

WELCOME TO SMALL GROUP ACTING

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

Led by Mark Jermin and in association with

Mark Jermin
☆☆☆ Management





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Thanks so much for joining us for this term of Small Group Acting with Mark Jermin Management. Please read through this booklet as it hopefully details everything you need to know about these sessions. We're super excited to be working with you this term and we can't wait for all of the amazing progress ready to be made.

WHAT IS SMALL GROUP ACTING?

These sessions are created by Mark Jermin and his team at MJM. This is an intense hour class held via Zoom, and is aimed at students who want to be **pushed on their acting skills, practise self-taping and the experience of auditioning** on camera for a wide range of Film and Television projects.

The SGA acting sessions are our most popular course and indeed the course with the highest success rate for students gaining professional opportunities. We treat students like professionals and we expect them to behave as such. **The aim of these sessions is for students to prepare for the acting industry and all of its detail.** Therefore, students are encouraged to take their learning seriously and arrive prepared and ready for class each week.

Not only do we intend to release outstanding actors into the industry, we want to ensure all MJ alumni are rounded-performers who are easy to work with and confident in their creative ability.

Every student will have chance to perform each and every week. Although, it is our opinion that students learn just as much by observing others and taking on their feedback. We expect students to be present and attentive during the whole session and supportive of their peers when it is their turn to perform. We occasionally ask students to give peer feedback to help them understand the objectiveness of the industry; this also builds the ability to take direction.

Each group has been carefully constructed to ensure all parties match a similar casting type. **This is useful as it allows us to direct assess each individual, and also allows each student to see how similar types interpret the script.** There is lots of opportunity to work with other students when preparing scenes in breakout rooms during each class.

We pride ourselves in ensuring each session is enjoyable and striking a balance between serious and FUN!

HOW DOES IT WORK?

ACCESSING THE CLASSES:

Our Online Classes run via the portal / online calls: ZOOM.

We run private meetings as our “classes” which are hosted by our Staff and Coaches. The classes can be accessed on any digital device (computer, laptop, iPad or even phone) with access to the website or app Zoom.

The website / app Zoom will encourage you to create an Account but you can still access our sessions just by clicking on the URL of the meeting links.

On signing up to the class, within the email of Information about your sessions, you will have received a Zoom “Meeting Link” or “Meeting ID and Password” in which to join your chosen weekly class. Please note that this Zoom code usually remains the same for the entire course, so we recommend writing it down or storing the code on your device as part of your favourites etc. After the Term has completed, the meeting will expire.

To gain entry to the class, just copy and paste the meeting link or meeting ID code and Password from the info below to allow access!

We do ask that your digital device includes or has access to a camera (build in or additional to the device) and speaker so that our Teachers and fellow actors can see and hear you!

When to join the class:

The Zoom meeting class will be open for actors to arrive 5 minutes before the start time, so please ensure you log in and access the class at the start time, Late comers will be let in on arrival via our Teaching team and staff.

“Cameras On / Microphones off”

It is essential that each actor has their camera ON for the duration of the class. Anyone who refuses to do this will be removed from the lesson unless authorised by a member of staff. We ask for all actors to have themselves muted / microphone off unless they are actively working in showing their scenes, interacting with our coaches or in a breakout room rehearsing with a coach or other actors

MATERIAL AND CONTENT:

We offer Help, Guidelines, Info and Class material via DROPBOX

We use Dropbox as it is a tool used by many industry folk such as casting teams and production companies. We recommend setting up a Dropbox account and get to grips with the system so you are prepared and knowledgeable when it comes to submitting tapes to external parties. The Dropbox App is particularly handy for this.

You will have received an email with a link to a DROPBOX for MJ Virtual. Each week (usually Monday morning) the Dropbox will be updated with material for the week's classes. Each age group has their own Dropbox as each class is designed to suit the specific age group.

For the duration of the Term, You will have access to your own Mark Jermin Dropbox Folder that has help, guidelines and most importantly Class Material including Breakdowns, Scripts, Character analysis and any self tape challenges we may encourage actors to participate in as part of the Term.

The link to the Dropbox Folder is included in your Welcome Email and you can access it as and when you need to.

It is your responsibility to check the Dropbox and download/print any materials for the week. We are constantly rolling with new projects that come into the management office and, from time to time, we may upload new materials just before the class if we feel beneficial to the session. Therefore, we suggest actors also scan the Dropbox just before the class to check for any last minute content.

ONLINE SAFETY, YOUR WELFARE IN THE SESSIONS AND SAFEGUARDING AT MARK JERMIN

Whilst our aim is to educate and inspire at Mark Jermin, the welfare and safety of each actor, actor and staff member is our priority in and out of classes. We encourage all actors and Parents / guardians of any Youth actors to read our Online Safety policy and helpful safety guidelines put in place as part of our Online procedures in the running of our classes.

OUR HANDS ON APPROACH

By becoming a student at Mark Jermin's Small Group Acting you have committed yourself to being the best actor you can be, We are dedicated to ensuring you will get the very most out of each lesson, and therefore all actors enrolled on the course will receive regular verbal feedback and are encouraged to ask as many questions as possible.

Our coaches (listed on the next page) are industry professionals hailing from different pathways into the industry. Some coaches will be able to give you honest advice on their time at some of the UK's leading drama schools, while others will be able to tell of their experience entering the industry without any formal training. Our coaches come with a wealth of knowledge and are eager to share as much as possible and make the industry as accessible as possible.

Our coaching team are encouraged to adapt each lesson as they choose, taking into account the needs of the students in each particular class. This means that, to some degree, classes will be student led in a way whereby students dictate the direction of the session based on the needs of each individual script.

Our coaches are fantastic at adapting classes to suit each age group, and the beauty of classes being grouped in casting types means that you will always be working on material that is appropriate to your needs, and therefore the classes and lessons will be geared in this way.

Once a year, usually in Autumn term, we provide end of term verbal feedback, which we hope continues to build on the personalised nature of our training. As well as tutor feedback, students are actively encouraged throughout the term to monitor their own progress, and this is discussed periodically throughout the term.

OUR COACHES

Our Small Group Acting Classes are taught by several members from the team at Mark Jermin. These include professional actors or creatives all of whom have extensive Industry experience, along with a huge passion for teaching, guiding and inspiring other actors on their journeys to success.

Guests tutors may also include notable industry professionals including casting directors, writers and other Guest actors.

The aim for each class is to be taught by at least two coaches, who will work with you to build your confidence, knowledge, practise and skillset throughout the term.

We feel it is important for us that each actor feels consistency with their learning and the ongoing engagement with regular Acting coaches to help build up trust and progress so the Coaches are usually (subject to their availability) the same coaches for the throughout term as Main Leaders, with the classes then being visited by Guest Tutors for special ad hoc sessions.



Our past and present Acting faculty at Mark Jermin who have each taught regularly on Small Group Acting includes:

Mark Jermin, Nia Jermin, Fiona Armstrong, Rosie Sheehy, Alice Nokes, Jonathan Lenzini, Laura Rogers, Ellie Evans, Dorothea Myers Bennett, Ryan Early, Aled ap Steffan, Shaheen Jafargholi, Holly Carpenter, Gleanne Purcell Brown, Billy Mcleary, Jacob Whitehorn, Tom Myles and Sarah English

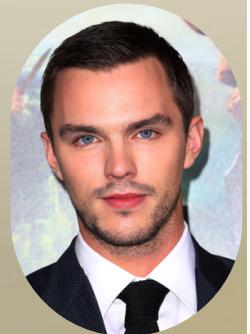
Collectively our team of coaches have professional screen credits and the experience of lead roles and series regulars in projects and productions such as: Eastenders, Coronation Street, In My Skin, Bad Girls, Casualty, Emmerdale, House of the Dragon, Ted Lasso, Heartbeat, Lost Boys and Fairies, Wonka, Wreck, Gangs of London, The Pact, Life and Death in the Warehouse, The Red King, Bob Marley: One Love, PLUS SO MUCH MORE!

Our team of coaches also offer extensive experience for Stage, Voice and Radio featuring in many West End musicals, National tours, West End plays, multiple international cruise ship appearances, as well as having regularly worked at The National Theatre, Chichester Festival Theatre, Royal Court, The RSC, The Donmar plus many professional Pantomimes, Rep Theatre productions and in house produced productions at the UK's most reputable producing houses.

OTHER GUEST TUTORS THROUGHOUT OUR PAST SGA CLASSES INCLUDE...

We are so grateful for our Industry connections and the generosity of our Guest Tutors in attending and teaching at our sessions. Guest Teachers can specialise in certain genre or style or may be brought on when working on a specific script or project. We also encourage our actors to meet and connect with Creatives from various areas of the Industry including Casting, Writing and Development, members of Production for the experience and understanding of the industry.

- Sheridan Smith
- Nicholas Hoult
- Helen George
- Ore Oduba
- Georgia Henshaw
- Johnny Weldon
- Jason Manford
- Helen George
- Roman Haymeck
- Daniel Edwards Casting (Heartstopper)
- LINK Entertainment (Los Angeles)
- Helen Swain (Wellbeing Coach)
- Amy-Leigh Hickman (Ackley Bridge, YOU Netflix)
- Kia Pegg (CBBC Presenter and Actress)
- Di Botcher
- Craig Gallivan
- Melanie Walters
- Stefan Rhodri
- Emma Stafford
- Adele Silva



- Debbie Issit - (CASTING DIRECTOR) Nativity, Christmas on Mistletoe Farm, Confetti
- Julia Crampsie - (HEAD OF BBC CASTING)
- Tyrone Huntley - (OLIVIER AWARD WINNER) A Small Light for Disney, The Flatshare, Eastenders
- Amy Leigh Hickman - (ACTRESS) YOU for Netflix, Ackley Bridge, Our Girl, Eastenders
- Stafi Samaki - (DANIEL EDWARDS CASTING) Heartstopper 1, 2 & 3
- Jacob Buckley - (ROB KELLY CASTING) Robin & The Hood, Geek Girl, How To Date Billy Walsh
- Ali Fearnley - (CGD) National and International Commercials
- Gabrielle Creevey - (ACTRESS) Three Women (HBO), BAFTA Award for Best Actress in In My Skin BBC
- Sunetra Sarka - (ACTRESS) Ackley Bridge, Casualty
- Olissa Rogers - (FIONA WEIR CASTING) Ted Lasso for Apple TV, Criminal UK for Netflix, The Offenders for BBC/ Amazon
- Catherine Willis - (CASTING DIRECTOR) The Duchess for Netflix, Hetty Feather, Back for Channel 4
- Sarah Counsell - (CASTING DIRECTOR) Shelfstackers, Midwich Cuckoos, The Cut
- Marta Noguera - (CASTING ASSISTANT) The Worst Witch, The Dumping Ground
- Beatrice Ray - (CASTING DIRECTOR) Kiss me First for Netflix, Clique, This Country for BBC
- Isabella Odoffin - (CASTING ASSOCIATE) on Oscar nominated Mary Queen of Scots, Oscar winning film The Favourite with Olivia Coleman
- Kat Edmonds - (CASTING DIRECTOR) West End children's roles, children's casting HBO series, Disney feature film UNTITLED
- Ben Livine & Brad Stokes - (US AGENTS) from Link Entertainment in LA!
- Charlotte Jones - (SENIOR AGENT) at MJM Adult Division
- Andrew Phillips - (SENIOR AGENT) at MJM Children's Division

A VISIT FROM MJM!

Mark Jermin Management

Mark Jermin and Mark Jermin Management work in tandem, and we are thrilled to have such a great working relationship with each other. Due to our classes providing top-tier talent to the agency for many years, the agents from Mark Jermin now make termly visits to our Small Group Acting classes where they scout, monitor and take on new talent for the MJM books.

We will always communicate with actors as to when the agents will be popping into classes, but this may change at the last minute due to demands of the office. If this is the case, another visit will be scheduled for the following weeks.

While we can't promise that every student will be offered representation following the agency visit, we can of course provide feedback as to what the agents will need to see from you before signing you to Mark Jermin Management.

During the agency visit, you will have chance to perform and to ask any questions you have! The agency will watch your current class as well as giving you the opportunity to perform a monologue and dialogues that you've worked on in class.

WHAT TO BRING TO CLASS

To access the sessions you'll need a digital device that you're able to use the website Zoom with. Ideally this device has a built in camera and speaker for our teachers and actors to hear you clearly

A strong WiFi connection allows the class to run for you with ease.

Whilst many actors have busy lives juggling classes with everyday projects, work, college, school, family, we do encourage the importance of participating in class in a quiet room ideally with no distraction. This is your time, your class and we want you to be able to completely invest in this time for you.

Your "Self Tape Set Up / Class Set Up"

Many of the actors who attend our class take their classes in the same place that they do their self tapes. For this, we emphasise and recommend a plain clear background and good lighting.

A clear background is great for class and tapes, as it allows the view to focus on the most important thing in frame... YOU! Your face, your eyes, and your performance, not the room or distractions in the background.

It is important to light yourself well for the class. This is difficult over the winter months when natural light is a problem. Some actors invest in lights, a ring light or self tape lights, These don't have to be expensive but can be a great investment into your career if you are participating in classes and self taping regularly

As well as personal protection (in not allowing anyone else on our class calls to view your home / personal items / or where you are taking the sessions) the Self tapes plain background and good lighting will allow our team to focus on JUST your acting in class. It also gives the team and any tutors an idea of the quality of self-tape you would submit were you to receive a professional opportunity following a class.

We offer content and material for the classes in advance, and whilst its not compulsory to look at each script or the material prior to class, it does help actors prepare for auditions and castings and to regularly look at lines, character analysis and the preparation involved.

We recommend that actors have access to this material during the sessions. This can be in printed form or displayed on the same or another digital device.

Please bring the week's class materials to your session by having it in front of you for reference.

We do also recommend having a note book or somewhere where you can make notes in real time. will be super handy for progress It is also good practice for auditions and castings that happen in the room too, and the ability to retain direction.

If you don't have a specific week's content, our Tutors can share their screens to display the content, scripts and breakdowns, However having your own copies to make notes, see the text and details for yourself is preferred when possible.

Acting Journals or a note book specific to these classes can be pretty helpful in logging all direction, feedback and anything else that comes up from each each session.. You can also log down any takeaway notes, highlights from specific classes along with any names of projects you may have to watch, actors you may want to research etc and any guest tutors you meet, it all helps each individual's journey as well as allowing conversation to sometimes flow with production teams and casting directors at auditions and meetings.

There are no specific breaks during our Online classes but if any one would benefit from a drink, water or snack when they are not actively working or performing in a scene, they are of course welcome to have this at their own discretion.

FAQs

What happens if I miss a session?

There is no guarantee that missed sessions can be "made up" at a later date. There is no refund for missed classes each term. However, if you let us know of any absence in advance, we can try to slot you into a different session throughout the same week. This is only possible IF THERE IS SPACE in an appropriate class. It is not possible to do two classes in one week.

Can I record the session?

Recording sessions is strictly forbidden. We do not record any session.

What happens if I get asked to audition for a role after class?

If selected to audition for any projects, you will receive casting information from a member of the team. Please be mindful that we teach until 9:30pm so emails may not be sent until the following morning.

Do I need to learn the script before the session?

We don't expect students to memorise the scenes given for class. However, we do ask that you spend a little amount of time reading through the material and carrying out any research you deem necessary, You get back what you put in.

Can I post about the work we do on my social media?

While we encourage students to shout about MJ classes and opportunities on social media, it is forbidden to post pictures of scripts or information on what projects we're looking at in class. No performance footage or sides of any of the SGA scripts are to be taken, uploaded on any public channels or shared amongst friends/families/contacts.

I haven't been let into my class, what should I do?

We do tend to run slightly behind schedule, but if you haven't been let in after 10 minutes you can pop us an email (hello@markjermin.co.uk) or call 01792 45 88 55 option 2.

I don't have the code or Dropbox link...

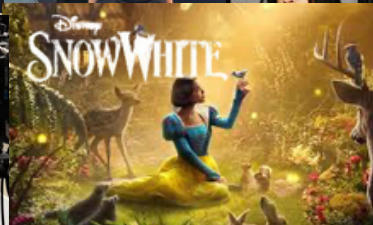
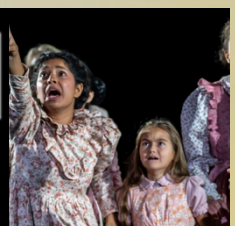
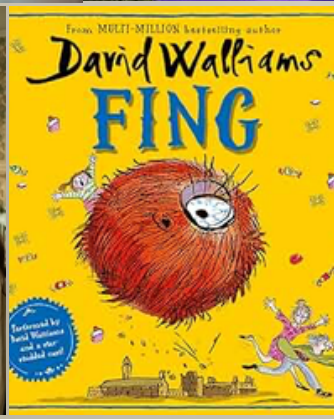
If you have lost your email with these details, please get in touch with hello@markjermin.co.uk. Please ensure you let us know ASAP as office hours are 9:30am - 6pm. After this, there is no guarantee of a reply.

When can we book for the next term?

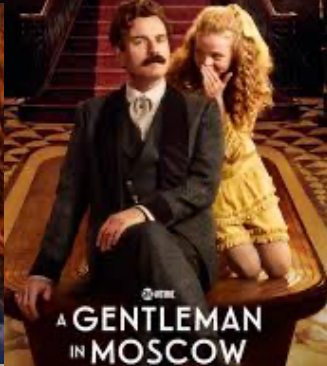
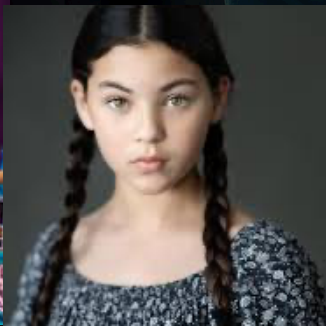
We want to ensure that our SGA students really value these classes and the calibre of coaches, content, scripts and weekly sessions. These classes are very much in demand with an incredibly large waiting list. Half way through each term, Mark will be inviting students to continue in these classes for the following intake. We recommend that you keep your space if possible as it is not always feasible to return to a class.

SUCCESS STORIES

At Mark Jermin a large proportion on our students go on to gain professional representation either from MJM or elsewhere on the back of their training with us. We also provide professional opportunities to students as and when these arise throughout the term which has led to some brilliant student success stories. Below is just a few examples of amazing projects our students have starred in!



SOME MORE STUDENT SUCCESS



Whilst we encourage Industry training and industry focused results via our Online training... SGAs is not just about gaining credits, many students have gained agency representation from MJM and Other companies, improved in their self tapes, grown in confidence, felt supported in a online Acting community, connected with writers, casting directors and fellow brilliant actors and made friends for life!

THANK YOU FOR READING... WHAT TO DO NOW?

We're so looking forward to welcoming you to our exciting and dynamic course.

If you have any questions that haven't been answered on this document, please email hello@markjermin.co.uk ideally prior to your first session!

Before your sessions feel free to follow us on our socials, keep up to date with our mail outs of exciting news and let the world know on your own personal websites or social accounts that you are ready and raring to continue your Acting Journey via Mark Jermin!!

We are proud of you to comitt to these sessions and really hope you find this term inspiraing and helpful!

SEE YOU IN CLASS!

