

# James Knight

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## ***PROFILE***

Acting teacher with methodology based in Stanislavsky and Meisner techniques, filtered through years of experience in various performance related areas; theater, film, TV, commercials, and voice-overs. Charismatic, engaging, and sincere with a particular focus on the parallels of acting and life – interested in molding a better person while shaping a better actor. Annual participant in the WordBRIDGE Playwrights Laboratory, a conference dedicated to fostering the growth of pre-professional playwrights. Member of Generous Company, a non-profit theater organization dedicated to cultivating new works through the spirit of collaboration. A proud member of both **AEA** and **SAG-AFTRA**.

## ***TEACHING EXPERIENCE***

- 2011–Present    **The Nightingale Bamford School – NYC**            Contemporary Acting Techniques  
Created and maintained a syllabus detailing a semester focused on the fundamentals of contemporary acting. Syllabus included, but was not limited to:
  - Laying a foundation for an environment of trust and freedom to pursue bold choices.
  - Use of sensory exercises to ground the imagination and facilitate a more direct route to living with truth in the given circumstances.
  - Application of Stanislavsky’s philosophies and Meisner’s techniques to interpret texts for monologue and scene study.
  
- 2011–Present    **Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival – Cold Spring, NY**    Acting Shakespeare  
At various schools in the greater NY/NJ area, scaffolded a teaching structure designed to make Shakespeare more accessible. Classes ranged from one day workshops to 5 week intensives and encompassed a wide spectrum of students, from middle-schoolers to West Point Cadets.
  - Approaching Shakespeare as an actor; using physical actions and vocal choices to help bring understanding to the text.
  - Using a variety of games and devices to help remove the stigma from Shakespeare and create a basis for relevance to their own lives.
  
- 2010                    **Towson University – Towson, MD**                    Audition Technique (Workshop)  
A day long intensive designed to give college theater majors an audition experience that more directly relates to real world situations.
  - Using pre-selected sides in an environment set up to mirror practical audition conditions.
  - Talking with the students to relate my own audition experiences and giving them the foresight to avoid potential mistakes due to lack of experience.

- Currently in negotiations to extend the workshop to two days to include: auditioning with prepared monologues, auditioning with cold reads, auditioning with commercial copy, auditioning for TV and Film.
- 2009                      **Aquila Theatre Co. – NYC**                      Shakespeare Workshops  
Team teaching in a variety of venues with students ranging from college theater majors to senior citizens in order to provide further access and enjoyment to Shakespeare’s works.
- 2007                      **National Theatre Conservatory – Denver, CO** Audition Workshop  
  
Served as monitor, reader and gave critiques of MFA students audition techniques in a day long intensive.
- 2000–2002                      **UMKC – Kansas City, MO**                      Acting for Non  
Theater Majors  
Created and maintained a syllabus focused on teaching the fundamentals of acting using monologues and scenes from contemporary American plays.
  - Application of Stanislavsky’s philosophies and Meisner’s techniques to interpret texts for monologue and scene study.
  - Using theater games to bring students into a greater awareness of their own physicality.

## ***PROFESSIONAL ACTING EXPERIENCE***

<b><i>T.V./FILM/WEB/COMMERCIAL</i></b>	<b><i>ROLE</i></b>	<b><i>DIRECTOR</i></b>
<b>Person of Interest</b>	Kelly (recurring)	S. Suffik, C. Fisher, R. Lewis CBS Television
<b>Now You See Me</b>	Yuppie	Louis Leterrier See Me Louisiana LLC
<b>Hertz/Lowe’s</b>	Man	Kris Palestrini Krispy Pictures
<b>Vanguard - Don’t Look Now</b>	Will	Hank Perlman Hungryman Films
<b>Carrera</b>	The Runner – (lead)	Fran Torres Indio Films
<b>The Circuit</b>	Paul	Caitlin Moon Section 1 Films
<b>Company K</b>	Pvt. Geils	Robert Klemm Waterfront Pictures
<b>Rocky Hill Road</b>	Tommy	Carmela Del Vecchio CDV Productions
<b>Guiding Light</b>	Flight Attendant – (u5)	John O’Connell CBS Television
 <b><i>NEW YORK THEATER</i></b>	 <b><i>PLAY</i></b>	 <b><i>VENUE/DIRECTOR</i></b>
Pompey	<b>Antony &amp; Cleopatra</b>	Theatre for a New Audience Darko Tresnjak
Crispus Frank	<b>The Robbers of Madderbloom</b>	NYU - Gallatin Reading Christopher Cartmill
Young Man	<b>I am the Machine Gunner</b>	CUNY – Segal Center Reading David M. White
Oliver Blayds-Conway	<b>The Truth About Blayds</b>	The Mint Theatre Co., NYC Reading Jonathan Bank

Brian Strange	<b>Mr. Pim Passes By</b>	The Mint Theatre Co., NYC Jonathan Bank
Otto Von Aigner	<b>Far and Wide</b>	The Mint Theatre Co., NYC Jonathan Bank
Caleb	<b>The Whipping Man</b>	Lark Play Development Center Linnet Taylor
Mortimer	<b>Mary Stuart</b>	Reading New York Classical Theatre Steven Burdman
M	<b>M's Teeth</b>	The Forge Gabriel Shanks
Gen. Nathanael Greene	<b>Yorktown</b>	Reading The Drama Garden Eric Dente

**REGIONAL THEATER**

Jack	<b>PLAY</b> <b>Abundance</b>	<b>VENUE/DIRECTOR</b> Hartford Stage Jenn Thompson
Young Man	<b>I am the Machine Gunner</b>	Touring solo performance David M. White
Claudio	<b>Measure for Measure</b>	Shakespeare Theatre of NJ Bonnie J. Monte

**REGIONAL THEATER (contd.)**

Zach	<b>PLAY</b> <b>Alive and Well</b>	<b>VENUE/DIRECTOR</b> The Old Globe Theatre Jeremy Dobrish
The Antipholii	<b>The Comedy of Errors</b>	Aquila Theatre Co. Peter Meineck
Marc Anthony	<b>Julius Caesar</b>	Aquila Theatre Co. (Germany) Peter Meineck
Algernon	<b>Importance of Being Earnest</b>	Portland Center Stage Chris Coleman
Angelo	<b>Measure for Measure</b>	The Old Globe Theatre Paul Mullins
Frank Gardiner	<b>Mrs. Warren's Profession</b>	Denver Theatre Center Bruce Sevy
Achilles	<b>The Iliad</b>	Aquila Theatre Co. Peter Meineck
Marcellus/Fortinbras	<b>Hamlet</b>	The Old Globe Theatre Darko Tresnjak
Mr. Wickham	<b>Pride &amp; Prejudice</b>	Pioneer Theatre Co. Charles Morey
Hamlet	<b>Hamlet</b>	Southwest Shakespeare Co. Jared Sakren
Ivan	<b>The Ladies of the Camellias</b>	Denver Theatre Center Casey Stangl
Carl Jung	<b>Transference</b>	Eugene O'Neil Theatre Center Reading Gene Lasko
Mark	<b>Living Room in Africa</b>	Eugene O'Neil Theatre Center Reading Danny Goldberg
Tony Kirby	<b>You Can't Take It With You</b>	Milwaukee Repertory Theatre Reading JR Sullivan
Hector Malone	<b>Man and Superman</b>	Missouri Repertory Theatre Sharon Ott
Young Charlie	<b>Da</b>	The Cape Playhouse Russell Treyz
Valentine	<b>Stinkin' Rich</b>	Two River Theatre Co. Dennis Delaney
Malcolm	<b>MacBeth</b>	Alabama Shakespeare Festival Kent Thompson
Romeo	<b>Romeo &amp; Juliet</b>	Southwest Shakespeare Co. Jared Sakren
Christian	<b>Cyrano de Bergerac</b>	Pioneer Theatre Co. Charles Morey
King Henry	<b>Henry V</b>	Southwest Shakespeare Co. Kathleen Brant
Orlando	<b>As You Like It</b>	Utah Shakespearean Festival Henry Woronicz

Cassio	<b>Othello</b>	Utah Shakespearean Festival Howard Jensen
Phillip	<b>The Shape of Things</b>	The Unicorn Theatre Joe Price
Sebastian	<b>Twelfth Night</b>	Heart of America Shakespeare Sidonie Garrett
Ferdinand	<b>The Tempest</b>	Heart of America Shakespeare Ian Wooldridge
Speakeasy Patron/Ensemble	<b>Machinal</b>	Missouri Repertory Theatre Risa Brainin
Lord/Shepherd	<b>The Winter's Tale</b>	Missouri Repertory Theatre Henry Godinez

***VOICE-OVER***

**Blue Bloods**

**Combos – Pace Car**

**The Circuit**

**OK Cable – Triple Play**

***ROLE***

ADR

Pace Car Driver

Weatherman

Announcer

***PRODUCER***

Loopers Unlimited

Nutmeg Studios

Section 1 Films

Penny Lane Studios

CBS Television

Mars, Inc.

Corey Sorenson

OK Cable

***DIRECTING***

**High Class, Low Class, No Class**

**Where the Whangdoodle Sings**

**Love, lust, and the Green Eyed Monster**

**The Hill**

**For Love or Money**

**Perception Play**

**Dime Bet**

**End of the World As We Know It**

**Spill the Beans**

**Meaning of Ants in My Kitchen**

**Transorbital Cure of D. Gale**

**Big Box Beauty Queen**

**Sight Unseen**

***VENUE***

Cornelia Street Café

Baltimore Theatre Project

Cornelia Street Café

Roy Arias Studio Theatre

Cornelia Street Café

Reading Baltimore Theatre Project

Reading Baltimore Theatre Project

Reading Baltimore Theatre Project

Reading Baltimore Theatre Project

Reading Baltimore Theatre Project

Reading Baltimore Theatre Project

Reading Baltimore Theatre Project

Reading Baltimore Theatre Project

***PRODUCER***

Generous Company

Generous Company

Generous Company

John Chatterton Presents

Generous Company

Generous Company

Generous Company

Generous Company

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***RELATED EXPERIENCE***

- Fully paid-up and working member of **AEA**
- Fully paid-up and working member of **SAG-AFTRA**
- 2007–Present **WordBRIDGE Playwrights Laboratory – Baltimore, MD**  
Producer, Actor

Produced and facilitated a conference devoted to fostering the works of pre-professional playwrights.

- Currently in cooperation with Baltimore CenterSTAGE.
- Worked with playwrights as an actor and director, helping to shape their plays in an unobtrusive, creatively fulfilling environment.
- Worked as a producer and administrator, helping to facilitate the conference in a variety of ways, from fundraising and financial backing to hands-on logistical concerns.

- 2010 – Present **Ancient Greeks Modern Lives – Aquila Theater Co.**  
Performer

A reading series of Ancient Greek works produced by Aquila Theater Company in conjunction with a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

- Performed in readings of featured Ancient Greek works by Sophocles, Euripides, Aeschylus and others.
- Participated in Q&A sessions designed to bring the works of Ancient Grecian playwrights into a modern context.

- January 2012, 2013 **Generous Co. Gumbo – Baltimore, MD** Producer/Actor/Director/Playwright

A multi-week program held at The Baltimore Theatre Project dedicated to showcasing works in progress from various members of the Baltimore Arts Scene including: theater companies, photographers, musicians, painters, and sculptors.

- 2013 – Directed a number of staged readings focused on themes of neurobiology and the connections between science and art. Playwrights included: Deborah Yarchun, Will Fancher, K. Frithjof Peterson, Yasmine Van Wilt, Cynthia Hardeman, Erin Phillips, Joseph Ritsch, and Kevin McFillen
- Performed in staged readings of new plays centered around themes of neurobiology and art.
- 2013 – Participated in discussions focused on empathy and its links between psychology, biology and art based on Eric Kandel's "The Age of Insight"
- 2012 – Staged a reading of Strange Playthings, a play written in conjunction with Michele Vazquez and Will Manning.
- 2012 – Performed in staged readings of David M. White's, Last Chance Cycle.
- 2012 – Directed a staged reading of K. Frithjof Peterson's, Where the Whangdoodle Sings.
- 2012 – Helped to facilitate the festival as producer and administrator in a variety of ways, from financial backing to hands on logistical concerns.

- May 2010 **New Russian Drama Conference – Towson University**  
Attendee

A conference of 150 theatrical professionals from across the United States focused on exploring and viewing works from modern Russian theater (Nova Drama).

- Participated in discussions relating to modern Russian drama and its place on the American stage.

- Relayed my own experiences as an actor working on Yuri Klavdiev's, I am the Machine Gunner.
- April 2009                            **Golden Mask Theatre Festival – Moscow, Russia**  
Attendee  
International theater festival held in Moscow, Russia dedicated to exploring the current state of Russian theatre.
  - Attended sixteen performances in five days ranging from traditional performances in standard theatrical venues to avant-garde, site specific works.
  - Interviewed playwright Yuri Klavdiev for insights into I am the Machine Gunner, a solo theater piece which I later performed and toured in the United States.

## ***EDUCATION***

- **MFA – Acting & Directing**                            University of Missouri–Kansas City  
2000–2002
  - **Acting** – Dale AJ Rose (Head of Performance Training), Ted Swetz, Gary Holcombe, Art Manke
  - **Acting for the Camera** – Dennis Rosa
  - **Voice** – Louis Colaianni (Linklatter Method), Peggy Loft
  - **Movement & Period Styles** – Dr. Jennifer Martin
  - **Mask, Mime, Clown, Circus** – Daniel Stein, Joan Schirle, Michael Fields, Stephen Buescher, Bruce Mars, Joe Krienke, Donald Forrest (Dell ‘Arte School)
  - **Stage Combat** – Joe Price
- **BA – Theater/Performance**                            Western Michigan University  
1995–1999
  - **Acting** – Dr. Von Washington, Jim Daniels, Pat Daniels, Dr. Joan Herrington
  - **Acting for the Camera** – Dr. Von Washington
  - **Directing** – Lyda Stillwell
  - **Voice** – Jim Daniels (Linklatter Method)
  - **Movement & Period Styles** – Jim Daniels
  - **Lighting & Sound Design** – Matt Knewtson
  - **Scenic Design** – Greg Roehrick
  - **Costume Design** – Gwendolyn Nagle
  - **Stage Combat** – Scott Nice
- **Continued Education – NYC**                            One on One Studios                            2010–Present

- **TV/Film Acting** – Christine Kromer (Alexa Fogel Casting)
- **Voice Over Auditions** – Bess Fifer
- **TV/Film Acting** – Paul Schnee (Barden Schnee Casting)
- **Auditions for Television** – Ted Sluberski

## ***REFERENCES***

### **Peter Meineck**

Clinical Associate Professor, NYU  
Artistic Director, Aquila Theatre  
(212) 992-9642  
pm57@nyu.edu

### **Dale AJ Rose**

Director of Performance Training, University of Connecticut  
Associate Artistic Director Connecticut Rep. Theater  
(860)-486-1626  
[Dale.rose@uconn.edu](mailto:Dale.rose@uconn.edu)

### **Diane Davis**

Head of Drama Dept., The Nightingale-Bamford School  
(212) 933-6531  
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### **Ryan Quinn**

Teaching Artist, Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival  
(917) 207-3104  
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