About the Workshop

Join Senior Musical Theatre lecturer (VCA-MCM) Dr Zachary Dunbar, and learn some useful acting techniques for musical theatre.

The workshop is for both teachers and students, and is based on AMEB's National Musical Theatre syllabus. Participants will learn how to embody a character’s actions as well as integrating acting and singing components.

This one-day intensive workshop is designed for all levels, and will include:

• Hands-on introduction to general principles of acting through song
• Key exercises on how to establish objectives and actions, and to activate the imagination
• Informative performance advice for examination

The key acting principles to be covered include:

• Actions
• Objectives Obstacles
• Imaging

Information

AMEB (SA)
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Dates and Costs
Saturday 18th February 2017, 9am-5pm
Hartley Concert Room, University of Adelaide, Kintore Avenue, Adelaide
Cost: $99
($80 for existing AMEB teachers and ANATS members)
Lunch provided

ameb.edu.au
Supporting, inspiring & advancing a life-long engagement with music in Australia.
Program

Morning

Introduction
The key acting principles: context and sources; effectiveness; and relationship to singing.

Objectives & Obstacles
Creating the drama of the song; projecting your private audience.

Exercises to establish and communicate what the character wants - and from whom (private audience) – as well as the conflict experienced by the character.

Level: Beginner to Advanced

Actions
To verb or not to verb, that is the question!

Brief introduction to exercises encouraging physicality, and to the scale and purpose of actions through the use of verbs.

Level: primarily Intermediate to Advanced

Afternoon

Imaging
Telling the story of what we see and sense.
Exercises to activate imagination and how to map them onto the song.

Level: Beginner to Advanced

Summary and further advice

Musical Theatre syllabuses available at AMEB.edu.au/shop

Dr. Zachary Dunbar trained as a concert pianist in the U.S. He enrolled as a scholarship student at the Yale University School of Music where he won the Most Outstanding Recital prize. He subsequently won a Fulbright scholarship, and this allowed him to study at the Royal College of Music. He pursued an active international concert career while also directing and writing for theatre, eventually developing a freelance theatre practice across several genres: mainstream musical theatre, plays, radio drama (BBC 4), Greek tragedy, Beijing opera, soundscape theatre, and dance theatre.

His original works, as composer, writer and director, have been produced in UK theatres including the Pleasance, Bloomsbury, Embassy, Camden People’s Theatre, Brighton Underbelly, and several Edinburgh-fringe productions (Fringe-First nominated), as well as the prestigious Jungehunde festival (Denmark). He also has over twenty-five years of experience as a Musical Director. Most recent shows include Charlotte Jones’ The Diva in Me (Brighton Pavilion Theatre - Argus Angel Award, UK tour). As theatre director, recent productions include Euripides’ Bacchae (Royal Central School of Speech and Drama) and sold-out performances of Martin Crimp’s The Country (Camden Festival). He has given master classes in Acting Through Song in London, Santiago, Melbourne, and New York. Current theatre projects include an original play Florida (La Mama reading, development at Theatreworks, 2016), and a translation of Sweet Charity for bilingual Chinese actors (2016-17).

Before taking up his position as Senior Lecturer in Theatre and Research Higher Degrees Coordinator (VCA - Theatre), he held the post of Senior Lecturer in Music Theatre at Royal Central School of Speech and Drama where he taught integrative acting approaches in musical theatre, and also co-designed the writing for musical theatre curriculum for the MA writing program. He was also a professional associate with Mercury Musicals Development (UK).

Zachary served as a consultant on the newly published AMEB Musical Theatre syllabus. He has scholarly publications in music theatre, Stanislavski and acting, and Greek tragedy.

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