



**MICHAEL HOWARD STUDIOS**

152 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street | 10<sup>th</sup> Floor | NYC 10001

212 645 1525 | [www.MichaelHowardStudios.com](http://www.MichaelHowardStudios.com) | [information@michaelhowardstudios.com](mailto:information@michaelhowardstudios.com)

## **ONGOING CLASSES**

### **TEXT AND SCENE STUDY**

The Text and Scene Study Classes offer students a chance to learn, develop, and perfect their craft under the focused guidance of an instructor and in the presence of their peers. Each of our teachers brings years of professional experience and study to these ongoing classes, which are enrolled on a month-to-month basis to conform to the busy life of the professional actor.

Admission to these classes is highly selective, and each prospective student is required to meet with the teacher before enrollment. In some cases, an audition may be required as well. If you are interested in one of these classes, please contact the studio via phone or email at [information@michaelhowardstudios.com](mailto:information@michaelhowardstudios.com).

#### **MICHAEL HOWARD**

Michael Howard's Master Class in Text and Scene Study is for the accomplished, professional actor who seeks the challenge of working with an experienced group of peers and one of the country's most renowned acting coaches. Michael teaches two sections of 25-30 students, each meeting once a week. Michael is always eager to meet new students who are ready to take their work to the highest level of training.

AUDITION/INTERVIEW required.

Tuesdays 1 – 5 pm

\$315 per month

Thursdays 1 – 5 pm

#### **GABRIELLE BERBERICH**

Berberich is a casting director, writer, and producer for film and television, as well as the owner of Michael Howard Studios. She follows up her immensely popular Acting for Film & Television Workshop with this on-going Scene Study class. Through scene work and text analysis, this class will focus on the passionate pursuit of artistic growth and evolution of today's actor in the American Theatre including stage, film and television. In addition, it will serve to assist actors in the craft of acting as a business. Within our work together, this class will have the occasion to draw from the insight and experience of industry guests, including working actors, directors, producers, agents and managers. An audition is required.

Wednesdays 3 – 6 pm

\$290 per month

### ALEXANDRA NEIL

Alexandra Neil (Broadway's Match and Rock & Roll) is a New York City based actor who works regularly in Theater (Broadway, Off-Broadway, and Regional), Film, and Television. Her class focuses on rehearsal techniques for the working actor. Through a combination of exercise and scene work, actors will develop their own technique for approaching the work, increase their text analysis skills, find freedom, power, and their authentic self in the work.

Wednesdays 7 – 10 pm

\$265 per month

### POLINA KLIMOVITSKAYA

Polina Klimovitskaya's work focuses on the powerful traditions of the Russian theatre while embracing newer theories of performance from Europe. With students from all over the world, her class provides a creative space for actors to grow and develop among a group of dedicated artists who each bring unique histories and skill sets to their work.

Fridays 11 am – 2 pm

\$240 per month

### NAOMI THORNTON

Naomi Thornton is on the faculty at Bard College and has years of experience as a performer, director and producer; she's also a veteran of the Michael Howard Studios, having held classes here longer than anyone except Michael himself. Her tightly knit group of students examine various approaches to performance led by Naomi's dynamic rigor and focus.

Tuesdays 7 – 10 pm

\$240 per month

*Call our Office for Details!*

# WORKSHOPS – SUMMER 2009

## FUNDAMENTALS OF ACTING – Naomi Thornton

This course is a perfect introduction to the studio for those new to the craft, or those wanting to revive long-dormant skills. Through exercises & improvisations, this workshop will inspire the actor to make inventive and dynamic choices when preparing for an audition or creating a role, in theater, film and television. Emphasis is on the fundamentals of relaxation, concentration and imagination.

June 24-July 30

Wednesdays and Thursdays 6-9pm

(skipping 1<sup>st</sup> week of July) \$575.00

## SHAKESPEARE’S HEIGHTENED LANGUAGE – Patsy Rodenburg

Do not miss this opportunity to explore Shakespeare’s text with the Head of the Voice Department of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. See why Dame Judi Dench claims “The best thing you could possibly have is a class with Patsy.” Headshot/resume required prior to admission.

Level One: July 24,25,26 9-6pm \$650.00

Level Two: July 27,28,29 9-6pm \$650.00

Level Three: July 30,31, August 1,2 9-6pm \$875.00

Call Studio for Details.

## ALEXANDER TECHNIQUE – Daniel Singer

Find your physical balance! Improve your breath support and impact your voice! This Alexander Technique class will allow you to increase your range of creative choices by changing the way you carry your body and speak. It’s appropriate for Beginning and Advanced actors, and offers flexible scheduling.

Mondays 5:30 – 6:30 pm

\$35.00 (drop-in rate per class) OR \$120.00 for 4 classes (15% discount)

# COMING SOON!

## SCENE STUDY WORKSHOP – Olympia Dukakis

Academy Award® Winner Olympia Dukakis will share her wisdom and passion in this three-day intensive. The class will include monologue work and scene study. Headshot and resume submission required. Class size is limited, so register early!

## ACCENT REDUCTION – David Wells

Do you lose parts because of your accent? This innovative class combines group instruction and individual drill to develop a mutual “General American” accent. Suitable for foreign actors who want to work in America and for American actors who want to increase their castability.

## ACTING FOR FILM & TELEVISION – Gabrielle Berberich

From learning what works best at a taped audition, to the language and dynamics of a film set, to establishing trust with a director and understanding the actor's part in the production process, this class will give you an insider's perspective on both the creative technique and the practical necessities of working in film and television. The course will also feature several visits from guest professionals from all areas of the industry, including casting and production. Berberich is a casting director, writer, and producer for film and television, as well as the owner of Michael Howard Studios.

## THE ACTOR/SINGER – Judy Kuhn

This is a class for the singing actor that focuses on song interpretation and vocal performance. Students work individually on material of their choice with Tony Award Nominee Judy Kuhn each class, as well as participate in group exercises. Students who take the class should come ready to play, feel free to experiment with material and take risks. Although this is not a vocal technique class, Judy will address individual technical concerns and make suggestions about how to approach working on them.

## THE ART OF FILM - Alister Sanderson

In 6 sessions, increase your awareness of how acting in film is inter-related with camera-work, sound-work, editing, lighting, sets and locations, props, costume and make-up, digital effects, and with narrative and non-narrative material. This class invites to think about how an actor in 2009 can draw on and contribute to the 120-year tradition of cinematic performance, and how the art of film shapes the way we live our lives. One feature film will be screened in its entirety over the course of 6 weeks, along with short films and sequences, and will explore how a Hollywood-style does its work.

## AUDITION SKILLS – Caryn West

This workshop is preparation-oriented and geared to the market of film and television. It promotes creative risk-taking, goal setting, professional etiquette, and script analysis skills. Much time is devoted to the simulation and practice of auditioning: for film, sitcom and episodic camera formats, soaps, monologues, even simulated interviews/calls with casting directors/agents.

**INSTRUCTOR APPROVAL REQUIRED PRIOR TO REGISTRATION.**

## CLOWN

Clown is a unique idiotic character within each of us who wants to play, tease and entertain. Clown is a born anarchist who longs for harmony. And yet, clown often limits oneself from this form of expression. Why? Because of all of those intrinsic rules of behavior created by organized societies! Often, we prevent ourselves from discovering our inner clown as performers and actors. The class is structured around games and group improvisations. We give ourselves a new name, build a costume and work with the smallest mask - the red nose. We learn about the pleasure to disobey and the joy of laughing at ourselves and others.

## THE COMEDIC ACTOR – Andrew Shaifer

Veteran comic performer Andrew Shaifer returns to MHS offering an 8-week workshop in contemporary comedic skills for stage, film, and television. From stand-up to sitcom to sketch comedy to solo performance, this workshop will offer a variety of lively exercises that will enhance your ability to use comedy in live performance, during auditions and on the set. A perfect offering for any actor interested in creating and performing their own comedic work by writing one's own material, telling personal stories, and collaborating with other class members on sketches.

This workshop culminates in a final performance at Michael Howard Studios.

## KINETIC ANIMAL – Polina Klimovitskaya

Animals, animals, animals. They will lead the actor to the most natural birth of a dramatic character. Through 'animal work' the actor's innate nature is awakened and stimulated toward harmonious transformation into another being. Eventually each "animal" will find its human equivalent and transform into a dramatic character of the student's choice (chosen from a play or short story). There will be a final presentation of each student's work held in front of an invited audience.

## LUCID BODY TECHNIQUE – Fay Simpson

The goal of this class is to unleash the emotional and physical possibilities of the body. By first drawing awareness to, and then breaking the habits that bind the posture in a fixed stance, the student will learn about the kinesthetic feeling of emotional flow, where the mind steps aside and allows the body to lead.

## ADVANCED LUCID BODY TECHNIQUE – Fay Simpson\*

This Workshop incorporates the teachings of the Lucid Body Technique into working with text. By first drawing awareness to, and then breaking the habits that bind the posture in a fixed stance, the student will learn about the kinesthetic feeling of emotional flow, where the mind steps aside and allows the body to lead.

*\*Prerequisite is Lucid Body Technique*

## MEDITATION FOR ACTORS – Parlan McGaw

This class consists of meditation instruction and practice; awareness exercises involving sense perceptions, physicality, and spatial awareness; contemplation exercises; and discussions – all designed to help actors integrate meditation into their artistic toolbox. Parlan has led a weeklong retreat for actors at Karne Choling Meditation Center in Vermont alongside Michael Howard.

## MONOLOGUES – Jacqueline Brogan

Develop audition material that shows you off at your best!! Get a competitive advantage, while deepening your understanding of yourself and your acting process. Students will spend time learning about their choices and honing their material to perfection.

## **VOCAL PRODUCTION: MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD – David Wells**

This Workshop will benefit anyone who believes their voice can do a better job of expressing their thoughts and feelings. At the end of the course the actor will have an understanding of the areas of their voice that need work, as well as the knowledge of what simple direct exercises will improve those areas. The actor will also develop a daily warm-up routine that will ready him or her for daily voice use, and develop the voice's strength, flexibility, range, health and presence.

## **VOCAL PRODUCTION II – PRACTICE – David Wells\***

This advanced workshop will benefit anyone who believes their voice can do a better job of expressing their thoughts and feelings. It will support acting choices, both in performance and in the everyday encounters that make up professional life, including auditions, business meetings, and networking situations.

*\*Prerequisite is Vocal Production or other Voice Training*

# **INTENSIVES – COMING SOON!**

## **SCENE STUDY INTENSIVE – Joan Darling**

Emmy Award® Winner Joan Darling shares her wisdom and passion in this three-day intensive. The class will include monologue work and scene study.

**HEADSHOT AND RESUME SUBMISSION REQUIRED. CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED!**

## **SCREENWRITING FOR ACTORS – Eddie Pomerantz**

This is a master class on the screenwriting process – locating the heart of your story and what makes it necessary for you to tell it. It's a great class for actors looking to create their own performance vehicle. Each actor/writer must submit a full or partial screenplay (10 - 25 pages). All screenplay submissions are due 1 week prior to the class. Class includes One on One sessions with Emmy Award® winning writer, Eddie Pomerantz, to work on your script.

**CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED TO SIX (6) PEOPLE.**



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## CONSERVATORY PROGRAMS

### ***ONE-YEAR CONSERVATORY***

*September 2009 – June 2010*

A program for actors committed to  
excellence in their craft and career

Our Conservatory is designed to give serious actors the tools they need to start a career in theatre, film and television. This program is constructed to enhance all elements of the actor's instrument and craft. Different disciplines are included to enable the actor to develop artistically and to grow as an individual, including body work, on-camera audition skills, Shakespeare, and improvisation amongst others. Though the teachers have different backgrounds, they have in common the commitment and passion to help actors develop an acting method of their own and construct a life in the American Theatre – a life that will include the legitimate stage, film and television. Instruction includes classes focusing on artistic growth; as well as lessons and strategies to help students learn how to navigate the business of acting. The year culminates with a full theatrical production and industry showcase.

### ***SUMMER CONSERVATORY***

*June 22 – July 31, 2009*

*Daytime and Evening Sections*

A six-week immersion dedicated to the actor's craft

Our Summer Conservatory is a rigorous curriculum for the serious actor. What has become one of the most successful summer programs in the country is geared towards university students and professionals looking for an opportunity to work on their craft full-time. Actors find the intensive immersion of the Summer Conservatory to be an exciting, life-changing experience.

With an emphasis on classes that develop the actor's instrument, our program leads actors towards a deeper understanding, not only of their craft, but of themselves. Our summer intensives include scene study, movement, voice, camera, Shakespeare, acting techniques, clown, improvisation, and the business of acting—all taught by the Michael Howard Studios' preeminent faculty.

**CALL 212/645 – 1525 for more information**