

## **It Takes a Video Village - On Camera Acting with Duane Daniels**

This class will use technology you already have, your own web camera, to help you begin to master the techniques of on camera acting. My aim is to make you not only a great actor but a great *on camera* actor and learning to see yourself as the audience sees you is the key.

In the industry, there is something called "video village" which is the nickname for the area around the monitor on set. It earned this name because of the amount of people that tend to form around the tiny screen watching the latest take. In my class we will create our own video village, watching each other's "takes" with interest and improving your on-camera technique. We will watch what the audience is watching and you will see yourself as the audience sees you. The environment will be supportive, energetic and fun

I'm also looking to simulate the audition experience in the industry. Much of my work as a coach is helping professional actors prepare for auditions and I want to bring this experience to our sessions. You'll get scripts from me before class and I'll give you some tips around how to prepare for your audition. You'll bring your performance to our group session and we'll create our video village, watching your takes together.

After more than 30 years as a professional actor, director, produce and teacher, I wrote a book called *You're Not Really Hamlet – And Everybody Knows It*. It seeks to debunk the myth around "talent" and how it's something undefinable that you either have or you don't. I wanted to challenge the unreachable quality it has and give actors a practical approach to "dramatic equations", as I call them, and an empowered approach to auditions and to the stress of opening night. My book shares an everyday actors' point of view. What it's like for actors to work at it every day. It isn't magic. It's practical. And actionable. And this is what I will teach in my class.

Full disclosure – this is the first time I have taught an on-camera class online so flexibility, patience and a sense of humor will be essential for our whole group. We'll have some fun improvising and discovering the perks and limitations of our online environment as we go. I look forward to seeing you online!