

TESTIMONIO LETTER

In 1999, I auditioned for the Canadian Academy of Method Acting, Toronto, Canada. I always wanted to become an actress and I knew very little about it. I was a back-up dancer which I enjoyed so much. Method Acting? Stanislavsky Method? I knew almost nothing. I had heard that this acting technique had been discarded by Hollywood. When I was allowed to participate in the classes, I met E. Jim G. Ross, the man who also audited me. After a few classes I was really impressed with the degree of believability that he demanded from everyone. I discovered myself portraying different characters based on "emotions". I ended up telling dramatic-stories without saying one word. I could feel like crying on purpose and make the audience (the rest of the class) cry with me. I could express anger and make the audience feel the same. It was a perfect dramatic story-telling, with so much intensity that made our classes unforgettable. We learned to relax at incredible levels, through diaphragm breathing techniques. So, after expressing powerful emotions, we knew how to recharge our batteries. We were always in control of ourselves.

Suddenly, Mr. Ross told me I was ready to compete with professional actors. I went for an audition to the film "John Q" with Denzel Washington, being shot in Toronto. Denzel Washington was impressed with my performance, but another actress, a union-member, objected, alleging I was not an Actra-Member (Canadian Actors Union). She got the part. The production had signed already an agreement which didn't allow non-union members to get priority in any audition. I wasn't hired and I cried for a week. When I told Mr. Ross about what happened, he told me never to worry, because my talent was my talent. He even said that he considered me the best female-student of the course.

I moved to the United States to pursue my career as an actress. I studied additional acting training at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York. What I learned before with Mr. Ross, helped me tremendously. Denzel Washington, meanwhile, offered me other opportunities to work within the film industry. Today, 2012, in Toronto, Canada, I've been extremely busy working as a professional actress. Mr. E. Jim G. Ross continues being one of my mentors and a friend. His main recommendation is "believability" in every character that actors portray. The differences between "excellence and mediocrity". Or knowledge, plus knowledge, instead of limited-knowledge. His teachings contribute to dignify the actors' profession, opposite to superficial conceptions of acting. I sincerely recommend his teachings. He is already creating the International Academy of Method Acting, which will reinforce excellence, as part of exalting the acting-profession, within the show business community.

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