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The Development of an Actor

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The Development of an Actor

The Development of an Actor

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of
Master of Fine Arts in Drama

by

Kieran Peter Cronin
Northern Kentucky University
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre - Acting, 2011

August 2014
University of Arkansas

This thesis is approved for recommendation to the Graduate Council.

Amy Herzberg, M.F.A.
Thesis Director

Kate Frank, M.F.A.
Committee Member

Mavourneen Dwyer, M.F.A.
Committee Member

ABSTRACT

This thesis is an exploration and reflection of my growth and development as an actor after three years of studies at the University of Arkansas. It includes a statement of artistry, a copy of the program from my thesis performance, a link to my actor website, and a current headshot and resume.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to:

- Amy Herzberg, for changing my life and work forever.
- Michael Landman, for always pushing me further and never letting me settle.
- Mavourneen Dwyer, for always expecting my best.
- Kris Stoker, for showing me the poetic beauty of something only happening once.
- Bob Ford, for reminding me that the joy of storytelling never has to end.
- Missy, for staying (relatively) sane and helping me to do the same.
- Debbie, for your inspirational growth as an artist and friend.
- Kate Frank, for trusting me.
- Barbara Springer, the beloved Drama Mama, for coffee, snacks, soda, and wise words.
- Jeannie Lee, for your never-ending love of storytelling through music.
- Ken Jones, for pushing me to pursue an MFA and for recognizing it is what I needed.
- Colin, Caitie, and Liam, for being the greatest siblings anyone could ever have and for always keeping me grounded.
- Lilly Belle, for being the best friend, lifesaver, and dog that a boy could ever have.
- Stephanie, for always showing me the beauty in life, art, friendship, and love.

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to:

My incredible parents, Tim and Mary, who went through a whole lot to see me become who I am today.

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STATEMENT OF ARTISTRY

I love telling stories. Luckily, in addition to my love of telling stories, I have been given a gift for telling them. As a result of having this gift, I feel it is my duty and pleasure to share stories with as many people as I can. I want to share stories that let people escape, stories that hold a mirror to society, and stories that no one will ever expect. To tell these stories effectively, I must be truthful and honest. At the University of Arkansas I learned that acting is “living truthfully under imaginary circumstances.” This definition is at the core of my approach to acting. By being truthful in every character I create, I am giving the audience every possible opportunity to connect to the action. If it is not truthful, the audience cannot connect. They merely observe. In some cases, this is the objective of art: to observe. This is not the type of art that I want to create. My goal will always be to expose the true nature of the human heart by telling a compelling and honest story so that the audience’s hearts might be moved as well.

THESIS PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

**Monologues &
Scenes &
Solos &
Duets &
Actors.**

An Evening with Actors

Actors

Debbie Baños

Is moving to Chicago in the Fall of '14.

Kieran Cronin

Is moving to Los Angeles in the Spring of '15.

Missy Maramara

Is moving to the Manila, Philippines in the Summer of '14.

This performance is in accordance with requirements for graduation.

Program

1. *Reasons to be Pretty*
2. *Proof*
3. *Mauritius*
4. *Motherfucker with a Hat*
5. *Spike Heels*
6. *Three Sisters*
7. *Waiting for Godot*
8. *Two Noble Kinsmen*
9. *Henry IV Part 2*
10. "All the Wasted Time" from *Parade*
11. "I Believe" from *Book of Mormon*
12. "Breathe" from *In the Heights*
13. "Agony" from *Into the Woods*
14. "Lesson #8" from *Sunday in the Park with George*
15. "Move On" from *Sunday in the Park with George*

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank everyone who made this performance possible, including but not limited to: Jeannie Lee, Jason Shipman, Shawn Irish, Les Wade, Kholoud Sawaf, Laura Shatkus, and Barbara Springer.

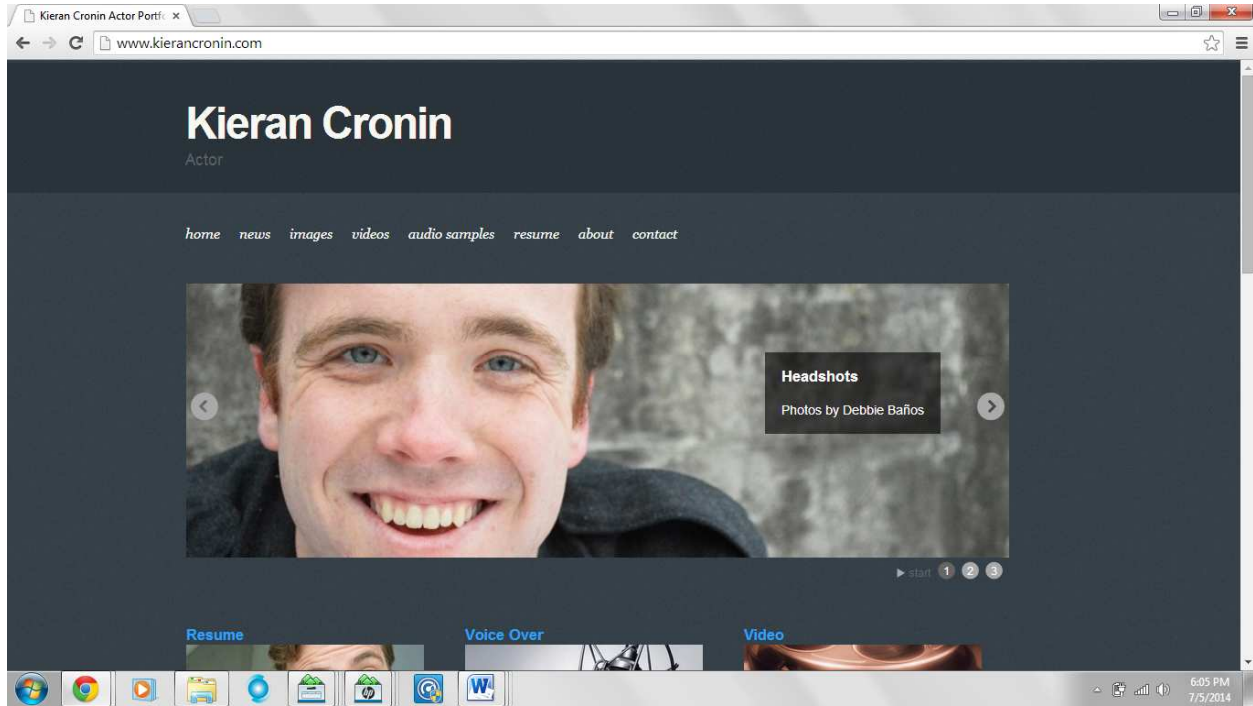
**Thank you wonderful faculty members who helped us grow!
Amy Herzberg, Kate Frank,
Mavourneen Dwyer, Michael Landman, Bob Ford, Jeannie Lee, Gail Leftwich, Les Wade, Dr. Andy Gibbs, and Kris Stoker.**

Also. Thank you to everyone in this wonderful department.

Family and Friends, Thank You!

WEBSITE

www.kierancronin.com



HEADSHOT AND RESUME



Photo reprinted with permission from photographer, Debbie Baños.

Kieran Cronin

kierancroninactor@gmail.com
www.kierancronin.com

Height: 6'4"
Weight: 215
Eyes: Blue
Hair: Brown

Professional

Good People	Stevie Grimes	TheatreSquared	Amy Herzberg
B Side Myself	Billy Beard	TheatreSquared	Sean PatrickReilly
A Pioneer Tale	William Jones	Lincoln Amp	Ken Jones
Guys and Dolls	Sky Masterson	Kincaid Regional	Bob Willenbrink
Loony Tunage	Assorted Cheeses	Kentucky S.O.	feat. Rob Paulsen

Educational

As You Like It	Orlando	Univ. of Arkansas	Morgan Hicks
She Stoops...	Tony Lumpkin	Univ. of Arkansas	Michael Landman
Company	Bobby	Univ. of Arkansas	Kate Frank
Blithe Spirit	Charles	Univ. of Arkansas	Mav. Dwyer
Anon(ymous)	Mackus/Strygal	Univ. of Arkansas	Kiara Pipino
Cabaret	Max/Officer	Univ. of Arkansas	Kate Frank
Circle Mirror...	Shultz	Univ. of Arkansas	Michael Landman
To Kill...	Atticus Finch	NKU	Daryl Harris
Much Ado...	Leonato	NKU	Mike King
Bye, Bye Birdie	Harry MacAfee	NKU	Ken Jones
Marfa, Texas...	Goody Farris	NKU	Mary Jo Beresford

Education

University of Arkansas – MFA Acting – 2014
Northern Kentucky University – BFA Acting – 2011

Special Skills

Dialects- Standard British, American Southern, Cockney, Irish
Bell Kick
Can make my head sound hollow
Loud tongue click

Training

Meisner – Amy Herzberg, Robert Ford
Alexander Technique – Kate Frank
Short Form Improv – Ken Jones
Long Form Improv – Kris Stoker
Stage Combat Unarmed – John Baca
Vocal Training – Lisa Ericksen, Jamey Strawn, Echo Sibley

Workshops

Moment Work – Moises Kaufman
Film Auditions – Elizabeth Barnes and Brandon Keener
Winthrop Rockefeller Institute Film Forum
– Joan Darling and Robert Walden
Auditions – Craig Holzberg




WORKS CITED

Baños, Debbie. *Actor Headshot*. 2014. Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Baños, Debbie. *An Evening With Some Actors* 9 May 2014: 1-4. Print.


APPENDIX:

Permission from Debbie Baños

 **Debbie Banos** Jul 6 (2 days ago) ☆  

to me ▾

Kieran Cronin,
I give you permission to use any materials that I created concerning our Thesis project, including the performance program. You also have permission to use any photographs that I have taken of you. Please feel free to include these materials in your thesis.



Debbie Banos