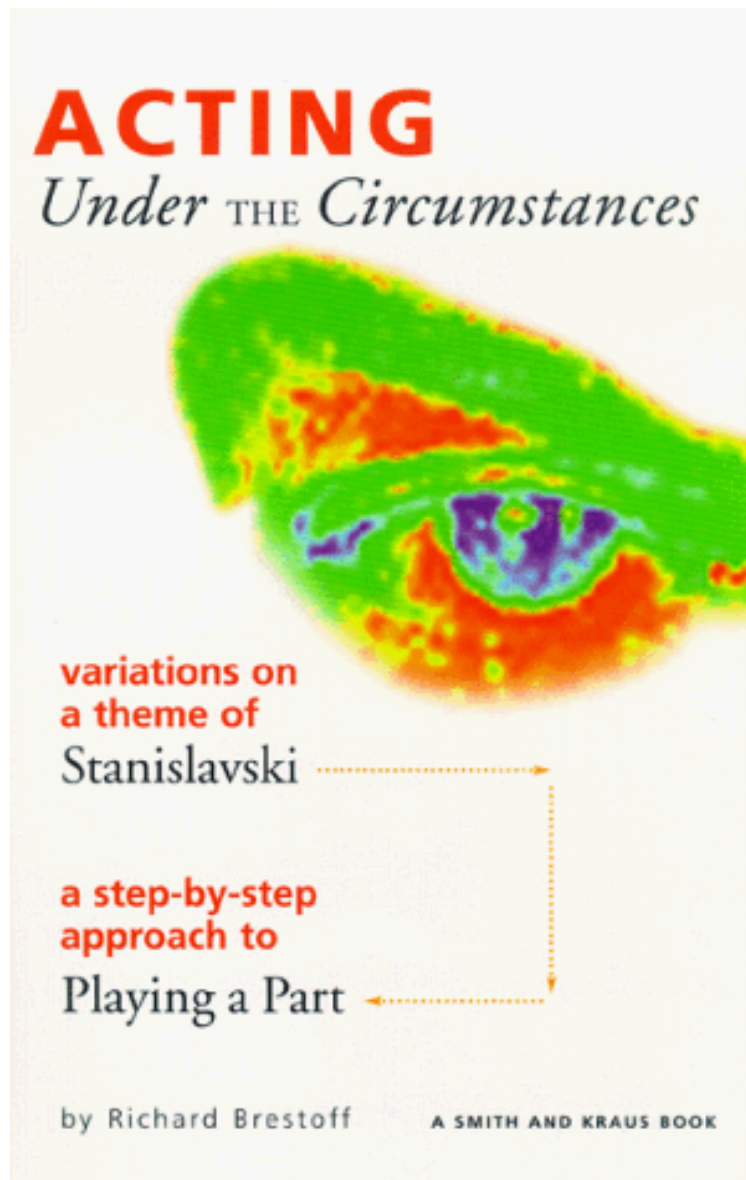


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Acting Under the Circumstances: Variations on a Theme of Stanislavski (Career Development Series)

Richard Brestoff

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Richard Brestoff : Acting Under the Circumstances: Variations on a Theme of Stanislavski (Career Development Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Acting Under the Circumstances: Variations on a Theme of Stanislavski (Career Development Series):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Worthwhile approach to the "action" of actingBy Sugith VarugheseWhat I like about Brestoff's approach is that it focuses on actions or intentions. A lot of beginning, and not so beginning, actors focus on feelings or emotions. But we're called ACTORS, not FEELERS. Brestoff emphasizes playing actions or intentions. Emotions will follow, but they won't be pre-programmed, but organic to the acting moment.It's most useful for actors who are not beginners, but have the basics under their belt.I use this as a suggested 2nd year text at Humber College's School of Creative and Performing Arts in Toronto where I am on the faculty in the Acting for Film and TV program.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fun!By MMK11Activities explained in a very readable way and really helped me improve my acting!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Surena PanahGreat book, Gives you different dimension on acting and character development

From the author of *The Great Acting Teachers and Their Methods*, *Under the Circumstances* details a step-by-step approach to playing a part. Based on the work Constantine Stanislavski was using near the end of his life, we follow two actors as a teacher guides them through their parts in Henrik Ibsen's great play, *A Doll House*. Then we learn how techniques are used for monologues and cold readings. We learn how analysis stems from instinct, from experiencing the character's circumstances without becoming them or speaking their dialogue. Actors memorize "events" and not lines. This approach, never before so clearly explained or engagingly taught, gives actors, from novices to professionals, a reliable, creative, and innovative method for playing a part. *Under the Circumstances* is a book you will put to immediate use.

From *Library Journal*This book comes out of the author's own experience as an actor and teacher. As he rereads the works of Konstantin Stanislavski (the founder of "method" acting), Brestoff (*The Camera Smart Actor*, LJ 12/94) was struck by Stanislavski's approach, which calls upon actors to "experience the circumstances of a play before speaking any dialogue or trying to characterize." Brestoff has refined and expanded on Stanislavski's ideas, taking the reader through the process followed by two actors as they work on a scene from Ibsen's *A Doll's House*. Improvisation is a key to visualizing the roles actors are to play. An 18-point process review concludes this well-written and very useful book. Recommended for theater arts collections.AHoward E. Miller, MLS, St. Louis Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.About the AuthorRichard Brestoff is an Assistant Professor of Drama in the Claire Trevor School of the Arts at the University of California, Irvine. He is an actor with credits on Broadway, Off-Broadway, in regional theater, and in film, television and radio. He is the author of *The Camera Smart Actor*, *The Great Acting Teachers and Their Methods*, *Acting Under the Circumstances*, and most recently, *The Actor's Wheel of Connection*.