<u>Tony Résumé</u>



From the age of 14 I worked backstage at the Theatre Royal Brighton and was able to watch the likes of Paul Schofield, Noel Coward, John Gielgud, Vivien Leigh and Laurence Olivier perform. Alternating this with the Brighton Hippodrome where all the great American Vaudeville & English Music Hall stars entertained. I trained at RADA back in the 50s and was lucky enough to have the same slightly insane collection of teachers as Peter 0'Toole*, who really understood acting as a craft and not an educational certificate. Three great teachers in particular.

Clifford Turner the world authority on Voice. Directed by Ellen Pollack an actress & close friend of Bernard Shaw and Ernest Milton the great Hamlet of 1918. The acting link from Kean between Irving and Gielgud.

My first professional work as an actor was at the Haymarket Theatre London with Sir Ralph Richardson and Dame Wendy Hiller. At this time Television was live, and for the next years I was able to work in many television productions and at the same time continue performing in London's West End. This included a season at The Old Vic, notably Franco Zeffirelli's Romeo and Juliet with Judy Dench. Unfortunately as most of my television performances were live or later wiped by the TV companies many are not recorded on IMDB. I gave up the theatre in the 1970's and moved into Corporate Marketing and Training projects.

I stepped back into the acting industry in the 1980's as a Casting Director for an organisation creating show cases for actors in London's West End. Using my past acting knowledge and my marketing and training abilities I was asked by many of the actors, agents and casting directors I was meeting to help and advise them in audition techniques and to develop the craft of acting in the English Traditions, embracing aspects of Uta Hagen and Stella Adler's ideology, with the commercial marketing that is needed in today's entertainment business.

I have now retired and work only with those I select personally or have been individually recommended, whom I consider have a real acting talent which they are prepared/eager to develop. I believe my knowledge and the experience I pass on is sound particularly as a long term protégé, Noma Dumezweni is now a twice Olivier award winner and a Tony nominee for her performance on Broadway as Hermione in "Harry Potter & the Cursed Child"

* Loitering with Intent: The Apprentice by Peter O'Toole.