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# THE ART OF ACTING

## ...and how to master it

### DAVID CARTER

**NEW TITLE**

#### SALES POINTS:

- **An introduction for the amateur enthusiast and anyone planning to undertake professional training as an actor**
- **Includes excerpts and quotes from famous actors, directors and theorists of acting and drama teachers**
- **Provides advice on the basic skills that every actor needs to develop throughout all stages of the acting process, including games and exercises**
- **David Carter brings more than 30 years acting and directing experience to the work**

#### MARKET:

**drama, theatre, acting**

#### DESCRIPTION:

*The Art of Acting* provides a basic introduction and general advice for people wishing to develop their skills as actors or actresses. It is aimed at both the amateur enthusiast and for those wishing to pursue their interest further and undertake professional training. Advice is given on the basic skills which every actor needs to develop, such as breathing, voice control, the use of body language, timing and handling the audience. The importance of understanding a text and the interaction of the characters within it is considered, as is the relationship between the actor/actress and director.

Auxiliary activities such as actors' exercises and warm-ups are evaluated and general advice provided. Specific skills are discussed, such as the learning of lines, mime, mastering dialects and accents, period manners, and ensuring that make-up is suitable to the role.

Summaries of the ideas of famous theorists, directors and actors, are included such as: Stanislavski, Lee Strasberg, Michael Chekhov and Dorothy Heathcote; Peter Brook and Peter Hall; and John Gielgud, Laurence Olivier, Simon Callow, Ian McKellen, Judi Dench, Alec Guinness, Michael Caine and Dirk Bogarde.

There is also some consideration of the differences between stage and screen acting; the problems of acting in the open air and the particular demands of certain playwrights, such as Shakespeare, and Brecht.

#### AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY:

**Dr. David Carter** has taught at several UK universities and presently teaches at Yonsei University, Seoul. He has published on psychoanalysis, literature, drama, film history and applied linguistics, and is also a freelance writer and journalist. He has more than 30 years experience with amateur drama, as actor, director and for many years as chairman of a leading group in the South of England. He has written Pocket Essentials on *Georges Simenon*, *Literary Theory* and Kamera Books on *East Asian Cinema* and *The Western*.