

# **MARK SIKES**

## **ON-CAMERA AUDITION TECHNIQUE CLASS INFO SHEET**

**The following is a comprehensive guide to my classes. All students are responsible to know the information within. Before signing up for class, please read it thoroughly.**

**Please be aware that while I bring over fifteen years of casting experience into my classes, I have been a teacher for twenty years beginning with my experience as high school drama coach at several New England High Schools. I spent six years acting and directing back east before moving to LA and becoming a casting director.**

**The focus of my classes is cold-reading/audition technique with a dose of “business of the business” mixed in. This is not a technique, scene study or improv class. Those are not my areas of expertise. I believe in specialization and therefore feel a casting director with an acting/directing background is the best person to teach my type of class.**

### **CONTACT INFO**

**Phone: 818 759 7648 (24 hour voice mail)**

**Email: [sikesmark@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sikesmark@sbcglobal.net)**

## **CLASS GUIDELINES**

**1) Format: Upon arrival, I hand out scenes to each student. They then have fifteen minutes to make choices. One by one, each student comes into the room and reads with me just like an audition. Everyone comes back in and we play back the scenes. I critique the scenes and give each student their notes. There is a ten minute break and then we repeat the process again.**

**You will work twice each class and if you bring your VHS tape each week, all your scenes will be recorded for you. The material we use in class is from film and television.**

**2) Class Times: I currently offer two different time slots for classes. Sunday evenings @ 4:00 or 7:00. The classes are held in the valley at my Barham location. Classes last approximately 2 hours.**

**3) Attendance: Each student is given a spot in one of my four classes. If you cannot attend your class in a given week, you lose the class. You are paying for a seat in a very small class, one of the smallest in LA.**

**4) Punctuality: It is imperative that you arrive on time or early for this class. Unlike other classes, you do the majority of your prep in the first twenty minutes of class.**

**5) Parking: Street parking is available. Please read posted signs. Arrive early to secure parking and guarantee punctuality.**

**6) Tuition:** My classes are sold by the month, but this is not a 4-week class. I sell the class this way for my students' benefit. You have not studied with me comprehensively in just 4 weeks. The cost is \$200.00 payable in advance of your first class. I offer returning students a discount of \$50.00 if you sign up for your next month by the third week of the current month. Otherwise, you pay \$200.00 each month. This discount is only offered for pre-paid consecutive months.

**7) Auditions:** If you get an audition you are welcome to bring it in and work on it in class. Please bring me a copy of the scene.

**8) Bring Your Tape:** Being able to review your work week after week can be very helpful to your progress in class. Please remember your tape each week.

**9) Auditing:** Unfortunately, I no longer allow auditing of my classes. I am available to meet with any prospective students one-on-one outside of class.

**10) Quiet, Please:** While I am putting students on tape, please keep the waiting area very quiet.

**11) Submitting to My Projects:** Please do not use class time or the time before and after class to pitch yourself to me for my projects. I know your work and I know my projects. Please submit as directed in my breakdowns on Actors Access.

**12) Class Critiques:** I realize in a small class there is a temptation to comment on the work of other students, but please limit your remarks to your own scene.

**13) Showcases:** I currently produce two showcases each year to give my students' the opportunity to perform in front of industry members with prepared material. The showcases are held at the Complex in Hollywood in the spring and the fall. Once current students have had first shot, I open the showcase up to actors outside of class.

**14) Referrals:** I rely on industry and student referrals to fill my classes. If an actor signs up for my class and uses your name as their referral, you will receive a \$50.00 credit toward your next month of class.

**15) Career Consults:** I currently offer career consults to actors interested in getting an industry professionals' overview on your career and progress. We cover photos, resume, demo reels, representation, marketing, submissions, etc. Please call 818 759-7648 for current rates and availability.