

Actors LAB 2011

Actor Workshops

Peter Feeney & guest tutors

term 1

6 March - 13 April

term 2

18 May - 17 July

term 3

7 August - 14 September

term 4

9 October - 20 November



WELCOME TO ACTORS LAB!

Actors today need to initiate their own work, understand and value what they do and behave like a business - while taking responsibility for their own artistic growth. Actors Lab supports actors as they make their way from initial steps to a professional career, and keeps them acting fit once they get there. To this end Actors Lab offers a variety of complementary and progressional courses built around a regular four term structure.

Our emphasis as always is on maximizing employability; work, in the end, is the best teacher. We keep fees low to make regular attendance easier. Classes are carefully streamed. This helps create a strong ensemble in every group. Group numbers are kept small so that each actor gets a good acting workout most sessions. Our technique is applicable to both theatrical and camera outcomes. Where needed we're happy to recommend other reputable voice, acting or accent coaches. We provide support and encouragement for participants to form their own scene groups independent of us. All our guest tutors are industry professionals.

Workshop information

- All Classes are held at Ferndale House in Mt Albert, unless otherwise advised.
- Max numbers per class: Audition/ Camera Acting = 20; all others 12.
- Sunday afternoon hours: 1.30pm – 5.00pm; Wednesday evening hours: 6.00pm – 9.30pm
- Audition & Camera Acting is a 2 day weekend course (16 hours); Acting Technique II has seven weekly sessions; all other courses have 6 weekly sessions.
- Fees: Audition & Camera Acting \$280
- Acting Technique I \$330
- Acting Technique II; Scene Group; Industry Nights \$360

Discounts: 10% for Actors Equity, returning actors and if 2 or more courses booked by 1 March. 20% off max.

All fees include GST

Testimonials

"Peter is a very gifted young actor who will always be genuinely interested in exploring his work and finding new approaches to it, and opening this out to his fellow actors."
Cicely Berry, Voice Director, Royal Shakespeare Company.

"I can thoroughly recommend Peter as a marvellous proponent of the principles and techniques he has encountered and uses himself in his acting processes. He is a gifted man with much to contribute to his profession."
Dean Carey, Director, Actors Centre Australia

"I found this course really valuable. You had no ego about teaching us – which meant I never felt you were imposing your own views on us, rather you let us discover things ourselves but also shared your wisdom and experience freely. Awesome!"
Hannah Banks, Auckland Participant

"You are a wonderfully insightful and optimistic actor, and this allows you to draw the very best work out of everyone. But what is unique about this course is that you aim and succeed in giving everyone involved the skills to be this for themselves. And – above all, the classes were FUN and challenging and filled with great people! Thanks!"
Lotte St. Clair, Actor & Sydney Participant

www.feeneymcsweeney.com

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Scene Group

(Peter Feeney, Cameron Rhodes, Stephen Lovatt, Michele Hine)

Designed as a challenging work out for actors who want to keep fit and stretch themselves. Six evenings, six scripts, intensive coaching. Tutors expect a high standard. Always illuminating. Open to experienced or returning actors only.

Acting Technique I

(Peter Feeney)

An introduction to all the elements of a cohesive technique for acting, embracing preparation, professionalism and performance for both audition and work. We cover objectives, emotion, character and given circumstances and the specific detail of line by line, beat by beat script analysis. The work is centred around short scenes which are presented each week. As a working actor Peter knows what works and why from the inside out. This course may be an introduction to some of these concepts, or a dust up in important principles. Either way the approaches are presented in a clear and comprehensible manner.

Acting Technique II

(Peter Feeney, Michele Hine)

Participants take the work further in AT II, working on just one role in a play or film for seven sessions. This is an opportunity to explore the through-line of a whole script with character work (including a two day Laban workout with Michelle Hines), super/counter-objectives etc as well as learning more about continuity of overall performance as well as opening out the text with voice and physical exercises as well as deeper emotional preparation. The choice of Play/ film/s hinges on group composition and your preference. Suggestions include Pretentious Young Ladies (and others by Moliere); Love (Patricia Corneliuss); Private Lives (Noel Coward); Arms and the Man (George Bernard Shaw); Shakespeare; & film versions of the plays Private Lives & Milo's Wake.

Audition & Camera Acting Two day workshop

(Peter Feeney)

In this intensive workshop participants glean practical tools and insights into preparation, professionalism and performance for camera and audition. This will not only enhance your chances of being cast, but make the casting process and resultant on-set work more comprehensible and enjoyable. With Camera.

Industry Nights

(Various directors and casting directors)

Industry Nights have become an Auckland institution, with some of our best actors attending these practical, fun evenings. Get challenged by the combined experience of our most respected casting directors & tv/ film directors. This workshop is open to all actors of sufficient experience. Most sessions have camera. Past and planned guest directors include: Sima Urale, Jonathan Brough, Geoff Cawthorn, Peter Salmon and Stephen Lovatt; casting Directors: Tina Cleary, Stu Turner and Annabel Lomas. With the co-operation of the Screen Directors Guild of NZ (SDGNZ).

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

All Workshops in Auckland unless stated

Term one (6 March – 13 April)

- Sunday afternoons – **Scene Group** (Peter Feeney, Cameron Rhodes, Stephen Lovatt, Michele Hine)
- Wednesday evenings – **Acting Technique I** (Peter Feeney)
- Saturday/Sunday 9-10 April – **Audition & Camera Acting Two day workshop** (Peter Feeney) – held in Wellington

Term two (18 May – 17 July)

- Sunday afternoons (& one Saturday) – **Acting Technique II** (Peter Feeney, Michelle Hines)
- Wednesday evenings – **Industry Nights** (Various directors and casting directors)
- Saturday/Sunday 21-22 May – **Audition & Camera Acting Two day workshop** (Peter Feeney)

Term three (7 August – 14 September)

- Sunday afternoons – **Acting Technique I** (Peter Feeney)
- Wednesday evenings – **Industry Nights** (Various directors and casting directors)

Term four (9 October – 20 November)

- Sunday afternoons – **Industry Nights** (Various directors and casting directors)

TO APPLY

Send your CV to our administrator at admin@pfeeney.com indicating which courses you are interested in. Note: numbers in all workshops are limited and no further classes can be added. We reserve the right to cancel courses with full refunds given. Guest tutors may replace the advertised tutor on occasion. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ACTORS LAB COURSES OR FOR GENERAL ENQUIRIES, EMAIL OUR ADMINISTRATOR.

ABOUT PETER FEENEY

Peter has acted extensively in TV, film & theatre since 1994, appearing at the Fortune, Court & Circa theatres in NZ & The Queensland Theatre Company in Australia. Recent TV & film credits include *30 Days of Night*, *Legend of the Seeker & Spartacus* (US); *Rude Awakenings & This is not your Life* (NZ). His NZ films include *Toy Love*, *Black Sheep* & the internationally acclaimed short *The Platform*.

Peter has worked or trained with Cicely Berry (RSC), Robert Benedetti (Film producer/ Theatre Director), Rob Marchant (TV/ Film Director), Dean Carey (Director, Actors Centre Australia) & most recently Tom McSweeney (Casting director). He is a published author, occasional magazine writer, and has worked as a casting director for TV and as a presenter trainer at TVNZ.

Since 2001 - in Australia, New Zealand, and at Toi Whakaari - Peter has taught acting. In 2005 he directed and acted in the play *Milo's Wake*, touring in 2006 throughout NZ. Peter's screenplay from the play is now in development. His one man show *A Night with Beau Tyler* toured NZ in 2008 & 2009 to over 30 centres around NZ, and will do again in July 2011 with AOTNZ.

Peter has an Honours degree in Politics & History from the University of Melbourne and a Dip. Drama from the University of Auckland. He was Nominee for Best Actor, 2003 NZ Film Awards.

GUEST TUTORS

Stephen Lovatt has been a professional actor for 20 years and brings immense experience to his teaching. Recent screen credits include the Kiwi feature film *Show of Hands*, *Go Girls* series I & II, *Spartacus* & a four year stint on Australia's *Neighbours*.

Cameron Rhodes is a leading NZ theatre, TV & film actor. He directs theatre & teaches voice & acting at Unitec (& has been a guest teacher at Toi Whakaari The NZ Drama School). He is a best actor 2 time nominee, NZ Film Awards.

Michele Hine is a professional actor, has a Masters degree in Directing & was Lecturer in Acting Techniques on Unitec's degree course for 15 years. Now on screen as Carol in *Go Girls* she was seen recently on stage in *Toys*, *The Idea of America*, *The Vagina Monologues* & played the title role in *The House of Bernada Alba*.

Kevin Keyes is a ChapmanTrip Best Newcomer Nominee and an accomplished theatre & TV actor, appearing in 2010 in Auckland in August Osage County and Gagarin's Way. He presents concerts for the NZSO, APO & VWO, and has written several plays, including *Desperate Antics* (Edinburgh Fringe 2006).