

Directing Actors Judith Weston

Based on the author's experience of presenting directing and acting workshops around the world for over 10 years, this book is a creative exploration on how to access and stimulate the filmmaker's most precious assets - instinct, imagination and intuition.

Provides a dazzling array of useful tips to get the performances you want from your actors.

Film Directing Fundamentals gives the novice director an organic methodology for realizing on-screen the full dramatic possibility of a screenplay. Unique among directing books, Nicholas Proferes provides clear-cut ways to translate a script to the screen. Using the script as a blueprint, the reader is led through specific techniques to analyze and translate its components into a visual story. A sample screenplay is included that explicates the techniques discussed. Written for both students and entry-level professionals, the book assumes no knowledge and introduces basic concepts and terminology. Appropriate for screenwriters, aspiring directors and filmmakers, Film Directing Fundamentals helps filmmakers bring their story to life on screen. This fourth edition is updated with a new foreword by Student Academy Award-winner Jimmy Keyrouz, who studied with author Nicholas Proferes, as well as an enhanced companion website by Laura J. Medina, available at www.routledge.com/cw/proferes, which features new supplemental material for both instructors and students, including two new analyses of contemporary films—Wendy and Lucy (2008) and Moonlight (2016)—study questions, suggested assignments and exercises, as well as the instructor's manual written by Proferes in 2008.

- Insider author gives no-nonsense advice • Required

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reading for film students, educators, anyone interested in film. From script analysis to post production, here is the all-inclusive guide to directing for film and television. Written by noted director-producer Myrl Schreiber, *The Film Director Prepares* offers practical insights on filmmaking, using real-life examples directors won't learn in school. With topics including working with actors, using the camera to tell a story, setting mood, staging, maintaining performance levels, covering shots, and directing for different mediums, *The Film Director Prepares* will leave new directors truly prepared for their careers.

A priceless examination of the filmmaker's craft, from the renowned director of "Sweet Smell of Success" After more than twenty years in the film industry as a screenwriter, storyboard editor, and director of memorable films such as "The Ladykillers," Alexander Mackendrick turned his back on Hollywood and began a new career as the Dean of one of the country's most demanding and influential film schools. His absolute devotion to the craft of filmmaking served as a powerful impetus to students at the California Institute for the Arts for almost twenty five years, with a teaching style that included prodigious notes, neatly crafted storyboards, and handouts containing excerpts of works by Kierkegaard, Aristotle, and others. At the core of Mackendrick's lessons lay a deceptively simple goal: to teach aspiring filmmakers how to structure and write the stories they want to tell, while using the devices particular to the medium of film to tell their stories effectively. In this impressive volume, edited by Paul Cronin, the myriad materials that made Mackendrick's reputation as an instructor are collected for the first time, offering a chance for professionals as well as students to discover a methodology of filmmaking that is challenging yet refreshing in its clarity. Meticulously illustrated and drawing on examples from such classic films as "North by Northwest," "Citizen

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Kane," and "Touch of Evil, " Mackendrick's elegant lessons are sure to provide inspiration for a new generation of filmmakers.

The collaboration of director and actor is the cornerstone of narrative filmmaking. This book provides the director with a concrete step-by-step guide to preparation that connects the fundamentals of film-script analysis with the actor's process of preparation. This book starts with how to identify the overall scope of a project from the creative perspective of the director as it relates to guiding an actor, before providing a blueprint for preparation that includes script analysis, previsualization, and procedures for rehearsal and capture. This methodology allows the director to uncover the similarities and differences between actor and director in their preparation to facilitate the development of a collaborative dialogue. Featuring chapter-by-chapter exercises and assignments throughout, this book provides a method that enables the director to be present during every stage of production and seamlessly move from prep to filming, while guiding the actor to their best performances. Written in a clear and concise manner, it is ideal for students of directing, early career, and self-taught directors, as well as cinematographers, producers, or screenwriters looking to turn their hand to directing for the first time.

This is second edition of The Art of Directing Actors book. The book may look like other books you have seen, but there are some important differences which will make it easier and more helpful: This handbook- concentrates on the most common mistakes made by film and theater directors and actors ("20 examples of the result-oriented and general directions"). We sought to keep the guide complete enough to answer all your questions without becoming thick enough to become a doorstop. The Art of Directing Actors has all the tools you need to effectively direct actors and to create

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memorable performances.- presents directing actors as a practical psychology: the art of managing human behavior.- explains modern and classic methods of directing actors (17 methods or tools of the director and actors). You will have a complete and versatile toolbox for use in any film or theater production. You need not look in other books to find these tools.- presents a comprehensive source-book for directors and actors. It contains a full list of action verbs with a thesaurus and a classification of action verbs, examples of a full script breakdown with spines, needs, objectives, actions and adjustments.- gives the practical application of the tools (The Bear, The importance of being earnest). You will have the script breakdown of the classic plays of Anton Chekhov and Oscar Wilde.- offers exercises in a useful format. In order to apply your understanding of various methods of directing actors, explore the relevant exercises.

Directing: Film Techniques and Aesthetics is a comprehensive manual that teaches the essentials of filmmaking from the perspective of the director. Ideal for film production and directing classes, as well as for aspiring and current directors, Directing covers all phases of preproduction and production, from idea development to final cut.

Thoroughly covering the basics, Directing guides the reader to professional standards of expression and control, and goes to the heart of what makes a director. The book outlines a great deal of practical work to meet this goal, with projects, exercises. The third edition emphasizes the connection between knowing and doing, with every principle realizable through projects and exercises. Much has been enhanced and expanded, notably: aspects of dramaturgy; beats and dramatic units; pitching stories and selling one's work; the role of the entrepreneurial producer; and the dangers of embedded moral values. Checklists are loaded with practical recommendations for action, and outcomes assessment

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tables help the reader honestly gauge his or her progress. Entirely new chapters present: preproduction procedures; production design; script breakdown; procedures and etiquette on the set; shooting location sound; continuity; and working with a composer. The entire book is revised to capitalize on the advantages offered by the revolutionary shift to digital filmmaking.

For over three decades, director Ken Kwapis has charted a career full of exceptional movies and television, from seminal shows like *The Office* to beloved films like *He's Just Not That Into You*. He is among the most respected directors in show business, but getting there wasn't easy. He struggled just like everyone else. With each triumph came the occasional faceplant. Using his background and inside knowledge, *But What I Really Want To Do is Direct* tackles Hollywood myths through Ken's highly entertaining experiences. It's a rollercoaster ride fueled by brawls with the top brass, clashes over budgets, and the passion that makes it all worthwhile. This humorous and refreshingly personal memoir is filled with inspiring instruction, behind-the-scenes hilarity, and unabashed joy. It's a celebration of the director's craft, and what it takes to succeed in show business on your own terms. "Ken Kwapis always brought out the best in the actors on *The Office*. Whenever Ken was directing, I always felt safe to go out on a limb and take chances, knowing he had my back. Every aspiring director should read this book. (I can think of several 'professional' directors that should read it too!)" -Jenna Fischer "A vital, magnificent manifesto on the art and craft of directing, written with emotional,

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instinctual and intellectual depth by one of America's most beloved film and television directors" -Amber Tamblyn "In the years that I was fortunate to work with Ken on Malcolm in the Middle, he had an uncanny ability to guide actors right to the heart of a scene and reveal its truths. He admits that he doesn't have all the answers, he'll make mistakes, and at times he'll struggle, but as he says in the book, 'It's the struggle to get it right that makes us human.'" -Bryan Cranston "Good luck finding a more kind, passionate, and talented director alive than Ken. Seriously, good luck." -Tig Notaro "‘Action!’ is what most directors bark out to begin a scene. But Ken Kwapis starts by gently intoning the words ‘Go ahead...’ That simple suggestion assures everyone they’re in smart, capable, humble hands. That’s how you’ll feel reading this book. And so, if you’re anxious to discover how a top director always brings humor, honesty, and humanity to his work, all I can tell you is...Go ahead." -Larry Wilmore

"Cinematic Motion has helped directors create a personal camera style and master complex staging challenges for over a decade. In response to the opportunities offered by digital technology, this second edition adds essential chapters on digital visualization and script breakdown."--Jacket.

A Director Prepares is a thought-provoking examination of the challenges of making theatre. In it, Anne Bogart speaks candidly and with wisdom of the courage required to create 'art with great presence'. Each chapter tackles one of the seven major areas Bogart has identified as both potential partner and potential obstacle

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to art-making. They are Violence; Memory; Terror; Eroticism; Stereotype; Embarrassment; and Resistance. Each one can be used to generate extraordinary creative energy, if we know how to use it. A Director Prepares offers every practitioner an extraordinary insight into the creative process. It is a handbook, Bible and manifesto, all in one. No other book on the art of theatre comes even close to offering this much understanding, experience and inspiration.

(Applause Books). A master actor who's appeared in an enormous number of films, starring with everyone from Nicholson to Kermit the Frog, Michael Caine is uniquely qualified to provide his view of making movies. This revised and expanded edition features great photos, with chapters on: Preparation, In Front of the Camera Before You Shoot, The Take, Characters, Directors, On Being a Star, and much more. "Remarkable material ... A treasure ... I'm not going to be looking at performances quite the same way ... FASCINATING!" Gene Siskel Interviews with 21 prominent feature film editors highlight this long-overdue look at the role of film editors, the importance of their work, and the nature of their craft. Organized to provide historical as well as collaborative continuity, Selected Takes features editors whose credits include films such as Ben Hur, The French Connection, The Godfather, and E.T. Each chapter includes a brief introduction to the artist, background information, a filmography, and personal recollections of specific films, producers, and directors, as well as instructive comments on editing techniques.

This is Marlon Brando's own story, and his reason for

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telling it is best revealed in his own words: “I have always considered my life a private affair and the business of no one beyond my family and those I love. Except for moral and political issues that aroused in me a desire to speak out, I have done my utmost throughout my life, for the sake of my children and myself, to remain silent. . . . But now, in my seventieth year, I have decided to tell the story of my life as best I can, so that my children can separate the truth from the myths that others have created about me, as myths are created about everyone swept up in the turbulent and distorting maelstrom of celebrity in our culture.” To date there have been over a dozen books written about Marlon Brando, and almost all of them have been inaccurate, based on hearsay, sensationalist or prurient in tone. Now, at last, fifty years after his first appearance onstage in New York City, the actor has told his life story, with the help of Robert Lindsey. The result is an extraordinary book, at once funny, moving, absorbing, ribald, angry, self-deprecating and completely frank account of the career, both on-screen and off, of the greatest actor of our time. Anyone who has ever enjoyed a Brando film will relish this book. Please note: this edition does not include photos.

Looking for fresh, original scenes for your fast-paced acting or directing class? Tired of the same old material everyone recognizes? Want the flexibility to play any character in any scene? *Book of Sides: Original, Short Scenes for Actors and Directors* offers scenes that are considerably shorter than those in similar books but still feature the structure of typical scenes with arcs, clear

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playable objectives, and stakes for both actors. Here you will find scenes that are: One-page in length and specially designed for new, high-intensity exercises that help students develop quickly Printed in an easily readable, film-script format that provides plenty of room for annotations Completely original, allowing you to produce and distribute reinterpretations without worrying about copyright restrictions Universally castable, with roles that can be assigned to actors regardless of gender, appearance, skill level, or race Simple and conducive to performing in the classroom without props, costumes, or sets Perfect for audition workshops and crowded directing or acting classes where everyone wants an opportunity to perform Written in accessible, contemporary language that keeps student actors engaged Don't miss out! In *Book of Sides*, Dave Kost brings two decades of teaching experience to the table to deliver the ideal set of scenes for busy classroom settings, auditions, and general training.

A chronicle of the massive transformation in Hollywood since the turn of the century and the huge changes yet to come, drawing on interviews with key players, as well as documents from the 2014 Sony hack

Directing film or television is a high-stakes occupation. It captures your full attention at every moment, calling on you to commit every resource and stretch yourself to the limit; it's the white-water rafting of entertainment jobs.

But for many directors, the excitement they feel about a new project tightens into anxiety when it comes to working with actors. In the years since the original edition of *Directing Actors* was published, the technical side of

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filmmaking has become much more easily accessible. Directors tell me that dealing with actors is the last frontier--the scariest part and the part they long for--the human part, the place where connection happens. Weston's books help directors scale the heights of the actor-director dynamic, learn the joys of collaborating with actors--and become an "actor's director."

Shot by Shot is the world's go-to directing book, now newly updated for a special 25th Anniversary edition! The first edition sold over 250,000 copies, making it one of the bestselling books on film directing of all time. Aspiring directors, cinematographers, editors, and producers, many of whom are now working professionals, learned the craft of visual storytelling from Shot by Shot, the most complete source for preplanning the look of a movie. The book contains over 800 photos and illustrations, and is by far the most comprehensive look at shot design in print, containing storyboards from movies such as Citizen Kane, Blade Runner, Dead-pool, and Moonrise Kingdom. Also introduced is the concept of A, I, and L patterns as a way to simplify the hundreds of staging choices facing a director in every scene. Shot by Shot uniquely blends story analysis with compositional strategies, citing examples then illustrated with the storyboards used for the actual films. Throughout the book, various visual approaches to short scenes are shown, exposing the directing processes of our most celebrated auteurs -- including a meticulous, lavishly illustrated analysis of Steven Spielberg's scene design for Empire of the Sun.

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Film Directing Fundamentals gives the novice director an organic methodology for realizing on the screen the full dramatic possibility of a screenplay. Unique among directing books, this book provides clear-cut ways to translate a script to the screen. Using the script as a blueprint, the reader is led through specific techniques to analyze and translate its components into a visual story. A sample screenplay is included that explicates the techniques. The book assumes no knowledge and thus introduces basic concepts and terminology. Appropriate for screenwriters, aspiring directors and filmmakers, Film Directing Fundamentals helps filmmakers bring their story to life on screen.

Describes the basic principles of film making, argues that directing is an extension of screenwriting, and explains how films tell stories

An accessible edition of a classic guide to film and theater directing offers insight into the craft's unique challenges from managing personalities and anticipating problems to working with a script and the key elements of staging, in a primer that also features life lessons gleaned by the co-authors throughout their careers.

Reprint. 30,000 first printing.

Directing Actors: A Practical Aesthetics Approach is the first book to apply the Practical Aesthetics acting technique to the craft of directing. Lee Cohn lays out a step-by-step, no-nonsense methodology for the director that includes a deep dive into the mechanics of storytelling, the rehearsal process, working with writers, and the practical realities of the director's job. Featuring end-of-chapter exercises, this book provides a clear and

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effective means of breaking down a script in order to tell a story with clarity, simplicity, and dramatic force and gives directors a clear working vocabulary that will allow effective communication with actors. The techniques in this book are applicable to any theatrical style and any media platform in which a director might work. Written in an accessible, conversational style, this book strips the process of directing down to its most essential components to explain how to become an "actor's director." A must-read for students in directing courses and professional directors working with actors who prescribe to the Practical Aesthetics technique, as well as anyone interested in the process of working with actors, *Directing Actors* will help directors to get the very best their actors are capable of while approaching the work with a joyful, open spirit.

Demonstrates what constitutes a good performance, what actors want from a director, what directors do wrong and more.

Elia Kazan was the twentieth century's most celebrated director of both stage and screen, and this monumental, revelatory book shows us the master at work. Kazan's list of Broadway and Hollywood successes—*A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Death of a Salesman*, *On the Waterfront*, to name a few—is a testament to his profound impact on the art of directing. This remarkable book, drawn from his notebooks, letters, interviews, and autobiography, reveals Kazan's method: how he uncovered the "spine," or core, of each script; how he analyzed each piece in terms of his own experience; and how he determined the specifics of his production. And in the

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final section, "The Pleasures of Directing"—written during Kazan's final years—he becomes a wise old pro offering advice and insight for budding artists, writers, actors, and directors.

Collects American Film Institute conversations with filmmakers from the 1950s to today, including Steven Spielberg, Nora Ephron, and George Lucas. Insisting that moviemaking is collaborative, Lumet often notes his determination to find styles that serve the many different kinds of stories he has told, such as the social drama *The Pawnbroker*, the crime films *Prince of the City* and *Serpico*, the intimate family piece *Garbo Talks*, the play adaptation *Long Day's Journey into Night*, and the television series *100 Centre Street*. Book jacket.

This simple and essential book about the craft of acting describes a technique developed and refined by the authors, all of them young actors, in their work with Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright David Mamet, actor W. H. Macy, and director Gregory Mosher. *A Practical Handbook for the Actor* is written for any actor who has ever experienced the frustrations of acting classes that lacked clarity and objectivity, and that failed to provide a dependable set of tools. An actor's job, the authors state, is to "find a way to live truthfully under the imaginary circumstances of the play." The ways in which an actor can attain that truth form the substance of this eloquent book. Examines myths and folk tales from around the

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world in an attempt to understand the symbolism of the hero as it appears in the mythologies and religions of mankind.

Learn how to read a script, find its core, determine your vision, communicate with writers, actors, designers, cinematographers, editors, composers, and all the members of your creative team in order to insure that your vision reaches the screen.

This approach, honed after years of on-set experience and from teaching at UCLA, NYU, and Columbia, and endorsed by many in the industry, including director Ang Lee (Brokeback Mountain and Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon) and producer/actor Edward Asner, aims to provide a helpful reference and resource for directors and actors alike. It combines underlying theory with dozens of exercises designed to reveal the actor's craft. There is material on constructing the throughline; analyzing the script; character needs; the casting and rehearsal processes; film vs. theater procedures as well as the actor and the camera. Distilling difficult concepts and a complex task to their simplest form, the author explains how to accurately capture and portray human behavior. The author's discussion of creative problems she has encountered or anticipated after years of experience, and her suggested solutions and exercises, are immediately useful. Additionally, hear what the actors have to say in excerpts from interviews with such acclaimed actors as Meryl

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Streep, Denzel Washington, Glenn Close, Robert Redford, Christopher Walken, Julianne Moore, and Michael Douglas (to name a few) who discuss their work with directors, what inspires them, and what they really want from the director.

Digital Filmmaking 101 reveals the secrets of making professional-quality digital moviemaking on ultra-low budgets.

This guide to directing films includes information on project development, screenplay analysis, choosing and working with a production team, auditioning and casting, script preparation, using the language of acting, and much more.

Collaborating with actors is, for many filmmakers, the last frontier?the scariest part and the part they long for?the human part, the place where connection happens.

Directing Actors: 25th Anniversary Edition covers the challenges of the actor-director relationship?the pitfalls of "result direction"; breaking down a script; how to prepare for casting sessions; when, how and whether to rehearse?but with updated references, expanded ideas, more detailed chapters on rehearsal and script analysis (using a scene from The Matrix)?and a whole new chapter on directing children. For twenty-five years the industry standard for instilling confidence in filmmakers, Directing Actors perseveres in its mission?to bring directors, actors and writers deeper into the exhilarating task of creating characters the world will not forget. Packed with gems of wisdom from the current 'masters of light', this collection of conversations with twenty

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leading contemporary cinematographers provides invaluable insight into the art and craft of cinematography. Jacqueline Frost's interviews provide unprecedented insight into the role as cinematographers discuss selecting projects, the conceptual and creative thinking that goes into devising a visual strategy, working with the script, collaborating with leading directors such as Martin Scorsese, Spike Lee, and Ava DuVernay, the impact of changing technology, and offer advice for aspiring cinematographers. Interviews include Maryse Alberti, John Bailey, Robert Elswit, Kirsten Johnson, Kira Kelly, Ellen Kuras, Edward Lachman, Matthew Libatique, John Lindley, Seamus McGarvey, Reed Morano, Polly Morgan, Rachel Morrison, Rodrigo Prieto, Cynthia Pusheck, Harris Savides, Nancy Schrieber, John Seale, Sandi Sissel, Dante Spinotti, Salvatore Totino, Amy Vincent and Mandy Walker. Filled with valuable information and advice for aspiring cinematographers, directors, and filmmakers, this is essential reading for anyone interested in the art and craft of cinematography. Now that directors such as Stephen Spielberg, George Lucas, and Francis Ford Coppola are celebrated alongside movie stars, it is hard to imagine that little more than a century ago the director was a nameless, faceless entity—an overseer of workflow in the shuffle of shadows offstage. In surveying the pioneers who transformed theater into the dynamic art form it is today, *Directors on Directing* presents a timeless collection of writings offering insight into what it means to direct and how to better appreciate theatrical performances.

Sally Potter has been renowned for her rapport with

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actors, and for the luminous performances she works with them to produce. Now she strips bare the art and craft of directing actors for the camera, from casting a film to the moment of first screening when the work goes public. A brilliant writer for the screen, here Potter shows herself to be expert at translating the experience of film directing to the page. She addresses us in prose that is both unsentimental and inspired, tracing the energies that pass between actor, director and audience; shaping for the reader the acts of transmission and imagination, performance and witness, the sum of which make up a film. In addition to the core text, the book contains interviews with actors with whom Sally Potter has worked, whose voices will counterpoint Sally Potter's, and will inform and illuminate the reader's sense of her work. Those interviewed include: Julie Christie, Jude Law, Judi Dench, Simon Abkarian, Annette Benning, Timothy Spall, Steve Buscemi, Riz Ahmed, Elle Fanning, Alessandro Nivola, and Lily Cole.

Newly revised and expanded, *Film Lighting* is an indispensable sourcebook for the aspiring and practicing cinematographer, based on extensive interviews with leading cinematographers and gaffers in the film industry. Film lighting is a living, dynamic art influenced by new technologies and the individual styles of leading cinematographers. Reporting on the latest innovations and showcasing in-depth interviews with industry experts, *Film Lighting* provides an inside look at how cinematographers and film directors establish the visual concept of the film and use the lighting to help tell the story. Using firsthand material from experts such as

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Oscar-winning cinematographers Dion Beebe, Russell Carpenter, Robert Elswit, Mauro Fiore, Janusz Kaminski, Wally Pfister, Haskell Wexler, and Vilmos Zsigmond, this revised and expanded edition provides an invaluable opportunity to learn from the industry's leaders.

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