AUDITION POINTERS (FOR 16 BARS)

Here are 5 great truths to take seriously when you are working on an important audition.

1. What song to pick?

Your audition song may not be able to be your 16 bar song. Why? Because a professional audition will have a beginning, middle and end, even in the short restricted time allowance. It has to be like a complete song in the 16 (32) bars. Your story needs to make sense. Do not leave them (the auditioners) hanging with a song that abruptly stops with no resolution. IT HAS TO HAVE AN ENDING.

1. Find the best key for you in the song. DON’T insist on singing the song in the original if it’s too high or low….put the song in the key that makes your voice sound the best. AND know the key your song is in. Be able to tell them what your key is if asked…
2. Pick a good song. DON”T pick an overdone song…it makes you look very uncreative and not very knowledgeable.. There is so much out there.  **Bluegobo.com** is a great resource, or Youtube.com. Both are great resources for doing research on Theater music.

1. Where to look? Auditioning in a big theater, it doesn’t matter. Howver, today you are most always in a room which is small. So, where do you look? The space between the ears, NOT above their heads (you can’t connect), and not staring them down (that is intimidating).

Figure out who you are singing to. IF you are doing a “single focus song”, i.e. the person in your story is one individual, sing the song to them. Even when you are speaking to one person, you do look away and have variation in your focus. IF it is a group song, share the space with your focus.

1. Anxiety and worry!!

This can ruin an audition. IF you are more focused on the particular worry, you will not be in the moment, or telling your story in an interesting and authentic way. A great source to help with this is **JackPlotnick.com**. On the site, look up “affirmations for actors”. It will help you with statements like: “I release my need to hit that high note”. Say these affirmations to yourself, whatever you are obsessing about: i.e. remembering lyrics, technique issues, breathing, etc. I release my need to (SPECIFIC ISSUE)…..don’t let the panic get in the way. An interesting audition is far more winning and will get you notice much quicker than one fraught with obvious fear, worry or nerves.