

CHARACTERS ON PARADE

Auditioning for Sketch Comedy



Showcase Your Funny

The sketch monologue helps the writers/creators of the show to see what characters you will be bringing to the table. They want to write scenes and short skits based on the interesting characters that you already have developed in your acting training. You should think of it as a demonstration of your comedy range and why you are valuable in an ensemble cast.

Sources for Characters

Explore what voices, accents and impressions you can do. Next, add some physical mannerisms. Finally, make it unique - lots of actors can do a generic Southern or Rich Girl voice, but how can you find a unique POINT OF VIEW?

What have we not seen before?

*IMPRESSIONS OF CURRENT CELEBS ARE GOOD

Situation for Characters

The best way to set up comedy for your eccentric character, is to put them in a situation that "pushes their buttons". Who are they talking to and what are the circumstances? Find more things for them to react to and ways to show off their strongest moves.

Short & Sweet

Sketch Comedy uses an economy of words. Edit the unnecessary set-ups and get to the funny right away. If you can say the same thing in less words, it is usually funnier that way. Try to force the funniest moments into a tight space.

Clean Intros

Don't waste dialogue telling us the who, what, where (unless revealing that IS the joke). Use short/well-worded intros to set up what we're going to see. Examples: "I call this character is the least romantic girl in school...on Valentine's Day" or "This is my impression of (famous person) doing (something unusual)."

Strong Button

It is important to end sketches with a joke. You want the last moment to be funny and memorable. Sometimes it is just a matter of exaggerating what is already working to create a final moment.