

Conservatory Ensemble VII

Texts & Tools

ACTING I:

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- "Audition" by Michael Shurtleff
- "The Four Agreements" by Don Miguel Ruiz
- "The Mastery of Love" by Don Miguel Ruiz
- [Arden Shakespeare "Romeo & Juliet" \(paperback or hardcover, not digital\)](#)

REQUIRED TOOLS:

- Guideposts Card Set (Card sets will be handed to you at Orientation)

RECOMMENDED (Optional) TEXTS:

- "The Road Less Traveled" by M. Scott Peck

ASSIGNMENT:

Before Orientation Weekend (September 8-9):

- *Read the first three books listed above (Audition, Four Agreements, Mastery of Love)*
- *Learn Guideposts 1-12 and The Four Agreements (numerically and out of order). Meaning, memorize these terms and be able to explain what they mean. (We will review during Orientation)*
- *Be familiar with the last Three Guideposts, Three Tenets, Three Techniques, Four Parts of Vocal Variation and Six Viewpoints. (We will review during Orientation)*
- *Familiarize yourself with The Prologue to "Romeo & Juliet" by William Shakespeare (Arden Edition) that begins "Two households both alike in dignity" and ends "What here shall miss, our toil shall strive to mend."*
- *Bring your copy of Arden Shakespeare "Romeo & Juliet" to the first day of class and be ready to perform The Prologue - on the book. Meaning, you may carry the script.*

For class on Tuesday September 18:

- *Be prepared to perform a 1 minute monologue of your choosing by one of the following three writers:*
 - *Tennessee Williams*
 - *Arthur Miller*
 - *Eugene O'Neill*

VOICE & SPEECH:

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- "Classically Speaking" (3rd Edition) by Patricia Fletcher
- "Make Your Voice Heard" by Chuck Jones
- "American Accent Training" by Ann Cook ** *Required ONLY for international students.*

REQUIRED TOOLS:

- Foam roller ([example](#)) – 36", 18" or 12" would all work
- Lacrosse balls ([example](#)) you only need one
- A recorder, or the equivalent of a recorder on an iphone or mobile device
- Yoga mat

RECOMMENDED (OPTIONAL) TEXTS:

- "Speak with Distinction" by Edith Skinner
- "The Actor Speaks" by Patsy Rodenburg
- "Freeing the Natural Voice" by Kristin Linklater
- "The Voice Book" by Michael McCallion
- "Voice and the Actor" by Cicely Berry
- "Finding Your Voice" by Barbara Houseman

THEATER HISTORY:

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- "Actors on Acting" edited by Toby Cole and Helen Krich Chinoy
ISBN-10: 051788478X **ISBN-13:** 978-0517884782
- "The Oxford Illustrated History of the Theatre," edited by John Russell Brown (ISBN-10: **0192854429** | ISBN-13: **978-0192854421**) published in 2001 by Oxford UP

ASSIGNMENT: for first class on Thursday September 27th

- Schechner: Selections from *Between Theatre & Anthropology and Performance Theory* (attached pdf)
- Langsner: "The Importance of Studying Theatre History," Backstage - <http://www.backstage.com/advice-for-actors/resources/importance-studying-theater-history/>

and "Fightaturgy," HowlRound -

<http://howlround.com/fightaturgy-towards-a-dramaturgy-of-stage-violence>

- Dramaturg (video) - <http://dictionary.tdf.org/dramaturg/>
- Rowen, Bess – What is a Dramaturg? - http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/what-is-a-dramaturg_b_2169236

ALEXANDER TECHNIQUE:

REQUIRED TEXTS:

-"The Actor's Secret" by Betsy Polatin

MOVEMENT:

REQUIRED TEXTS:

"To The Actor" by Michael Chekhov

"Standing in Space - The Six Viewpoints" Mary Overlie

"Movement for Actors" by Nicole Potter

RECOMMENDED (OPTIONAL) TEXTS:

"Viewpoints" by Anne Bogart & Tina Landau

ASSIGNMENT:

Before the first day of training:

- Read these chapters from "Movement for Actors":
 1. Athlete of the Emotions Rasaboxes
 2. Williamson Physical Technique
 3. Michael Chekhov Technique

IMPROVISATION:

RECOMMENDED (OPTIONAL) TEXT:

"Improvise" by Mick Napier

DRESS CODE FOR ALL CLASSES:

- Neutral solid colors (black, grey, tan)
- Avoid bright logos or labels on clothing
- Loose, comfortable fit or stretch fabric (such as yoga pants)

For MOVEMENT & MASKS CLASS specifically:

- No shorts, no skirts
- Barefoot or ballet slipper

REQUIRED CLOTHING ITEMS (for certain classes - not daily)

LADIES – please make sure you have the following items:

- Long rehearsal skirt
- Character Shoes
- Corset (suggested, not required)

MEN – please make sure you have the following items:

- Dress shoes
- Jacket
- Pair of formal slacks / trousers
- Vest (suggested, not required)

REQUIRED TOOLS FOR ALL CLASSES:

A binder or folder (for collecting handouts)

Materials for note-taking

A water bottle

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

“Required Texts and Tools” - please have these texts and tools in your possession before training begins. You do not need to read these texts unless there is an assignment specified. We will notify you exactly which texts you need to bring on day one.

“Recommended (Optional) Texts” - these texts are optional but highly recommended reading over the summer - before training begins.

“Assignment” - please complete all assignments over the summer, before training begins.

Please also note, there will be no electronic note-taking. Phones, tablets, etc. must be put away

Tom Todoroff

S T U D I O

whenever class is in session.

No video or audio recording will be permitted, except in certain cases at the discretion of your instructor.

The disciplines listed above are only the disciplines that require you to come prepared with specific texts and/or tools. It is not a comprehensive list of disciplines covered during Conservatory training.

Additions may be made to this book list before the start of training.