

WORKSHOP BUSINESS BRIEF – CALUM ROBshaw



CALUM ROBshaw:

I am an Actor based in London. I began my training at East 15 Acting School in 2013 on the Cert HE Course in Theatre Arts. This training focused on Method Acting, Improvisation, Voice, Object exercise and Interaction.

I then went to Italy to study Commedia del Arte with one of the world's leading practitioners in physical comedy: Antonio Fava.

Upon completion of this training I returned to Italy for a 6 month Theatre in Education Tour. During this tour I performed across the country and facilitated English educational workshops to just under 18,000 children aged 4-18.

I then returned to training again in repertory with Fourth Monkey Theatre Company on the "Year of the Monkey Course". Fourth Monkey is a new drama school with an evolved modern style of teaching. This saw us learn a wide array of performance styles such as Mask, Laban, Acrobalance, Corporeal Mime, Buffoon and Clown.

Now I work as an Actor and freelance theatre practitioner. I have performed at The Edinburgh Fringe for the last 2 years. These performances varied from immersive theatre, to Folk musicals to a Buffoon Clown performance. All shows received very positive critical reviews and feedback.

I have also appeared in short films, TV adverts and continue to work as a Voiceover Artist.

I am also an Associate Artist for Scram Collective, a new theatre company consisting of Fourth Monkey alumnus.

SUBJECTS FOR WORKSHOPS:

Please find below a brief explanation of what theatrical styles I teach. Each workshop will be taught personally and solely by me.

COMMEDIA DEL ARTE:

My Commedia workshops focus primarily on the discipline of a character and the depth an Actor can go in order to effectively bring it to life. The classes consist of learning the performative styles and movements of the four archetypes of Commedia. Once the characters are integrated into the Actor's body we then move onto comedic improvisation with masks and how to devise a short Commedia play (Cannovacci). I offer a 5 day Intensive workshop in Commedia, where we will learn the characters physicality's and culminate with a small "in-house" showing of a devised play.

The benefits of Commedia del Arte are that the students will have an extensive knowledge of one of the earliest forms of theatre alongside acquiring a "tool belt" of physical performative skills.

The archetypes of Commedia form the basis of many modern acting styles and characters. This gives students an understanding of the roots of comedic acting and strengthens an actor's ability to build a comedic character with a newly found sense of playfulness.

ARCHETYPES AND TENSION:

These workshops will follow the teachings of John Wright and focus firstly on the "Seven states of Tension". The class will go through in each tension state in detail, allowing the class to discover new elements they can apply to a performance and/or character.

The seven archetypes are fixed conceptions of "ways of being" as opposed to Commedia archetypes which represent the four stages of life. The Seven archetypes are in a sense a more modern version of Commedia. The benefits of the archetypes and tension states are to provide the Actor with a heightened awareness of their body and to develop their emotional and physical responses to their environment.

LABAN INTO HEIGHTENED TEXT:

These workshops look at the methodology's of Laban and the Eight Laban Efforts. These Efforts are used to describe every one of the body's movements and provides the Actor with a diverse physical vocabulary and a greater understanding of how their body moves. This can then be used to create a more alive and interesting character and gives students a common vocabulary for describing movement.

I personally have found it extremely beneficial to combine Laban with texts such as Shakespeare. This enables a more colourful and modern approach to tackling heightened text which often daunts young actors.

COURSE DETAILS AND COSTS:

Standard Hourly Rate: £30 per hour.

Standard 2 Hour Workshop (Commedia/ Tension/ Laban): £55

Standard 3 Hour Workshop (Commedia/ Tension/ Laban): £85

1 day Workshop in Commedia del Arte: £195

5 day intensive Workshop in Commedia del Arte (9-5pm Mon – Fri): £800

(Other course contents/durations available upon request)

(I will only charge travel expenses outside London Zone 6)

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