

Q. What should be your process to find the strongest actors for your project?

Hire a casting director, they will bring in about 100-200 people and narrow the selection down for you.

Q. What is the job of the casting director?

The casting director brings in the actors, they screen the actors and encourage them to bring their best to the table. The casting director brings the personalities to the screen.

Q. What is the best way to handle the audition process?

Stay constructive in the audition process, actors feed off of positivity.

Q. What is the purpose of a table read?

A table read serves to get the cast acquainted with each other while getting a feel for how the script pans out.

Q. What type of language is most useful when directing actors on-set, and why?

Action words, verbs. Direction with intent, not just emotions.

Q. Why is it important to understand the purpose of a scene BEFORE discussing it with your actors?

“What is my motivation” ? An actor needs to know what they are trying to get out of the other actors in the scene, they must know how to carry the action before shooting otherwise the shooting schedule will be negatively effected.

Q What is the purpose of Uta Hagen’s "six questions a director must be able to answer"?

This ensures that the director is clear on what they are trying to achieve in each scene so that they can most effectively direct their actors.

Q. Why is it important that you as the director, as well as the actor, understand a character’s background when playing a scene, even if that background is not explicitly stated in the script?

This serves to ensure that a character does not appear to be one dimensional.

Q.How do you keep actors from getting bored of doing the same thing over and over again?

Keep encouraging them, allow them to experiment but ensure that the final shots are consistent.

Q. Write 500 words on your own philosophy of working with actors. How do you plan to handle them? What will be your process?

As a director with acting experience I believe that during a table or prior to it is important to get the actors perspective on a character. Actors are their own unique work of art and what they can bring to the table is nearly as important as the script itself. Actors should be encouraged to bring their creativity to the table even the most minor characters. I want the actors perspective the world that is to be created around them. I want them to be fully immersed in the script universe and will work with them to feel that they belong in the project.

I want to know what they are struggling with in the script. I want to know what inspires and encourages the “talent”. It is my hope that I will be working with independent, motivated, and focused individuals who care more about the project than about the ego. Of course actors and directors are egos but it is important to remember the tasks at hand, sticking to the script and budget will be priority, they will be gently reminded in times of slack.

I want the actors to be comfortable coming to me with on set issues and any problems that come with the film. I will encourage and support the actors with other issues as well, the hope remains that external issues will not be taken up with me as a director but at the same time if an actor is in danger of affecting their performance with personal issues looming over them I intend to be their soundboard. Some actors require more attention.

I plan to work closely with my casting director in the audition process. This is important to my process as I am an excellent judge of character and I can identify people who are more difficult to work with than others. When working on a deadline and a budget it is of the utmost importance to know you have a solid team who want to see the project fulfilled. I wish to work with inspired and driven individuals who wouldn't purposely drag a project down for attention or any other extrinsic reason.

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