

## **Shane Ann Younts Voice and Speech for Actors**

The purpose of this program is to :

Develop the actor's voice so that it is sensitive to and has the ability to meet the demands of language - all types of language from voice-over copy to classical texts. A monotone speech pattern or a voice that is nasal, tight, or unsupported does not allow the actor the flexibility to express the full range of what he or she is feeling.

To uncover the clear, resonant, and versatile voice, which everyone has, is one of the primary aims of the program.

Classes are structured so that each technical tool leads to the next step. All of the speech work is connected to the voice work and all of the exercises are applied to texts - poetry and prose.

"I have studied with many teachers but there are two whose voices, knowledge and inspiration made a strong impression in my development as an actor and they are Uta Hagen and Shane Ann Younts. I will be forever grateful to them."  
Ron Scott

### **THE PROGRAM INCLUDES:**

Speech (diction) exercises to learn the correct placement of all of the consonants and vowels in Standard American Speech, to eliminate regional-isms, and to give a clarity to the actor's speech without sounding phony,

Voice work to develop a centered, supported voice by working on relaxation, breathing, resonance, stress, volume, and melody,

A variety of exercises applying the speech and voice work to prose passages and poetry. The poetry work begins with contemporary poems and ends with Restoration and Elizabethan poems and the sonnets of William Shakespeare.

### **ADVANCED CLASSES also include:**

Speaking Shakespeare's verse:

Technical exercises on scanning the lines, how to find acting clues in the verse, building a speech, expressing contrasting ideas, and antithesis,

Applying all of the technical exercises to individual monologues from the plays. The monologues are not recited. They are always acted.

This program uses the plays of Shakespeare because his plays demand so much of the actor - physically, emotionally, and technically. The richness of the language allows the actor to stretch, to experiment and to discover the possibilities in his or her own voice.

### **WHEN DO CLASSES MEET?**

The classes meet twice a week beginning in October and continuing through the third week in June. After a summer break, the Advanced Class begins in September.

1st Year Monday 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Thursday 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Advanced Monday 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Thursday 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

### **WHERE ARE CLASSES HELD?**

The Studio is located at 160 W. 73rd Street between Amsterdam and Columbus Avenues, one block from the 1/9 and 2, 3 subway trains and two blocks from the B, C trains.