



The Art of Acting Solo: From Autobiography to Stand-Up and Beyond (Past Times Solo Performance Series Book 1)

By Jordan Young

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This is the introductory chapter in the revised and expanded edition of **ACTING SOLO: THE ART AND CRAFT OF SOLO PERFORMANCE** by veteran journalist and playwright Jordan R. Young. The ultimate guide to the popular theatrical genre of one-person shows covers every aspect of the field, and includes a foreword by Obie Award-winning solo performer Charlayne Woodard.

This intro explores the continuing popularity of solo performance, the trend toward self-production and what it takes to succeed. It details and discusses the many variations of solo shows, including biographical and autobiographical monologues, character sketches, literary adaptations and anthologies, storytelling, theatrical journalism, stand-up comedy and social commentary, new vaudeville, performance art and more. Many actors talk briefly about this unique art form which has freed them from waiting for the telephone to ring.

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Editorial Review

Review

"I respect what you've done...congratulations on a job done well."

-- Hal Holbrook, "Mark Twain Tonight!"

" 'Acting Solo' has certainly jiggled my mind: feeding me with new insights and answers to fresh questions. This book is a must-read for everyone interested in the solo acting genre, be it to perform, teach, or simply enjoy. Jordan Young tells our story in a way that has already inspired me to get to work on my next play."

--Charlayne Woodard, from the foreword for "Acting Solo"

"I highly recommend 'Acting Solo.' I personally found this book to be an excellent source for the research I did on this subject."

-- Glenn Alterman, "Creating Your Own Monologue"

" 'Acting Solo' is excellent. It's the only book I know of that not only gives you a perspective on contemporary solo performance but where it comes from...It's an absolute must-read in terms of understanding the context of solo performance."

--Fred Curchack, University of Texas at Dallas

"How come nobody before you ever thought of writing with such authority about the singular place the one-man/woman show holds in the world of theatre? Hearty congratulations on your splendid book."

--Aaron Goldman, "Ben Franklin, Our Man in London"

"Young investigates one-person shows not as an academic scholar but as an investigative reporter...Young's book will be a welcome supplementary text for performance courses. Its skillfully woven threads of anecdotes, quotations and descriptions, its fast-moving prose, and its actor-centered perspective will offer readers an interesting introduction to the genre."

--Linda M. Park-Fuller, "Text and Performance Quarterly"

About the Author

Jordan R. Young is a playwright and entertainment historian whose work has appeared in The Los Angeles Times, The New York Times, The Washington Post, and other publications. His books include "The Beckett Actor: Jack MacGowran, Beginning to End," "The Laugh Crafters: Comedy Writing in Radio and TV's Golden Age," and "Spike Jones Off the Record: The Man Who Murdered Music." He has written special material for the Grammy Awards and has served as a consultant for BBC Radio. His plays have been produced in Hollywood and Off Off Broadway.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Patricia Smith:

Do you have favorite book? When you have, what is your favorite's book? Book is very important thing for us to learn everything in the world. Each publication has different aim or maybe goal; it means that guide has

different type. Some people truly feel enjoy to spend their time for you to read a book. They are really reading whatever they acquire because their hobby is usually reading a book. What about the person who don't like reading a book? Sometime, man or woman feel need book after they found difficult problem or exercise. Well, probably you'll have this The Art of Acting Solo: From Autobiography to Stand-Up and Beyond (Past Times Solo Performance Series Book 1).

Jose Brummitt:

This book untitled The Art of Acting Solo: From Autobiography to Stand-Up and Beyond (Past Times Solo Performance Series Book 1) to be one of several books that will best seller in this year, that's because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit into it. You will easily to buy this particular book in the book retail outlet or you can order it by way of online. The publisher on this book sells the e-book too. It makes you more easily to read this book, since you can read this book in your Smart phone. So there is no reason to your account to past this e-book from your list.

Tom Carter:

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Allie Littlefield:

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