

ACTING 2 FINAL

Monologue Performance & Analysis

For your final in Acting 2, you will research and select a contemporary monologue. It should be approximately two minutes in length (no less than 1:30, no more than 3:00).

You will memorize it, rehearse it and perform it for the class. Please, no Film or TV monologues!

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

- **VOICE:** Make vocal choices. Does your character have a particular way of speaking? An accent? A unique rhythm? When you analyze your piece find opportunities for vocal interpretation.
- **BODY/PHYSICAL ACTIONS:** Make physical choices for your performance. How does your character move? What is their energy/effort/shape? How can the set up and staging enhance the communication for your story? Keep it simple and clear. Be **CONCRETE IN ACTIONS!**
- **DYNAMICS:** The piece should have a build and levels and direction.
- **FOCUS/TARGETS:** Make sure you are talking **TO** someone or **ABOUT** something. It may be already addressed in the piece, or you may have to make it up. Have a clear focal point and something you **WANT**. There may be more than one person that you are talking to, make sure there is a clear delineation.
- **MAGIC-IF:** You should find a personal connection to the piece, by putting yourself in the character's shoes. You do not have to tell us what it is, but should make it real for you.
- **SLATE:** Make sure you introduce the piece with your name, character, play title and the author.

In addition, you will write a support analysis paper. Your paper must be typed and should be 2-3 pages long. Please address the following questions in your paper:

1. **Who are you?**

- a. Examine the character you are playing – back-story (you can write a lot here), characteristics, etc.
- b. Some elements will be present in the text, most you will need to create.

2. **Who are you talking to?**

- a. Describe the person(s) who are talking to in the piece. It may be clear in the monologue or you may need to create a person.
- b. Where are they on stage? Focal Point! What do they look like? Who have you cast in that role(s)? Why did you pick that person?
- c. What is your characters relationship to this invisible person (people)?

3. **What do you want?**

- a. What is your objective? What do you want from the person you are talking to?
- b. Why do you need it?

- c. How will you get it? Tactics?
- 4. How will you interpret this monologue?**
 - a. Discuss how you will interpret this piece – staging, vocally, physically, etc.
 - b. How do you envision the monologue in your imagination?
 - c. Where are you? What is the environment? What do you see? Hear? Smell? Touch? Taste?
- 5. Why did you select this monologue?**
 - a. What about the piece drew you in? Why do you like it?
 - b. How do you personally connect to this piece? What is your *Magic If*?
- 6. Examine yourself as an actor...**
 - a. What are you working on as an actor that you can address in this monologue?
 - b. What are your strengths and how are they represented in this piece?
 - c. How does this piece culminate all you have learned this semester?