



STAGECRAFT CATALOGUE

CURRENCY PRESS 2011

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ACTING & DIRECTING

Mike Alfreds

DIFFERENT EVERY NIGHT **Rehearsals & Performance Techniques for** **Actors & Directors**

A top-ranking director sets out his rehearsal techniques in this invaluable handbook for actors and directors.

Different Every Night is the culmination of a lifetime of work in the theatre, the most complete rehearsal methodology in print since Stanislavsky. It offers a vital masterclass for actors and directors, full of sound practical advice and guidance, and is packed with techniques for bringing the text to life and keeping it alive—both in rehearsal and performance. Mike Alfreds has been directing plays for more than fifty years. Founder of Shared Experience (UK) he has worked for the National Theatre, Shakespeare's Globe and the Royal Shakespeare Company.

978-1-85459-967-4

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$29.95 PB

Michael Anderson

SOLO **A guidebook for individual performance**

With over 15 years senior drama experience, Michael Anderson brings a wealth of knowledge to *Solo* which has been designed especially for students doing an individual performance. The book contains invaluable advice on how to choose the right script and develop the piece for performance. The unique element of the book is the selection of scripts. This fresh and diverse range of Australian pieces (there are over 20 to choose from) suit the format for the assessment and cover all levels of ability.

978-0-86819-757-9

Currency Press, Australia

\$29.95 PB

Arthur Bartow (Editor)

HANDBOOK OF ACTING TECHNIQUES

Ten of the 20th-century's most influential acting methods encapsulated in one volume.

The first comprehensive survey and study of the major acting techniques developed over the past 60 years, including: Lee Strasberg, Stella Adler, Sanford Meisner, Michael Chekhov, Uta Hagen, Jerzy Grotowski. Each of the famous techniques featured in the book is described in detail by one of today's foremost practitioners.

Each chapter outlines the development of the respective technique and offers practical guidance for actors wishing to explore it for themselves.

978-1-85459-542-3

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$26.95 PB

Cicely Berry

FROM WORD TO PLAY **A textual handbook for actors and** **directors**

Cicely Berry is the most influential voice coach of our time. Since 1969 she has been the voice coach at the Royal Shakespeare Company and an inspiration to a generation of actors. Her new book looks closely at the interchange between sound and rhythm in language, showing how it can change the nuance of the meaning and take director, actor and audience further into the world of the play. *From Word to Play* is an essential book for professionals and student actors as well as an enlightening read for anyone interested in theatre and the power of the spoken word.

978-1-84002-601-6

Oberon Books, UK

\$28.95 PB

Marina Caldarone/Maggie Lloyd-Williams

ACTIONS **The actor's thesaurus**

A vital companion for actors in rehearsal. Actors need actions. In order to perform an action truthfully and therefore convincingly, an actor needs to find exactly the right action to suit that particular situation and that particular line, and this is where the book is most valuable—as it is a thesaurus of active verbs—with which the actor can refine the action-word until she/he finds exactly the right one to help make the action come alive.

978-1-85459-674-1

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$29.95 PB

Dymphna Callery

THROUGH THE BODY **A practical guide to physical theatre**

A pioneering guide to the increasingly popular form of physical theatre. *Through the Body* uses exercises to explore the theories of key 20th century theatre practitioners such as Artaud and Lecoq. Includes workshops on awareness, articulation, energy and mask-work.

978-1-85459-630-7

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$26.95 PB

Danielle Carter

RACING AGAINST TIME

The actor's handbook for film and television

Written by an actor with over a decade of on-set experience, this comprehensive guide reveals the mysteries of the film and television actor's craft. Danielle shares her knowledge of the hard won tricks of the trade as she explains who does what, clarifies the jargon and tells us what the network heads of drama really think about actors. With invaluable contributions by leading industry practitioners including Sigrid Thornton, Rebecca Gibney and Sue Masters, *Racing Against Time* reveals how to act naturally amid the storm of technical demands and is essential reading for any actor, from newcomer to veteran.

978-0-86819-772-2

Currency Press, Australia

\$24.95 PB

Ivana Chubbuck

THE POWER OF THE ACTOR

The Chubbuck technique

What do Brad Pitt, Jon Voight, Charlize Theron, Elizabeth Shue, Jim Carrey and Halle Berry have in common? They have all been taught by America's premier acting teacher, Ivana Chubbuck.

Based on the acting methods of great masters such as Stanislavski, Hagen and Meisner, Ivana Chubbuck's technique incorporates psychology and behavioural science. Through this book the actor learns to truly find themselves within their character by endowing their situation and surroundings with emotional resonances drawn from their own experience.

The book also teaches the actor how to organically create sensations associated with physical or emotional states such as substance abuse, sexual chemistry, fear, dying and pregnancy. From the acting coach with star power, this book will guide the actor to dynamic and effective results.

978-0-86819-779-1

Currency Press, Australia

\$29.95 PB

Mel Churcher

● **A SCREEN ACTING WORKSHOP (PLUS DVD)**

A comprehensive training course in screen acting by an internationally renowned teacher and acting coach who has worked with actors of all backgrounds and experience—from drama school students at the start of their careers to Hollywood stars, including Daniel Craig, Angelina Jolie and Keira Knightley.

Mel Churcher has developed a series of five workshops which take actors step by step through the process of creating, developing and delivering assured performances on screen. Accompanied by a unique 90-minute DVD showing all the work in action, this book builds on these workshops and lets you progress through them at your own pace.

978-1-84842-055-7

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$32.95

Anne Dennis

THE ARTICULATE BODY

The physical training of the actor

This inspirational and instructive book shows how actors can use their body to be as expressive and 'articulate' as they are with words. It attempts to rethink and analyse the actor's physical needs, through a series of graded exercises designed to help actors gain the necessary physical skill, imagination and confidence to use their bodies as an expressive medium. *The Articulate Body* is not only of value to actors but also teachers, directors, movement directors and choreographers.

978-1-85459-683-3

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$26.95 PB

Declan Donnellan

THE ACTOR AND THE TARGET

A revised and updated edition of Declan Donnellan's fresh and radical approach to acting. Rooted in modern theatre, modern psychology and modern reality, Donnellan's practical book helps actors to release their talent and to be free on stage.

'Donnellan's directing style is immediately recognisable in his book, drenched in the spirit of artistic and personal freedom. Unpretentious, straightforward, and pierced with acute insight...' *Kommersant*

978-1-85459-838-7

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$24.95 PB

ACTING & DIRECTING

William Gaskill

WORDS INTO ACTION

Gaskill's acclaimed work as a director always begins with the words of the playwright, and here, starting with a chapter on 'Trusting the Writer', he takes the actor through the vital steps needed to find the life of the play and then to articulate it on stage.

Drawing instances from his own work in the theatre and from teaching at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, he looks at action and intention, stillness and movement, sentences and rhetoric, punctuation and pauses. He pays detailed attention to staging Shakespeare's plays, and there are also chapters on masks, on language as character, and on verse and prose. Gaskill is, says Maggie Smith, 'the best teacher in the world.'

Packed with insights from a lifetime of directing theatre, *Words into Action* is a fascinating read and a vital masterclass for actors and directors.

978-1-84842-100-4

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$24.95 PB

Peter Hall

EXPOSED BY THE MASK

Form and language in drama

In this book, Sir Peter Hall ranges over the extraordinary history of world drama to find the common experiences that are able to create the theatrical form. This series of four lectures, delivered at Trinity College in Cambridge as part of the famed Clark lectures, reveal a lifetime's discoveries about classical theatre, Shakespeare, opera and modern drama.

Exposed by the Mask is part of the Oberon Masters series of good-value and attractively presented hardbacks on key themes within the theatre written by leading lights in each subject.

978-1-84002-993-2

Oberon Books, UK

\$22.95 PB

Barbara Houseman

TACKLING TEXT [AND SUBTEXT]

A step-by-step guide for actors

An intensely practical handbook for actors on how to cope with text, subtext, character and situation.

Full of practical exercises developed over many years of working with actors of all ages and experiences, *Tackling Text [and subtext]* is an indispensable handbook for any actor working with text—from acting students and young professionals, to experienced actors wanting to tackle specific problems and acting coaches wanting to discover new ways of enabling their students.

Includes a Preface by Kenneth Branagh.

978-1-85459-799-1

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$26.95 PB

Chris Johnston

● DRAMA GAMES FOR THOSE WHO LIKE TO SAY NO

A dip-in, flick-through, quick-fire resource book in the Drama Games series, this title is for teachers and workshop leaders working with difficult or reluctant students, youth groups, young offenders, and all those who seem intent on saying 'no' to whatever is offered them.

For these groups, drama games and activities need to be robust and engaging, and the dozens that appear in this book have been devised with this in mind - and then tested by their target players. Each page features clear instructions on How to Play, notes on the Benefits of the Game, and advice on age range, number of players and timing.

The ultimate aim is to encourage reluctant participants to engage, collaborate and develop not just skills for drama but skills for life.

978-1-84842-049-6

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$21.95 PB

Richard Lane

SWASHBUCKLING

The definitive guide to stage fighting technique and theatrical swordplay.

In words and in pictures, this large-format book covers everything an actor must know to give a dynamic and convincing performance as a stage combatant. Covered in detail are weaponry, warm-up exercises, unarmed combat, footwork, defence and attack techniques, and working with fight directors. Includes a glossary, a worldwide directory of teachers and colleges offering training, suppliers of weapons, props and costumes, a comprehensive bibliography and further reading lists.

978-1-85459-425-9

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$36.95 PB

Graeme Leak

PERFORMANCE MAKING

A manual for music workshops

Graeme Leak is a performer/teacher who has conducted workshops all around the country and his unique 'performance making' process builds musical skills and imagination, transforming students into composer-performers.

Featuring illustrations, course plans and a glossary, *Performance Making* is an inspiring guide to teaching musical performance skills for musicians, singers, actors, dancers and all performers wanting to improve their skills in music.

978-0-86819-673-2

Currency Press, Australia

\$24.95 PB

Adam Macaulay

DON'T TELL ME, SHOW ME Directors talk about acting

A collection of informal interviews with Australian directors of stage, film and TV, talking about actors and acting. An intelligent and enlightening commentary on acting in Australia today, this book helps aspiring actors and students of acting develop their craft.

Directors interviewed include: John Bell, Bruce Beresford, Di Drew, Gale Edwards, Barrie Kosky and Kate Woods.

978-0-86819-669-5

Currency Press, Australia

\$29.95 PB

Nick Moseley

ACTING AND REACTING

A brand new actor-training system developed by the Head of Acting at the Italia Conti Academy. Nick Moseley takes the best of Stanislavsky, David Mamet and Sanford Meisner to fuel his own intensely practical approach. The result is a punchy and empowering book intended to shake up ideas about acting. Each theory is tested and reinforced with games and exercises which stretch and challenge the student actor at each stage.

978-1-85459-803-5

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$26.95 PB

Bella Merlin

BEYOND STANISLAVSKY A guide to Psycho-Physical Acting, complete with games and exercises

After developing the principle that truthful performance can only spring from the actor's experience (the Method), Stanislavsky began to explore how physical actions can induce emotions. This approach was called Psycho-Physical Acting. Though well-known—and much taught—in Russia, Psycho-Physical Acting is in its infancy in the West. Bella Merlin has studied under three of the best teachers in Russia; this book is the fruit of her time there.

978-1-85459-613-0

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$26.95 PB

THE COMPLETE STANISLAVSKY TOOLKIT

A practical, hands-on guide to Stanislavsky's famous 'system' and to his later rehearsal processes—for actors, directors, teachers and students.

The Complete Stanislavsky Toolkit collects together for the first time the terms and ideas developed by Stanislavsky throughout his career. It is organised into three sections: Actor-Training, Rehearsal Processes and Performance Practices. Key terms are explained and defined as they naturally occur in this process. They are illustrated with examples from both his own work and that of other practitioners.

Each stage of the process is explored with sequences of practical exercises designed to help today's actors and students become thoroughly familiar with the tools in Stanislavsky's toolkit.

978-1-85459-793-9

Nick Hern Book, UK

\$24.95 PB

David Roland

THE CONFIDENT PERFORMER

A guide for preparing mentally and physically to achieve a great performance. Suitable for actors, singers, dancers, musicians, comedians and people involved in public speaking, live broadcasting, selling, taking exams or going for a job interview.

978-0-86819-493-6

Currency Press, Australia

\$24.95 PB

Jessica Swale

DRAMA GAMES FOR CLASSROOMS AND WORKSHOPS

A dip-in, flick-through, quick-fire resource book, packed with 101 lively drama games for use in any classroom or workshop setting and suitable for players of all ages, with many appropriate for children from age six upwards. Whilst aimed primarily at school, youth theatre and community groups, the games are equally fun and instructional for adults to play in workshop or rehearsal settings.

The games explore a wide range of core drama skills: energy, focus, teamwork, trust, character, storytelling, imagination and improvisation, as well as warming up and cooling down.

Each page features clear instructions on How to Play, notes on the Aim of the Game and advice on age range, number of players, timing and skills developed.

The games are also ideal for directors in the rehearsal room, searching for new ways to energise and inspire actors. As Max Stafford-Clark says, he has 'resolved to make the book a permanent assistant'.

'An extraordinarily helpful compendium... a valuable help to directors, teachers and workshop leaders' Max Stafford-Clark (from his Foreword)

978-1-84842-010-6

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$29.95 PB

Stephen Unwin

SO YOU WANT TO BE A DIRECTOR?

A hands-on, step-by-step guide to directing plays by one of Britain's leading theatre directors. Stephen Unwin is an award-winning director and has worked with hundreds of different actors in a multiplicity of different venues. As he says, 'directing plays is difficult', and the aim of his book is to lay out what skills are needed, and to give some sense of how those skills can be developed.

978-1-85459-779-3

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$26.95 PB

Timothy West and Prunella Scales

SO YOU WANT TO BE AN ACTOR?

A handbook by two of the best-known names in the business. Essential reading for any aspiring actor.

This short book offers practical advice and the 'dos and don'ts' to anyone considering a career in acting. Both authors are passionate about actor training, know the profession inside out and, as they say in their introduction, have more than 100 years' experience between them. They cover the whole gamut from: **applying to drama school, auditioning, training, unpaid work, television work, getting an agent and enduring a long run.**

'one of the most valuable books for young and aspiring actors that I have read in recent years... a book to keep with you from debut to death' Rogues and Vagabonds Theatre website

978-1-85459-879-0

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$21.95 PB

Kathryn Wolfe

SO YOU WANT TO BE A TV PRESENTER?

A practical, vocational guide to starting a career on TV as a presenter.

Being a TV presenter is not as glamorous as it appears. It takes hard work and demands a varied range of journalistic, technical, performance and personal skills.

With a background in TV directing, working with professional presenters and training new ones for the TV industry, Kathryn Wolfe takes you through the techniques and skills required to become a successful presenter. Hands-on exercises and checklists will guide you through improving your posture, developing correct breathing and good diction, evaluating your performance, and much more.

'Practical and informative... Kathryn Wolfe knows her stuff' The Stage

978-1-84842-062-5

Nick hern Books, UK

\$24.95 PB

ACTORS AT WORK

Gareth Armstrong

THE CASE FOR SHYLOCK

A vastly entertaining autobiographical account of two journeys: one all over the world with an eccentric one-man show, the other to the heart of the history of the Jews.

Having established a moderately successful, but inevitably intermittent acting career, Gareth Armstrong felt the need of a reliable side-line to cover the gaps. A one-man show seemed the answer—and Shylock a good subject. But no-one was more surprised than he by the way first his research, and then the character, took over his life.

He has now travelled the world over with *Shylock*, from San Francisco to Sri Lanka, from Romania to New Zealand, his myriad encounters enriching both him and the show, adding ever more threads to his one-man story of the Jew.

Frequently hilarious, often provocative, this account of a Gentile actor's exploration and discovery of the most famous of fictional Jews is fascinating, revealing—and always entertaining.

978-1-85459-785-4

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$25.95

Nick Asbury

EXIT, PURSUED BY A BADGER

One Actor's journey through History at the RSC

Over the course of two and a half years an ensemble company of actors, directors, designers and other artists performed Shakespeare's complete History Cycle in repertoire at the Courtyard Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, and then the Roundhouse, London—a sequence of productions both critically acclaimed and watched by over 250,000 people. In the ensemble was actor Nick Asbury, who decided to keep a day-to-day record of his involvement in this extraordinary and ambitious project.

A lot can happen in two and a half years, and along the way we experience the camaraderie of actors, the terror of forgetting lines, technical difficulties, money problems, finding strange things in the bath, 33 broadsword fights and, of course, the ever-present threat of being assaulted by demented badgers after a performance.

978-1-84002-892-8

Oberon Books, UK

\$21.95 PB

Simon Callow

● **MY LIFE IN PIECES**

An alternative autobiography of the well-loved actor and man of the theatre.

In *My Life in Pieces*, Simon Callow recaptures the multifarious people, productions and events which have fed into his lifeblood and left their indelible mark. Starting with his first ever visit to the theatre—*Peter Pan*—he takes us through a somewhat chaotic boyhood in southern Africa and South London, an aborted university career, a testing time at drama school and on to an acting career that has encompassed roles in the West End and stand-out character parts in films such as *Four Weddings and a Funeral*.

Callow writes with his customary perceptiveness, wit and flair about the remarkable people he has encountered in the course of his career: Laurence Olivier, Paul Scofield, Michael Gambon, Alec Guinness, John Gielgud, Ralph Richardson, David Hare, Simon Gray and Richard Eyre, among others.

978-1-8-4842-054-0

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$38.95 HB

Terence Crawford

TRADE SECRETS

Australian actors and their craft

'What is it with you guys and the great actors? Can you bottle that up? Give us some of that water or something?' Ron Howard, US director

Australian actors are now taking their place on the international stage, becoming regulars among the nominees and winners of major international acting awards. So what is it about the approach, technique and focus of the Australian actor that has the entertainment world's favour and respect?

Fourteen actors, a mixture of ages, backgrounds and experiences, reveal their very personal views on craft, taking you inside the experience of being an actor. The actors interviewed include: Bille Brown, Helen Buday, Joel Edgerton, Judi Farr, John Gaden, Wendy Hughes, Pamela Rabe, Geoffrey Rush and Charles 'Bud' Tingwell.

978-0-86819-763-0

Currency Press, Australia

\$24.95 PB

Lyn Hail (Editor)

ACTORS SPEAKING

In 1986, Peter Gill, the then director of the National Theatre Studio, sent a group of young actors and directors to interview some of the most respected actors of the time about speaking on stage. Those conversations with actors such as Alec Guinness, Rex Harrison and Robert Stephens are collected here for the first time. The transcripts provide fascinating insights into the theatre of the past, but they also show how little has changed: the actor's primary tools are still the body and voice.

978-184002-776-1

Oberon Books, UK

\$39.95 PB

Leigh Lawson

THE DREAM: AN ACTOR'S STORY

"The remarkable thing about Shakespeare is that he is really very good—in spite of all the people who say he is very good." Robert Graves

In 1996 actor Leigh Lawson was asked to spend a season playing both Oberon and Theseus in Adrian Noble's version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for the Royal Shakespeare Company, during which (and in-between visits from Prime Ministers and trips to the pub) he rediscovered his love for the bard.

The Dream is an actor's odyssey, full of stories and anecdotes from throughout a theatrical career, as well as the obligatory dwarves, false phalluses, and encounters with a predatory Franco Zeffereilli.

This book is a delight for anyone interested in what goes on behind the curtain, and what motivates anyone to tread the boards in the first place.

978-1-84002-867-6

Oberon Books, UK

\$28.95 PB

Mark Leipacher

● CATCHING THE LIGHT

A fascinating examination of the working relationship between Sam Mendes, one of Britain's leading directors of both stage and screen, and the actor Simon Russell Beale, frequently described as "the greatest stage actor of his generation."

A celebration of 20 years of collaboration from their first work together at the Royal Shakespeare Company with *Troilus and Cressida* and *Richard III*; *Uncle Vanya* and *Twelfth Night* at the Donmar Warehouse; *The Winter's Tale* and *The Cherry Orchard* for The Bridge Project; to *Othello* and the forthcoming *King Lear* for the National Theatre. *Catching the Light* looks at this exceptional creative partnership.

Its unique format follows the partners through casting, to rehearsal, to performance to review, offering a window into the extraordinary pathways and processes that are established and nurtured between an actor and a director.

978-1-84002-969-7

Oberon Books, UK

\$28.95 PB

Keith Osborn

● SOMETHING WRITTEN IN THE STATE OF DENMARK

An Actor's Year with the Royal Shakespeare Company

Following in the footsteps of Nick Asbury's bestselling *Exit Pursued by a Badger*, actor and official Royal Shakespeare Company alumnus Keith Osborn tells the story of the company's extraordinary 2008/9 season in Stratford and London, with much drama on and off stage.

Keith appeared in Greg Doran's acclaimed productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Love's Labours Lost*—and, of course, Doran's *Hamlet*, with David Tennant in the title role. Keith's blog was followed loyally by thousands of readers, as well as many David Tennant fans.

The book also contains new material covering the early parts of the season and the BBC's filming of *Hamlet* in the summer of 2009 and is rounded out with many rehearsal and production photos taken throughout the season.

978-1-84002-978-9

Oberon Books, UK

\$32.95 PB

Antony Sher

BESIDE MYSELF

An Actor's Life

In *Beside Myself* Sher takes us to the heart of what it is to be an actor today, describing the journeys he undertakes in order to inhabit the roles for which he is famous. Utterly involving and often eye-poppingly revelatory, *Beside Myself* will both inspire young actors and inform seasoned theatre-goers.

'I wish I'd read this book when I was starting out. Not only is Antony Sher one of the all-time greats of the classical theatre, he also manages to be a writer of enormous skill and insight.' David Tennant

'The most unsparingly honest actor's autobiography I have ever read' Michael Billington, *Guardian*

978-1-84842-035-9

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$34.95 PB

ACTORS AT WORK

Antony Sher

PRIMO TIME

In *Primo Time* Antony Sher tells of his long-held ambition to find a way of adapting Primo Levi's book, *If This is a Man*, for the theatre. He tells of the difficult negotiations with the Primo Levi Estate, who were adamantly opposed to any stage or screen version of the book. He tells of research trips to Auschwitz and the house in Turin where Levi was born and where he died. And he tells of the workshops and rehearsals through which he built a performance and shaped a show that would remain utterly true to the book.

Primo Time is the story of a remarkable journey, often very dark, but also shot through with vital flashes of humour, culminating in a piece of theatre that goes a long way towards describing the indescribable.

978-1-85459-852-3

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$22.95 PB

Antony Sher

YEAR OF THE KING

Antony Sher's stunning performance for the Royal Shakespeare Company as a Richard III on crutches—the so-called 'bottled spider'—won him many awards. *The Year of the King* records—in his own words and drawings—the making of this historic theatrical event. This new edition is published to mark the 20th anniversary of the premiere and includes a new introduction in which Sher looks back somewhat bemusedly at how much has happened to him and to the world in the intervening years.

'One of the finest books I have ever read on the process of acting' Time Out

978-1-85459-753-3

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$22.95 PB

Lolly Susi

AN UNTIDY CAREER

Conversations with George Hall

George Hall trained at the Old Vic Theatre School and worked as an actor there as well as in regional theatre, on radio, television and film. He has worked in cabaret, as a writer, composer, performer and director. He has composed scores for the Old Vic, RSC, and plays for film and television. For many years he was director of the Acting Course at Central School of Speech and Drama and is currently on the staff of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Full of revealing thoughts regarding the theatre and acting industries, *An Untidy Career* offers a unique insight into the mind of one of the greatest theatrical authorities.

An Untidy Mind is part of Oberon's Masters series of good-value and attractively presented hardbacks on key themes within the theatre written by leading lights in each subject.

978-1-84002-989-5

Oberon Books, UK

\$22.95 PB

Harriet Walter

OTHER PEOPLE'S SHOES

Thoughts on acting

Harriet Walter is known in Australia for her roles as Amy in *Unfinished Business*, and Harriet Vane in the *Lord Peter Wimsey* series—both of which have screened on ABC TV.

Other People's Shoes is an updated paperback edition of her wonderfully practical—and personal—introduction to acting. 'Acting is what I do with who I am', writes Harriet, and in this book she takes us step by step through the processes involved in performance. Each step of the way is illuminated with brilliantly precise examples drawn from her own experience.

'Buy it, and be delightfully and unhectoringly informed about exactly what it is that actors get up to and why ... Harriet Walter is sharp, clear, elegant, sturdily sensitive.' Simon Callow, *Observer*

978-1-85459-751-9

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$32.95 PB

AUDITIONING & MONOLOGUES

Neil Bartlett

SOLO VOICES

Monologues 1987–2004

Neil Bartlett is one of British theatre's most fiercely individual voices, and this collection, published for the first time, documents the extraordinary site-specific solo performances which have run parallel to Bartlett's acclaimed work as a mainstream director.

Beginning with a series of furious responses to the early days of the British AIDS crisis, the nine monologues collected here provide an intimate insight into the development of a powerful and highly personal theatrical vision.

978-1-84002-465-4

Oberon Books, UK

\$25.95 PB

Moira Buffini & Anna Reynolds/Catherine Johnson/Stewart Permutt

SINGULAR FEMALE VOICES

Three plays for one actress—all featuring mothers on the edge—a companion volume to *Singular Male Voices*.

Winner of the Writers Guild Award for Best Fringe Play, *Jordan* by Moira Buffini and Anna Reynolds, is the true story of Shirley Jones, who killed her baby boy, Jordan, rather than have him taken away by his abusive father. *The Lost Art of Keeping a Secret* by Catherine Johnson is the alternating story of two women (played by the same actress), both of whom 'lose' their sons—one murdered, the other a runaway. *Unsuspecting Susan* by Stewart Permutt, is the story of Susan—whose life revolves around her dogs, am-dram, bell-ringing and village gossip—and her adult son who has converted to Islam.

978-1-85459-917-9

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$21.95 PB

Marina Caldarone

THE GOOD AUDITION GUIDES

Classical monologues for men and women

This series offers fresh audition pieces for actors at all levels—selected and commented by a greatly experienced teacher and director. Marina Caldarone has selected over forty-five monologues for men and women drawn from classical plays throughout the ages and ranging across all of Western theatre. Each piece is prefaced with a boxed information panel guiding readers towards the perfect piece for them.

These classical monologues are presented chronologically and arranged within one of seven periods: Ancient Greece and Rome; Jacobean; French/Spanish 'Golden Ages'; Restoration; Naturalism; and the Turn of the Century.

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THE ACTOR'S AUDITION MANUAL: Volume I

The first edition of *The Actor's Audition Manual* quickly became known as the 'red audition bible', making it the essential guide.

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Jean Cocteau/Georges Feydeau
Translated by Peter Myer

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Shakespeare Monologues for Men/Women

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9781848420052 (men)

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Helen Freeman

SO YOU WANT TO GO TO DRAMA SCHOOL?

Packed with sound advice and essential information, this is a terrific guide that will help students prepare for and improve their chances of getting a place in a drama school. Written by a teacher and actress with a lifetime's experience in the audition process.

In a clear and concise manner Helen Freeman sets out the steps that can be taken to ensure that potential acting students present the best possible audition they can when applying to drama school. With competition for places becoming extremely tough and standards incredibly high, Freeman's years of experience as an actress, teacher and performance assessor for the Guildford School of Acting (UK) provide an invaluable resource that goes a long way towards making sure any aspiring student presents themselves to the very best of their ability.

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Robert Hewett

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An adulterous husband, a meddlesome neighbour and a dropped ice-cream cone are among the circumstances that combine to shatter the life of suburban housewife Rhonda Russell.

Everyone has their own story to tell about the day that Rhonda went berserk in the shopping mall. And who's to know where the truth lies? With the best friend who might have egged her on? With the husband who denies responsibility? Or with the victim's family whose lives were changed forever? And then there's the story of the vengeful redhead herself, but she's probably the least likely to know what really happened.

In this gripping adventure, the world is turned upside down in a disastrous and comic sequence of events. As the intrigue unfolds, seven different characters give a fresh twist of perspective—all played by one multifaceted performer.

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Eight monologues in which the women in Picasso's life, used and often abused by the great painter, tell their own stories. Illustrated by Una Walker.

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Bombshells exposes six women balancing their inner and outer lives with humour and often desperate cunning. Ranging in age from a feisty teenager to a 64-year-old widow yearning for the unexpected, these finely-drawn characters wrestle with their fears and insecurities. The author created these six dazzling monologues to showcase the talents of Caroline O'Connor, but they will be relished by performers everywhere.

'A rare combination of comedy, truth and rapture' *The Times*

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● SONGS FOR NOBODIES

When a great singer lets her voice float out over the anonymous crowd, or form the grooves of thousands of records, or flow through radios into millions of homes across the world, she makes countless unknown connections with people. The singer has her story and the listener hers, and should those stories touch each other, there can be magic.

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The Times

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Catherine Weate

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Edited by Catherine Weate, the book is helpfully arranged according to age suitability - Teens, Twenties, Thirties, Forty plus - and sets the plays and individual speeches in their dramatic and performance context.

".. there is sufficient scope here for anyone in search of the piece to impress... I'd highly recommend these books" *Teaching Drama (UK)*, Summer Term issue 2010

978-1-84002-828-7

Oberon Books, UK

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Susannah York

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978-1-85459-639-0

Nick Hern Books, UK

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COMMEDIA DELL'ARTE / IMPROVISATION

John Abbott

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How to conduct successful improvisation sessions. A practical guide to conducting improvisation sessions, for teachers, directors and workshop leaders.

The Improvisation Book takes you step-by-step, session-by-session through a graded series of improvisation exercises. Starting with the very first class, it adds a new element at each stage until even the most inhibited students have gained a full vocabulary of improvisational techniques.

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Steven Gratton/Nicky Peelgrane

COMMEDIA OZ: PLAYING COMMEDIA IN CONTEMPORARY AUSTRALIA

Commedia Oz is designed to assist the interpretation and playing of Commedia in an Australian context and is a training manual for teachers, students, actors and directors.

Chapters cover the history and influence of Commedia; suggestions for modern interpretations; activities and exercises; the role of the director and the actor's journal; training actors; an interview with Jacques Lecoq (the French Commedia actor/trainer); a professional script; and ideas for units of work and assessment. There is also a glossary and a reference section for further reading. This clever and practical textbook contains invaluable information, delivered in a humorous and confident style.

978-0-86819-820-0

Currency Press, Australia

\$32.95 PB

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Barry Grantham

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A training guide to Commedia techniques

Playing Commedia offers a practical guide to the skills, characters and history of Commedia dell'Arte through graded games and illustrated exercises. It provides a useful tool in any actor's training and a discipline for all forms of physical theatre.

Illustrations drawn from 16th and 17th century sources are used alongside the author's own diagrams to enrich our understanding of particular points regarding posture, gesture, costumes and mask.

978-1-85459-466-2

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$26.95 PB

COMMEDIA PLAYS

A sequel to the best-selling *Playing Commedia*, this is a collection of short Commedia dell'Arte plays, sketches and exercises for use in the classroom and drama workshop. The first section contains eight short plays each illustrating the different periods and styles of Commedia dell'Arte. The second section is a compilation of 'Lazzi'—the set-pieces of Commedia dell'Arte such as 'The Aside' and 'The Chase'. Each of the pieces is suitable for performance on stage and may also be used in the classroom or workshop for study or as the basis for improvisations.

978-1-85459-871-4

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$26.95 PB

Chris Johnston

HOUSE OF GAMES

Making theatre from everyday life

Revised edition of this treasure trove of drama games and exercises, published alongside the author's new book on the same subject, *The Improvisation Game*.

House of Games has proved itself an immensely valuable resource for teachers, theatre directors and drama workshop leaders. Following on from Keith Johnstone's famous *Impro* and Augusto Boal's *Games for Actors and Non-Actors*, Chris Johnston's book provides ideas and guidance for drama groups of all kinds.

978-1-85459-905-6

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$23.95 PB

THE IMPROVISATION GAME

Discovering the secrets of spontaneous performance

In his new book, Johnston wants us to consider improvisation not as a step towards something else but as an end in itself. And so he embarks on a journey through the world of improvisation: in theatre, dance, music or any mix of these.

He talks to forty or so key practitioners in the field—and passes on many of the techniques, tricks and games they use to try to stay permanently fresh and to avoid falling into what they see as the trap of routine, repetition and the pre-rehearsed event.

Chris Johnston has been active in drama for over 25 years and has worked with groups of all kinds from prisoners to old-age pensioners, from youth clubs to professional actors.

978-1-85459-668-0

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\$25.95 PB

John Wright

WHY IS THAT SO FUNNY?

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An intensely practical guide to physical comedy by a well-respected practitioner and teacher.

John Wright, founder of Trestle Theatre and Told by an Idiot (UK), brings a wide range of experience of physical comedy to this unique exploration of comedy and comedic techniques.

The book opens with an analysis of the different kinds of laughter that can be provoked by performance. This is followed by the main part of the book: games and exercises devised to demonstrate and investigate the whole range of comic possibilities open to a performer.

978-1-85459-782-3

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Ralph Koltai

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A stunning full-colour record of half a century of inspired theatre work marking the 80th birthday of one of the UK's most distinguished stage designers.

Ralph Koltai CBE is possibly the most wide-ranging and consistently prolific British stage designer. Still at work today, his first designs were for the English Opera Group, Covent Garden and Ballet Rambert in the 1950s. These were followed by regular commissions from the RSC (where he was Associate Designer) and National Theatre in the 1960s and 1970s, work in the West End in the 1980s and on the world's stages from the 1990s to the present day.

This book is a full-colour presentation of models and production shots of over 30 of Koltai's shows interlaced with essays by, and interviews with, Koltai, his collaborators and fellow designers.

978-1-85459-784-7

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$45.00 PB

Richard Pilbrow

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The definitive text for today's and tomorrow's lighting designers, covering the complete history, theory and practice of lighting design.

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'Comprehensive, readable and inspiring... Pilbrow's great knowledge and practical experience shine out from every page'
ReviewsGate.com

978-1-85459-996-4

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MOVEMENT / DANCE

Christian Darley

● **THE SPACE TO MOVE**

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A book for actors, directors, students and teachers of movement in the theatre, *The Space to Move* is bursting with energy and ideas, passion and commitment.

In precise detail Darley sets out, step by step, the exercises and techniques she developed with her own students at LAMDA, dealing with the vital building blocks of movement training. The volume as a whole cannot fail to inspire and instruct everyone wanting to incorporate movement into actor-training or theatre work in general.

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Nick Hern Books, UK

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Jarmila Kröschlová

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Jean Newlove and John Dalby

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The result is a thorough and thoroughly practical grounding in the most significant movement system of modern times.

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Peter Brook**EVOKING (AND FORGETTING)
SHAKESPEARE**

Published as part of the *Dramatic Contexts* series: important statements on the theatre by major figures in the theatre.

The text of a talk given by Brook in Berlin in 1998, addressing some essential questions about performing Shakespeare today. Brook invites us to consider the actual conditions of the Elizabethan theatre and the actual qualities of Shakespeare's language.

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Julian Curry● **SHAKESPEARE ON STAGE**

Thirteen leading actors take us behind the scenes, each recreating in detail a memorable performance in one of Shakespeare's major roles.

The actors discuss their characters, working through the play scene by scene, with refreshing candour and in forensic detail. The result is a masterclass on playing each role, invaluable for other actors and directors, as well as students of Shakespeare—and fascinating for audiences of the plays.

Together, the interviews give one of the most comprehensive pictures yet of these characters in performance, and of the choices that these great actors have made in bringing them thrillingly to life.

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Oliver Ford Davies**PLAYING LEAR**

A unique insight into Shakespeare's most monumentally complex character—and the play that bears his name—from a widely experienced actor and former academic. The seeds of this book were sown when the renowned Almeida Theatre in London asked Oliver Ford Davies to play King Lear in their 2002 production.

More than a rehearsal diary, the book is a companion-guide to the whole notion of Lear.

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Nick Hern Books, UK

\$45.00 PB

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An authoritative, hands-on guide through the practical challenges involved in performing Shakespeare.

Drawing on a lifetime's experience of playing Shakespearean roles, Oliver Ford Davies offers practical advice to actors, directors and drama students on a wide variety of scenes, characters, speeches and individual lines from almost every one of the plays. He talks the actor through preparation, rehearsal and performance, preceded by knowledgeable but accessible discussions of the Elizabethan actor and Shakespeare's language. Also included are revealing interviews with other notable Shakespearean actors including Judi Dench, Ian McKellen, Harriet Walter, Simon Russell Beale and Juliet Stevenson.

978-185459-781-6

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$34.95 PB

Peter Hall**SHAKESPEARE'S ADVICE TO THE PLAYERS**

This is a new B-format paperback edition of Peter Hall's best-selling guide to acting Shakespeare which has sold over 10,000 copies in two previous editions. This is a new edition for a new generation—compact and concise with the facts, the way modern students and actors need it. The pay off for the book according to Sir Peter is simple—it will make you a better actor! Shakespeare tells the actor when to go fast and when to go slow; when to pause, when to come in on cue and when to accent a word. His text is full of such clues. Shakespeare heard the lines as he wrote them. *Shakespeare's Advice to the Players* makes watching or reading Shakespeare a richer experience, for audiences as well as actors.

978-1-84002-919-2

Oberon Books, UK

\$28.95 PB

Andy Lavender

HAMLET IN PIECES

Shakespeare Reworked by Peter Brook, Robert Lepage, Robert Wilson

Peter Brook, Robert Lepage and Robert Wilson have all attempted radical reworkings of *Hamlet*. This book examines their very different approaches.

Brook's *Qui Est La*—his 'variation' on *Hamlet*—was first seen in Paris in 1995, incorporating the writings of Artaud, Brecht, Craig, Meyerhold, Stanislavsky and Zeami Motikoyo into edited scenes from Shakespeare's play. He has since tackled the full play in a spare and definitive production which provides the subject of the epilogue to this volume.

Lepage's *Elsinore* is a technically complex tour de force—a multimedia drama on a moving set, with Lepage playing all the characters.

Wilson's *Hamlet: a monologue*, directed, designed and performed by Wilson himself, is a one-man show—but one that needs twenty backstage staff to bring it to life.

Vividly reconstructing each of the three productions, the author offers a dynamic combination of casebook and critique, complete with 16 pages of production photos.

978-1-85459-618-5

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$32.95 PB

William Shakespeare

● SHAKESPEARE ON THEATRE

In his plays and poems, Shakespeare returns again and again to theatrical ideas and images. Shakespeare scholar Nick de Somogyi draws together all the set pieces such as 'All the world's a stage', Hamlet's encounters with the Players and Bottom's amateur dramatics along with less-known but equally revealing passages.

Interspersed throughout are insights into theatre practice from Shakespeare's contemporaries. The result is that we are almost able to smell the greasepaint issuing from the tiring house and hear the roar of the crowd foregathered in the Globe...

978-1-84842-079-3

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$22.95 PB

Also see: *The Good Audition Guides: Shakespeare Monologues for Men/Women* (Edited by Luke Dixon) page 12; *The Loves of Shakespeare's Women* (Susannah York) page 14; *Freeing Shakespeare's Voice* (Kristin Linklater) page 20;

STAGE MANAGEMENT / ADMINISTRATION

James Seabright

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A comprehensive guide to every aspect of producing a show, from raising the money to creating a hit.

This unique guide—the first 'how-to' book of its kind on the subject—offers comprehensive, clear advice to anyone producing or selling a show, whatever the venue or scale. Packed full of insights and tricks of the trade, it will give you the inspiration and confidence you need—whether you are taking your first steps in the profession or simply want to know what it takes to get a show on the stage.

Drawing on his own experience as a producer of theatre productions at every level—from university, via the fringe, to the West End—James Seabright takes you through each stage of the process.

978-1-854595387-9

Nick Hern Books, UK

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Gail Pallin

STAGE MANAGEMENT The essential handbook

The Stage Manager is at the core of every successful theatre production, organising, managing and running rehearsals and performances; researching and procuring props and furniture; and providing a creative information flow between everyone involved in the production.

Stage Management: The Essential Handbook is aimed at students, graduates and all aspirants to stage management, amateur or professional, whether the production is on a large or small scale. Complete with charts and helpful checklists, it takes the reader through a typical production week by week.

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Nick Hern Books, UK

\$47.95 PB

Lyn Wallis**IN GOOD COMPANY****A manual for producing independent theatre**

The definitive 'rough guide' for mounting independent, fringe and amateur theatre, *In Good Company* is a 'nuts and bolts' manual for theatre-makers.

Written by Lyn Wallis, formerly the Downstairs Theatre Director for B Sharp at Belvoir St Theatre, *In Good Company* covers everything from company formation, finding the right venue, scheduling, marketing, publicity, bankrolling your production, planning the bump in/out, previews, opening nights, running a season, contracts, copyright, how to find people and scripts, and also explores ways to extend the life of a production. *In Good Company* outlines how to take an initial idea and make it fly.

978-0-86819-753-1

Currency Press, Australia

\$24.95 PB

VOICE

Orlanda Cook**SINGING WITH YOUR OWN VOICE**

A comprehensive instruction manual, full of practical exercises on how to liberate the singing voice that is within each one of us.

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Barbara Houseman**FINDING YOUR VOICE****A step-by-step guide for actors**

A self-help manual for actors who want to train and develop their voice. Opening with helpful advice on how to use the book and how to prepare our bodies, the author then takes us step-by-step through the elements that make up the voice and the sounds we make with it.

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Kristin Linklater**FREEING THE NATURAL VOICE (revised edition)**

The classic voice-training book for actors and teachers of voice and speech and anyone interested in vocal expression, by a pre-eminent voice teacher, actor and director, fully revised and expanded.

Linklater's approach is to liberate the voice rather than apply vocal techniques from the outside. Her basic assumption is that everyone possesses a voice capable of expressing whatever emotion, mood or thought he/she experiences.

This edition incorporates vocal exercises developed over three decades to help the voice connect viscerally with language—a key element in the actors' craft.

'the best and only work of its kind for vocal training' *Educational Theatre News*, UK

978-185459-971-1

Nick Hern Books, UK

\$29.95 PB

Kristin Linklater

FREEING SHAKESPEARE'S VOICE (revised edition)

A practical approach to breaking through the barriers of restraint and incomprehension when faced with Shakespeare.

Beginning with exercises designed to break long-held habits and allow an emotional rather than intellectual relationship to Elizabethan language, she analyses Shakespeare's strategies for creating character, story and meaning through figures of speech, iambic pentameter, rhyme and the alternation of verse and prose. Using copious examples from the plays, Linklater offers her readers the tools to increase understanding and make Shakespeare's words their own.

978-1-84842-083-0

Nick Hern Books, UK

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Bill Pepper

VOICE IN ACTION DVD

A step-by step guide to freeing your voice

A series of easy to follow, dynamic exercises for actors, teachers, students, presenters, announcers, lecturers, and anyone who wishes to develop the freedom of their voice and improve communication skills. Bill Pepper is Head of Voice Studies at NIDA.

'Unaffected, practically based on good commonsense... excellent introduction for beginners... a reminder and warm-up instrument for old troupers... every actor should have a copy' John Bell, actor and director

978-0-97574-830-5

Currency Press, Australia

\$49.95 CD with booklet

Bruce G. Shapiro

SPEAKING AMERICAN

The Australian actor's guide to an American dialect

A simple and accurate guide to speaking in a General American (GenAm) dialect. Covers pronunciation, intonation, American lingo, phonetics and practical exercises, as well as phrases useful for improvisation work. Includes CD.

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Currency Press, Australia

\$32.95 PB

Eda Sharpe and Jan Haydn Rowles

HOW TO DO ANY ACCENT (2nd Edition) The essential handbook for every actor

The authors of this handbook, both voice coaches who have worked with the RSC (Royal Shakespeare Company) and LAMDA (the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art), take an innovative approach to the production of accents, building up a series of techniques which can be used to produce any accent required. The book is broken down into clear sections, with instructions given in a straightforward, jargon-free and often humorous way. Numerous illustrations and a free CD containing vocal exercises help the reader get to grips with the physical demands of producing accents.

978-1-84002-957-4

Oberon Books, UK

\$35.95 PB

Eda Sharpe and Jan Haydn Rowles

●HOW TO DO RP

From the authors of the highly successful guide *How to Do Accents* comes the latest voice coaching guide, this time specialising in English accents and Received Pronunciation (RP).

In every Drama School in every English speaking country, students have to learn a variety of English accents, from period to modern, as well as regional accents throughout the years, and voice tutors have to teach them. But what exactly are they? How many varieties are there? And which one should they use when? Written by true experts in the field, this fantastic new guide will show you the way.

978-1-84002-990-1

Oberon Books, UK

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Catherine Weate

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Teaching Vocal Style

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