO DO WE REHEARSE...WE'LL DISCUSS THAT

AFTER WE TAKE A BREAK

THE METHOD

PREPARATION

- Do a SCENE ANALYSIS
- ask “What do I Know?”
- ask “What do I NOT KNOW YET?”



FOR THE

AGENDA

EXAMINE THE FACTS

KNOW THE CIRCUMSTANCES – THINK THROUGH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ACTION

SET UP

- The Space
- The Props

BREAK