



# ACTORS LAB STUDIO

## Term 4 2017: DISCOVERING CHARACTER

## Auckland Evening Class Program

With Peter Feeney

**Term Four enrolments are now open**

**Sunday's start 1 October**

**Monday's start 2 October**

*I've been teaching acting almost as long as I've been acting (don't even ask how long that is!) I learn so much teaching that I couldn't imagine acting without it. I present practical tools tested in my own acting. I'm not about any particular school or discipline, I'm not in to cults. I'm about what works, and I'll steal from anywhere to help my actors learn how to craft a performance and have control over their results.*

*WELCOME!*

**Peter Feeney**



Peter's courses run continuously all year round. In 2017 he is running four terms of 8-10 weekly sessions, with two different groups running on Sunday & Monday evenings. It is recommended to attend the Lab for 1-2 years, but even one term brings a benefit. Actors can re-enrol or join us this term for the first time...

### Term 4 – Specific content

*The further you get away from yourself, the more challenging it is. Not to be in your comfort zone is great fun.*

Benedict Cumberbatch

Character work is NOT doing a funny voice or walk: you are in the wrong job if you want to hide. It's still you up there (it's ALWAYS you up there; you never stop being you). Rather, character work is a powerful tool in giving you permission to more fully believe, be more sensor-ally alive, and be more present in performance; paradoxically, developing a character allows you to bring more of you to the party, to be more available, more free, feel safer, be more YOU. Says Peter Barkworth: 'every part is a character part, but should look like a straight one.'

This term you'll learn the tools to create a character, grow your observational and imaginative abilities, work on several characters over the term, and pick up tools to embody character each session. We'll perform scenes and keep up with our Practical Aesthetics work. There'll be mask work and acting exercises each night. TWO of the ten sessions will be combined sessions where an experienced practitioner will visit and give us the benefit of their take on acting (and quite probably contradict everything I've told you all year!)

**Terms 1 and 2 2018 content will be Audition, Self-testing and Acting for Screen.**

### Interested?

*I feel like I've learnt so much and that all of the tools we learn and then put into practice in class are going to benefit my performances immensely.*

**Rachael Young**, Actors Lab Studio Participant

Send your CV or link to [actorslabstudio@gmail.com](mailto:actorslabstudio@gmail.com) - more info at [www.pfeeney.com](http://www.pfeeney.com)

**Numbers are strictly limited to 18 per group.**

# THE FINE PRINT

## DATES

The Sunday group runs 9 sessions: 8 Sundays & 1 Monday (27 November): 1, 8, 15, 29 October; 5, 12, 19, 26, 27 November. The Monday group runs 9 sessions: 8 Mondays & 1 Sunday (5 November): 2, 9, 16, 30 October; 5, 6, 13, 20, 27 November.

**Dates may be subject to change.**

**5 November and 27 November are combined sessions where BOTH groups will meet.**

## VENUE

The venue is the old Campbell Free Kindergarten building in Victoria Park, City central.

## TIMES

Sundays run 5.00-8.30pm; Mondays 6.00-9.30pm.

## FEES

Fees must be paid every term in advance. As two of our nine sessions are combined, participants will be charged for just eight sessions this term.

Fees are \$400 for first time actors (\$50 per session); \$320 for second term/ returning Actors Lab actors/ Equity members/ TAP graduates (\$40 per session); \$240 per session drop in rate for returning actors who have attended at least FOUR terms (\$30 per session).

**This is the last term for the \$30 rate.**

## ABOUT PETER FEENEY

*Peter is a very gifted young actor who will always be genuinely interested in exploring his work and finding new approaches to it, and opening this out to his fellow actors.*

**Cicely Berry**, OBE, Voice Director, Royal Shakespeare Company.

Peter, a professional actor based in Auckland and Melbourne, has acted in TV, film & theatre since 1994. He has taught actors since 2001, and is passionate about the need for them to develop a reliable technique if they are to flourish in the profession. He runs his own Studio, is a facilitator for NZ Screen Director's Guild Workshops, and a guest tutor in the leading NZ Drama School *The Actors Program*. He also works as an acting coach with clients here and overseas.

Peter has performed at the Fortune, Court & Circa theatres in New Zealand, and The QTC in Australia; as well as in numerous independent theatre productions. His acclaimed one man show *A Night with Beau Tyler* toured in 2008 & 2009 to dozens of theatres around New Zealand. He has worked or trained at different times with Cicely Berry (Royal Shakespeare Company), Bob Benedetti (US Emmy Award winning Television producer and Broadway Theatre Director), Rob Marchand and Dean Carey. Notable credits over a long career include the Kiwi zombie hit *Black Sheep*; Australian mini-series *A Difficult Woman*, UK TV *Dark Knight* and *Cold Feet*, and numerous US TV & tele-features, including in 2015 a prominent role in *Ash versus Evil Dead* and in the same year playing the iconic Rose Noelle skipper John Glennie alongside Dominic Purcell (*Prison Break*) in *Abandoned* (winner of best tele-feature at the 2017 NZ Film Awards). Peter works continuously in TV and Film: in 2016 he had a regular role in NZ TV series *Dirty Laundry* as well as a guest role in *Wentworth* and ongoing multi-episode roles on *Wanted 2*, *Dear Murderer* and season 2 of *Cul de Sac*. In 2017 he has worked on the NZ Feature film *Vermillion*, NZ TV series *Wilde Ride*, US TV drama *Murder is Forever*, and the Australian TV series *Harrow*.

Peter also works occasionally as a director, casting director and writer; he is a published author and an occasional travel writer. Directorial outings include the Australian play *Milo's Wake*, which toured NZ in 2005/6 (in which Peter also played the title role) and more recently the Australian play *Between Two Waves*. Peter was casting director for the TV series *The Amazing Extraordinary Friends*, the John Harris short film *Every Little Thing*, and now *It's not what Happens*. As a show-runner he has two documentary TV series of his own optioned with Greenstone Pictures/ CJZ in Australasia, and another with Icon Films in the UK. Other projects are in development, and he is hoping to complete his second book next year.

Peter has a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours degree in Politics & History from the University of Melbourne (1991) and a Diploma in Drama from the University of Auckland (1993). He was Nominee for Best Actor in the 2003 NZ Film Awards for his lead role in the film *The Platform*. He is represented in NZ by Kathryn Rawlings & Associates and in Australia by Lisa Mann Creative Management.