Speaker Profile

Ron Aldridge

Theatre director, writer, actor, business trainer and coach

Ron Aldridge is a professional theatre director, writer and actor with 30 years experience, and is also a qualified business trainer. For the past 12 years he has combined his various theatre activities with successfully helping business people to become 'complete' performers, whether they are speaking in public, presenting, or selling, at conferences, in the workplace and in the boardroom.

He works with clients as a director works with actors and uses his extensive theatre experiences to help them develop within themselves the thought-processes, mental disciplines and performing techniques of the professional performer.

Through the processes of discussion, explanation and participation, his highly-commended workshops and coaching sessions are non-threatening, non-competitive, informal and fun.

He has worked with Cornhill Insurance, Alliance and Leicester; Virgin Mobile, Euphony Communications, Coca-Cola, HSBC, and Q-Parks as well as owners of smaller companies, and independent professionals.

Ron is also an experienced speaker with a selection of entertaining, anecdotal and motivational speaking topics that are regularly used for conference days, business meetings and events.

He has directed in repertory, on the London Fringe, at the Edinburgh Festival, on numerous touring productions and in the West End of London, and has directed, among others; Brian Murphy, Judy Cornwell, Victor Spinetti, Carmen Silvera, Rula Lenska, Henry McGee, Trevor Bannister, Gareth Hunt, Nicholas Ball, and Bill Pertwee.

He uses his writing experience to help delegates with speechwriting, and his three stage plays, 'You're Only Young Twice', 'It's Never Too Late', and 'That's Love' are published by Josef Weinbergers. His play 'Hovering' was nominated for an award at the '94 Edinburgh Festival.

As an actor, notable West End appearances have included the lead role in the award-winning 'Children of a Lesser God', the long-running comedy 'Run For Your Wife', and the 'Odd Couple' alongside Jack Klugman and Tony Randall. Others he's had the pleasure of working with in the theatre include; Eric Sykes, Les Dawson, Honor Blackman, Lionel Jeffries, Una Stubbs, Lorraine Chase, Patrick Mower and Windsor Davies.

Television appearances include; 'London's Burning', 'The Bill', '2.4 Children', 'Fools Gold' with Sean Bean, 'Minder' with George Cole, 'Nelson's Column' with John Gordon Sinclair, 'Eastenders' with Barbara Windsor, and Bronco in 'Only Fools and Horses' with David Jason and John Challis.

Various productions of Ron's own plays are currently being presented in Hungary, Israel, Belgium, Germany, Holland and Switzerland. February 2010 saw the start of the UK tour of his comedy *'It's Never Too Late'*, starring Joanna Van Gyseghem (*Duty Free*) Jeffrey Holland (*Hi-De-Hi*) and Judy Buxton (*On the Up*). The play runs until early May 2010 at venues across England.

Enquiries and bookings:
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Speaking Topics

Perform At Your Best

Actors on a first night are frightened, vulnerable, insecure, tense and very nervous. But they don't show it. They understand the need to control these feelings, and not allow negativity to dominate and inhibit their performance. "Perform At your Best" is designed to help you understand and be able to apply the mental disciplines, thought-processes and proven methods of the professional performer, with special focus on the key areas of nerves, confidence, audience and performance, and can benefit anyone, whatever their level of experience.

Developing Presence And Charisma

When we join a group or enter a room, we want our arrival acknowledged. When we speak we want others to listen. When we offer an opinion we want it treated with respect. We want to be taken seriously and we want our existence to have weight and substance for others. Presence and charisma have been described as 'having the ability to connect authentically with the thoughts and feelings of others.' These are not God-given gifts bestowed only on certain personalities and performers, but a set of skills that you can develop and improve. "Developing Presence and Charisma" will help you become aware of the inner state, which leads to your external behaviours and show you the steps to take to develop your presence and charisma — because no-one wants to be ignored.

The Show Must Go On

Night after night, week after week, month after month, year after year the show goes on! It requires a huge team of people to ensure this always happens – cast, production team, stage crew, designer, wardrobe, lighting, sound, marketing, publicity, administration – and a director to ensure all these people hit their deadlines. And they do hit their deadlines, because there's no choice! The curtain must go up on time. "The Show Must Go On" uses a series of famous theatrical sayings to illustrate the disciplines required, the need to accept and be adaptable to change, and how to consistently hit your deadlines.

Selling For Those Who Don't Like To Sell

We all have to sell, in one form or another - but what if you don't like selling? What if you find yourself inhibited and vulnerable about the whole selling experience? "Selling For Those Who Don't Like To Sell" is designed to help you re-think the process, and to remove the word "sell" from your business vocabulary. The idea from now on is that you "Don't sell to sell!"

Humour In The Workplace - Comedy Business

There's nothing better than hearing an audience laugh. Just a chuckle or two is fine as well. But the risk is always there. What if they don't laugh? That's why comedy, when it works, is so rewarding. "Humour In The Workplace" is designed to help you understand the disciplines, rhythms and structures of comedy and how to introduce them safely into your working environment and presentations.

Ron Who?

I've been in the entertainment business for 30 years, working with the famous and the infamous. I've coped with drunken co-stars, dodgy divas, a giggling Sean Bean and a "gurning" Les Dawson, and have a fund of experiences to share with you. "Ron Who?" is a theatrically-based, humorous, anecdotal and "name-dropping" entertainment about a "nearly-famous" actor.

"Great fun!"

"A truly refreshing bonus to the day."

"I'm still quoting from 'The Show Must Go On' six months later."

"Effective combination of education and entertainment."

"Hugely entertaining."

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