



Acting in Film: An Actor's Take on Movie Making

Michael Caine

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(Applause Acting Series). A master actor who's appeared in an enormous number of films, starring with everyone from Nicholson to Kermit the Frog, Michael Caine is uniquely qualified to provide his view of making movies. This new revised and expanded edition features great photos throughout, with chapters on: Preparation, In Front of the Camera Before You Shoot, The Take, Characters, Directors, On Being a Star, and much more. "Remarkable material ... A treasure ... I'm not going to be looking at performances quite the same way ... FASCINATING!" Gene Siskel

Acting in Film: An Actor's Take on Movie Making Details

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Author : Michael Caine

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From Reader Review Acting in Film: An Actor's Take on Movie Making for online ebook

Shaun Mazerall says

Short and basic.

Paul Lyons says

Despite the fact the book is overpriced, too short, too vague, and littered with more photographs than copy, there is some value in Michael Caine's "Acting In Film: An Actor's Take On Movie Making." I did very much enjoy what Caine had to say, even when I did not understand what he was talking about.

Film acting is indeed different from theater acting, as Michael Caine is quick to point out. There is a lot of technique involved in order to effectively portray a role on camera. On stage, a thespian can be broad, and loud, and open. On camera, the actor must condense one's body and voice down to specific gestures and movements...as the lens intensifies everything.

Blinking on camera is not recommended for those who wish to portray strength. A keen awareness of picture continuity is essential in insuring an actor's valuable time on screen, in addition to increasing a thespian's chances of being hired again. All this plus an awareness of breath, relaxation, and human psychology will help turn a stumbling film and television actor in a great one.

The author also goes into the importance of professionalism and behavior on and off set with members of the cast and crew, as well as the Do's and Don'ts of how to deal with troublesome actors and directors, as well as dangerous stunts.

Again, "Acting In Film: An Actor's Take On Movie Making" felt more like an extended pamphlet rather than an actual book, yet Michael Caine's advice to the actor, however brief it may be, holds enough merit to make the tome not a complete waste of time.

Sheldon Watkinson says

I found this book gets the reader to understand more than the acting itself but a better understanding of everything going on around the set with the crew to better prepare oneself with each scene. Very straightforward advice from an accomplished actor.

Arash Kamangir says

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Salli says

This was a great read- even if you are not into learning about the acting process. I found it insightful and funny and really useful and delivered in the way only Michael Caine can. I will definitely try and incorporate some of his tips in to my acting classes.

Xander says

fantastic read, tips and tricks for all aspiring actors woven into his experiences in the past. must read for the aspiring professional actor

Alexandria Bianca says

There were some wonderful insights to film acting. I felt like this book was a little too broad but I will definitely take some of his advice. Great stuff! :)

Alisha says

Notes for me: This was a re-read for me. My Chaucer bookstore bookmark was about 3/4 of the way through.

It makes sense that this was transcribed and compiled from a two day acting class that Caine gave. It is short and a very fast read. It is a quick dirty intro to acting on film, right down to marks and continuity. I had already learned most of his lessons in terms of film sets but it was a nice refresher and reminder especially about not getting in people's way. I tend to be so goofy happy to be on set that I tend to hang out too much. Good to remember that as a professional part of my job is not being in the way. Of course Caine's jobs are regularly a much bigger budget than mine...

I liked the simplicity of his approach to acting. Tell the truth. Do less. The camera has your back.

Allyanthony says

An actor's must read

It isn't so much about any one technique, but there's so many good tips and stories in here. Quick read, but I wish it was longer! !

Kat says

I bought this book a few years ago when I was cast in my first film role, to prepare me for working on set, to understand how movie making works and what my role would be, what working with other actors and film crew would be like. I burst with excitement when I got the role and was sweaty and nervous; convinced I was going to blow it - and this book helped me through it. I made it out on the other side in one piece and had a lot of fun getting there.

It's a very handy practical guide to day-to-day-life for anyone in the film industry, and Michael Caine narrates us beautifully through his own experiences in the industry. It is probably one of the best books on acting I ever bought and read.

Michelle says

A short book with practical tips about working in the film industry. Worth the read if you want to work in the film industry in some way.

Jon Schiefer says

It's hard to imagine a stage in an actor's career when this wouldn't be useful. Michael Caine is brilliant. How often does an actor of his caliber talk about how it's done? Yeah, I liked it.

Trevor Mazzaglia says

I was hoping for more insight on techniques in front of the camera - similar to Michael Caine's great acting masterclass from 1987 (I believe), which can be found on YouTube. Instead, I found most of the book explaining how to professionally conduct yourself on a film set and less talking about acting specifically.

I think if you can find this book for cheap, it's worth a read. Definitely, check out his masterclass on YouTube. Most of the acting topics that are covered in the book are explained in more detail in the masterclass.

Yosef Beyene says

If you're interested in being an actor for film, this is essential reading.

Alex says

Great advice on acting and life... I read this in one sitting.

It's mostly pictures and the type is large. In all it's a quick read with some interesting ideas especially for people who want to be actors.
