



Ed Hooks Newsletter

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### ***Acting and How to be Good at It* by Basil Hoffman**

There are relatively few American actors who can claim to have made an actual living wage from acting over a long period of time. Eighty-five percent of Screen Actors Guild members earn less than \$5,000 per year from their art, and then you have Tom Cruise, Bruce Willis and Julia Roberts who are earning upwards of \$20 million per movie.

I am one who earned a living from acting for twenty-five years, and that is the foundation for much of my credibility as an acting teacher. Been there, done that. A friend of mine, Basil Hoffman, is another person who has stayed the course. He is today, after thirty years, still a working Los Angeles-based actor and teacher, and he has written a marvelous book about his tactics and methods entitled *Acting and How to Be Good at It*.

When I was starting out as an actor, Basil is precisely the kind of artist I would have sought out for guidance. He has been around the career track a lot of times and has a closet full of ribbons to show for it. He also has scars from the gravel he kicked up along the way.

His book is a straightforward Q&A style, with him giving his opinion about most everything you could want to know about making a career in acting.