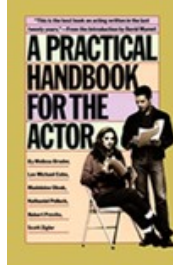


LEE MICHAEL COHN, MFA

Cellular/VM: 310-709-9101 ❖ lee@lmcohn.com ❖ www.lmcohn.com



CAREER OBJECTIVE: *A tenured or full-time position in a theater or film department wherein my teaching and professional experience can contribute to a challenging, inspiring, practical, and professionally-oriented training program.*

ACADEMIC & CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Co-authored “A Practical Handbook for the Actor,” the bestselling acting textbook of the last 30 years; #1 bestselling acting book on Amazon. Over 300,000 copies sold.
- 20+ years as Master Teacher with the Atlantic Acting School and the New World School of the Arts.
- Associate Professor at NYU/SCPS; *Award-winning faculty member; class sold out for 12 straight years*
- Profiled as one of the top acting teachers in the USA in “Qualified Acting Coaches: NY”
- Warner Bros Comedy Writers Workshop Alumnus (One of 25 writers chosen annually out of over 1,000 applicants.)
- Feature film producer; recently produced *Bachelor Lions* for RiverRock Films.

EDUCATION

University of California, Riverside/Palm Desert

MFA Creative Writing and Writing for the Performing Arts (Screenwriting), 2011

William Rabkin, Joshua Malkin (Screenwriting); Charles Evered, Rickerby Hinds (Playwriting); Deanne Stillman (Creative Non-Fiction). 3.875 GPA

Thesis Committee member Professor Stu Kreiger: “I have to say, this is the most polished and professional thesis screenplay I have read this year. You did a terrific job of creating a script with a strong & compelling narrative drive, a very atmospheric setting and characters that were easy to relate to with distinct and separate voices. Excellent work.”

New York University/Tisch School of the Arts

BFA Drama; Psychology Minor Honors: Departmental Scholarship, Dean’s List

NYU Practical Aesthetics Workshop

David Mamet, William H. Macy, Jose Santana (Acting), Lindsay Crouse (Movement), Gregory Mosher (Directing); Guest Faculty: Shel Silverstein, Elaine May, Peter Reigert, many others

NYU Experimental Theatre Wing

Spalding Gray, Ron Argelander, Ken Grantham, Rina Yerushalmi (Acting), Mary Overlie (Movement, “Viewpoints”), Anne Bogart (Directing), Prudence Holmes (Voice/Speech)

The Drama Studio, London

Honors: Society of British Fight Directors' Proficiency Award; Youngest attendee

Patrick Tucker (Shakespeare), Prunella Scales (Restoration Comedy), Cecily Berry (Voice)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of California, Riverside/Palm Desert Creative Writing MFA
INVITED GUEST LECTURER

2018

- Lecture MFA students on independent filmmaking
- Participate in roundtable lectures on screenwriting and film production
- Meet one-on-one with MFA students to advise on script and production strategies for aspiring independent filmmakers
- Mentor screenwriting students on feature film scripts

American Musical and Dramatic Academy – New York & Los Angeles
ACTING FACULTY MEMBER

1991-1994; 2017

- Scene Study
- Shakespeare, Comedy, & Styles
- Master Classes for graduating seniors
- Technique, scene study and script analysis to advanced seniors
- Taught Cold Reading, Audition & Monologue Workshop

Atlantic Theater Company Acting School, New York & Los Angeles
MASTER INSTRUCTOR/SENIOR FACULTY MEMBER

1992 – Present

Co-founded with David Mamet, William H. Macy, Felicity Huffman, Kristen Johnston, Clark Gregg.

- Taught text analysis, scene study & technique to Professional Program & NYU Drama students, and Los Angeles-based professional actors and Conservatory students
- Taught comedy, “styles,” audition skills and Master Classes to advanced students
- Directed and produced NYU & Professional Program student productions
- *Executive Director* of Los Angeles branch of school (2002 – 2005) Responsibilities included: Faculty and Curriculum Coordinator, Industry Liaison, West Coast program development
- Currently teach periodic intensive workshops in Los Angeles

New World School of The Arts, Miami – ADJUNCT PROFESSOR

1990 - Present

- Teach text analysis, scene study and technique at high school and college levels
- Consult with Dean Patrice Bailey setting curricula for high school and college levels
- Teach Master Classes for College Senior Students
- Lecture on career development for the actor
- Direct Mainstage student productions

Lee Michael Cohn Acting Workshops, Inc.

1987 – Present

- Workshops for actors: NYC, Miami, S.F., London, Vancouver, Atlanta, Orlando, and L.A.
- Privately coach professional actors for role preparation and auditions
- Direct students in public “workshop” performances and industry showcases

Relativity School of Film, Media & the Performing Arts

2013 – 2014

- Taught scene study & acting for the camera to adult and teen students
- Taught script analysis and Acting 101 to college/professional students
- Taught fundamentals of filmmaking; Directed/mentored various film projects
- Taught workshops for NBA/NFL athletes: Iman Shumpert, Larry Saunders, Corey Brewer, others

The Los Angeles Film School – FULL TIME FACULTY MEMBER

2011 – 2014

Instructor: Film Theory

- Taught labs for: basic camera & cinematography, fundamentals of storytelling & narrative filmmaking, shooting coverage & scene prep, staging for the camera, communication with actors, script breakdown and analysis

Instructor: Screenwriting I & II

Lecturer: Film and Society/Aesthetic of Culture

- Topics included:
 - Comedy and Satire as Vehicles for Social Commentary in Cinema
 - Adapting true stories into narrative cinema
 - The War Film as Social Barometer
 - The Detective Archetype in Cinema: The Troubled Hero
 - American Mythology in Western Cinema
 - Various counter-culture topics: “Beats, Hippies & Punks”, “The Art of Protest”, “Obscenity and the Artist”

Instructor: Directing I, II, III

- Supervised student projects
- Assisted with staging, shot selection & directing actors
- Advised and mentored student scripts

Instructor: English Composition & Creative Writing

- Taught writing fundamentals: syntax, sentence structure
- Taught literary forms including: formal business writing, short story, poetry, narrative, and satire

MetaStory Online Workshop, Mongolia – PRIMARY LECTURER

2014

- Taught a real-time, online, government-sponsored filmmaking workshop for young Mongolian filmmakers. (Screenwriting, Cinematography, Preproduction and Directing)

California State University at Northridge

2012 – 2013

PLAYWRIGHT-IN-RESIDENCE, “VETERANS IN THEATER PROJECT”

- Two-time grant recipient
- Adapted non-fiction book “The Bonus Army” into a stage play
- Lecture on Depression-era “Bonus March”
- Co-created curriculum on historical theater as social protest
- Worked with students on creating original theater pieces based on their military experiences
- Co-directed performance projects

NYU School of Continuing and Professional Studies – ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR 1990 – 2002

- Taught beginner-level scene study, script analysis and technique
- *Award-winning faculty member; class sold out for over 10 straight years*

Milken Community High School – DRAMA DIRECTOR

2003 – 2006

- Taught Beginner through Advanced Acting
- Taught Beginner through Advanced Dramatic Writing
- Directed and produced Mainstage productions

Milken (cont'd)

- Coordinated and directed drama class performance and recital projects
- Mentored student film and theater projects
- W.I.S.E National Internship Program Mentor/Liaison to [scrubs] TV show
- Directed entries to DTASC Drama Festivals – Medalists in multiple categories
- Created dramatic literature “pathfinder” cross-referenced database for school library

The Studio on the Drive, Vancouver, Canada – VISITING ARTIST 2011 – Present

- Teach script analysis/scene study workshops to professional Canadian actors
- Lecture on Practical Aesthetics
- Teach/coach actors on audition skills
- Collaborate with Studio Director (Aaron Craven) on performance projects

Marymount Manhattan College, NYC – FACULTY MEMBER 1991 – 1992

- Taught Freshman Acting I (technique, scene study and script analysis)
- Taught Acting For Non-Majors

Virginia Governor’s School for the Humanities & Performing Arts 2011
Teaching Fellowship to teach gifted high school seniors in month-long intensive program

- Taught Scene Study/Script Analysis, On-camera acting, Improvisation
- Directed showcase performance
- Created current acting curriculum

The Actor’s Centre, London, UK 2010

- Lectured on “Current independent film production in Hollywood.”
- Taught acting workshops to professional actors in London

Screen Actor’s Guild Summer Conservatory @ AFI 2008 – 2009

- Invited teacher/lecturer on Practical Aesthetics Acting Technique
- Invited Panelist on “Approaches to Acting”

On-Set Acting Coach: “Just Kickin’ It” (TV Pilot) Poop-A-Lot Productions 2005

- Worked closely with actors in preparing various comedy sketches
- Worked on-set as acting coach/associate director

Sussex County, NJ Teen Arts Festival 1991

- Adjudicated high school competition
- Made recommendations for State and Regional competitions
- Taught acting workshops

Dade County Drama Teachers Association 1990

- Lectured on "First Principles Of Acting"
- Gave participatory technique and script analysis workshop

THEATRE DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

PROFESSIONAL (PARTIAL LIST)

- *INSIDE PRIVATE LIVES* Kristen Stone Entertainment.
LA Weekly Pick of the Week; Recommended *twice* by LA Times; raves in NY Times, others;
Top 10 Edinburgh Theatre Festival, 2007 (out of 2,000+ shows), Winner S.F. Fringe Festival.
- *THE BITCH GODDESS* Playwright's Horizons, NYC
- One-acts by David Mamet, Shel Silverstein, others Atlantic Theater Company, NYC
- *SPIN CYCLE* Short Fuse Theater Company, Los Angeles
An evening of original short plays (co-wrote/co-produced)
- *HOLDING PATTERNS* Short Fuse Theater Company, Los Angeles
An evening of original short plays (co-wrote/co-produced)
- *BREAST MEN* (NY Premiere) Full Moon Prods (John Houseman Studio), NYC
By Bill Bozzone & Joe DiPietro
& *WOMEN OF MANHATTAN* by John Patrick Shanley
- *THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE* Hudson Guild Theatre, NYC
By Bertolt Brecht

ACADEMIC/EDUCATIONAL DIRECTING (PARTIAL LIST)

- *MUSEUM* by Tina Howe Atlantic Theater Co. Professional Program
- *GOD* By Woody Allen & Atlantic Theater Co. Professional Program
THE NATURE & PURPOSE OF THE UNIVERSE by Christopher Durang
- *WONDERFUL PARTY & CRITICAL APPROVAL* NYU/Tisch Festival (Faculty Member)
By Howard Korder
- *MUSEUM* by Tina Howe New World School of the Arts, Miami
- *SURE THING* by David Ives NYU/Atlantic Theater Co. (Faculty Member)
- *THE SUICIDE* by Nikolai Erdman Milken Community High School
- *ANIMAL FARM* (Musical) Milken Community High School
By Sir Peter Hall, Adrian Mitchell & Richard Peaslee
- *THE COMPLETE WORKS OF SHAKESPEARE* {abridged} Milken Community High School
By Adam Long, Daniel Singer & Jess Winfield

Directed over 40 student/professional showcases in New York from 1990 – 2001

PROFESSIONAL PRODUCING/DIRECTING (PARTIAL LIST)

FEATURE FILM PRODUCTION

7 DAYS AS A KINGPIN Producer/RiverRock Films (2019)
Feature film currently in pre-production.

DISINFORMATION Executive Producer/RiverRock Films (2019)
Feature film currently in development.

BACHELOR LIONS Producer/RiverRock Films (2016)
Feature film starring David Arquette, Jon Lovitz, Hal Sparks, James Maslow, Mitchel Musso, Rene Olstead, Robert Davi

TELEVISION

CRIME SHARE Director/Writer/Producer. TV Pilot. Route 17 Productions.

THE HEAVY SHOW Staff writer/producer/segment director of comedy content and monologue jokes for Heavy.com (22 million hits per month), hosted by Taryn Southern.

DODGE CALIBER Associate Producer. Commercial spots to launch Dodge Caliber. Sander/Moses with Ugo.com.

EXECUTIVE EXPERIENCE

- **CURRENT: Executive Producer/Producer, RiverRock Films.** Currently raising funds for a slate of theatrical films all starring A-List Talent
- **VP of Development, Red River Pictures.** Responsibilities included development of material for film, TV and various digital media as well as fundraising.
- **Principal Partner/VP of Development, Cinemagic Entertainment.** Responsibilities included development of material for film, TV and various digital media.

WRITING (PARTIAL LIST)

THEATRE

- Cal State Northridge, Veterans in Theatre Project
 - Playwright-In-Residence
 - Two-time Grant Recipient
- Short Fuse Theater Company, LA.
 - Wrote, produced, and directed various critically acclaimed one-act plays.
- Various plays produced off-off-Broadway in New York City

TV/SCREENWRITING

HOW DOES THIS END?

Sold original screenplay to RiverRock Films, slated for production in 2019.

CELEBRITY RELAPSE

Optioned original screenplay to RiverRock Films.

RUSSIAN BRIDES

Created original sitcom for TNT (top Russian TV network).

PRIME TIME IN NO TIME

Co-wrote pilot for daily webcast on yahoo.com (with Jimmy Della Valle)

FRAZE & FRIENDS (United Radio Networks)

Head Writer/Co-Producer. Pilot for nationally syndicated comedy/talk radio show starring Frazer Smith.

IN GOOD FAITH – Optioned original screenplay (Cinemagic Entertainment)

JUST KICKIN' IT

Wrote comedy sketches for Indy TV Pilot.

2001 WARNER BROS COMEDY WRITERS WORKSHOP

One of 25 writers chosen annually out of over 1,000 applicants for Hollywood's top comedy writing workshop, held on the WB lot. Lee was placed on the WB TV Comedy Development recommendation list for staff job placement. (Mentor: Julia Gunn)

LIZARD CITY

Optioned original sitcom to Enchantment Films. Co-written with Grubb Graebner

DEALS WITH THE DEVIL

Optioned original dramatic series to Enchantment Films. Co-written with Grubb Graebner

POLITICALLY CORRECT BEDTIME STORIES CD-ROM

Staff writer for CD-Rom animation. (Vanguard Media/MacMillian)

One of 25 Semi-Finalists out of 2,500 applicants for the 2002 Disney Writing Fellowship; Finalist in Scriptapalooza Writing Competition (Sitcom)

COMMERCIAL/ADVERTISING/NOT-FOR-PROFIT

JOHN LOVITZ COMEDY SHOW

Wrote radio spots and promos for The John Lovitz Hawaiian Tropic Comedy Tour.

THE FOUNDATION FOR ETHNIC UNDERSTANDING

- Nationally aired PSA's for Martin Luther King Day and post-9/11 appeals for tolerance, starring Stevie Wonder and Russell Simmons
- Produced benefit events that raised over \$5 million.

ART & WORK ENSEMBLE: LITERARY DIRECTOR/CO-PUBLICITY DIRECTOR

Wrote press releases and PR materials for New York-based theatre company. Also worked closely with playwrights in developing plays for production.

PUBLISHED WRITING

A PRACTICAL HANDBOOK FOR THE ACTOR (Vintage Books)

- Textbook used in hundreds of major conservatories, including NYU and A.R.T/HARVARD
 - Translated into Japanese, Chinese, Dutch and Turkish
 - **Over 300,000 copies sold; best-selling acting book of the last 25 years**
 - **#1 best-selling acting book on Amazon.com**
- ❖ “The best book on acting written in the last 20 years” – David Mamet (1985)
- ❖ “Simple, clear and concise – just what was needed. A deeply interesting and valuable piece of work.” – Sidney Lumet
- ❖ “This terse and lucid handbook might well be for the actor what *The Elements of Style* is for the writer.” – John Guare

SANTA MONICA MIRROR (Print circulation over 150,000) – EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

- Chose editorial content for print and online versions
- Layout, copy editing, proofreading
- Numerous published works including:
 - Theatre review: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Theatricum Botanicum
 - Theatre review: *Klub*, The Actor's Gang (Tim Robbins, Artistic Director)
 - Film review: *Casino Royale*
 - TV review: *Brando: A Documentary* (TNT)
 - TV review: *Comedy Central Roast of William Shatner*
 - Interview with Paula Poundstone
 - Interview with Don Felder (Eagles)
 - An Evening with Ray Bradbury
 - Music review: Playboy Jazz Festival
 - George Carlin Memorial Tribute (cover story)

THE SANTA MONICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MAGAZINE – EDITOR

Annual distribution over 100,000 including major hotels and tourist/business destinations.

- Choose editorial content
- Copy editing, layout & proofreading
- Wrote advertorial

THE BAYSIDE GUIDE TO DOWNTOWN SANTA MONICA – EDITOR

Edited several editions of publication promoting local businesses and points of interest in Santa Monica.

- Chose editorial content/wrote features and advertorial
- Copy editing, layout & proofreading

Professional Acting Experience

SAG AEA

FILM/TV

REDBELT (Dir. David Mamet)	MMA Fighter	Sony Classics
THE REFLECTING POOL	Conservative Pundit (Principal)	Jarec Kupsc Prods
MICK AND JAGGER	Doctor (Principal)	Independent Pilot
LAW & ORDER (Dir. Jace Alexander)	Process Server (Principal)	Dick Wolf Productions
HARLEM ARIA (Dir. Bill Jennings)	Policeman (Principal)	Bent Nail Prods
THE PAPERWAIT	Avery McMann (Lead)	HKD Productions
HOMICIDE (Dir. David Mamet)	Officer Kahn (Featured)	Triumph Releasing
THE NEW IMPROVED ME (Educational)	Jr. High History Teacher	Bossert Inc
RED LIPSTICK (Dir. Alex King)	Detective Mallory (Featured)	Terra Firma Films
DISTANCE	Arthur (Lead)	NYU Thesis Project

THEATER

OOPS! WE DID IT AGAIN!	Angry Rock Fan	Short Fuse Theater Co.
MEASURE FOR MEASURE	Lucio	Epiphany Theatre Co.
MUD PEOPLE	Buzzy	Art & Work Ensemble
HOT L BALTIMORE	Mr. Katz	AWE
120 SECONDS	Dr. Gary Lanski	AWE
BUDDY STARR'S SAVE THE WORLD		
TELETHON	Various roles/Secret Svc. Agent	AWE
WINNERS OF THE WHITE ATOMIC		
SWEEPSTAKES (Dir. Tim Raphael)	Zonk	Home
JULIUS CAESAR (Dir. Geoffrey Owens)	Cassius	Brooklyn Shakespeare
DRAMATIC CIRCLE	American Ambassador	Dodge Foundation
BEEN TAKEN (Dir. William H. Macy)	Dennis (w/Felicity Huffman)	Atlantic Theater Co.
A NIGHT OUT	Kedge	ATC
DECADENCE (Dir. Steven Schachter)	Les	ATC
YES, BUT SO WHAT?/THE BLUE HOUR	B/Doctor (Dir. Clark Gregg)	ATC
VICTORIA STATION/PINTER SKETCHES	Controller/Various Roles	ATC
THE HOTEL PLAY	Quivering Chest/Inez's Husband	ATC
ROAD TRIP	Vernon	Action Theatre
OMICRON, O OMICRON	Malcolm Brennan	Action Theatre
THE RAPTURE 2-STEP	Frank	NYC Showcase
THE QUIETEST DEATH IN THE WORLD	Al	H.B. Playwrights
ANTIGONE	Haemon (w/Gina Gershon)	721 Broadway
TEQUILA	Campbell	Mainstage Theatre
MARAT/SADE	Mad Animal/Lavoisier	Vandam Theatre
ROMEO AND JULIET	Romeo	London, UK
LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT	Jamie	London, UK

SPECIAL SKILLS

Stage Combat (Society of British Fight Directors Award); Martial Arts [3rd Degree Black Belt, Ninjutsu]; Dialects; Sports

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

ACADEMIC

1. Ariel Levy, Former Chair of Film Studies, LA Film School, 310-948-2113
arielle1@verizon.net
2. Dr. Michael Peter Bolus, Director of Liberal Arts Studies, LA Film School
323-860-0789 mbolus@lafilm.edu
3. Glenn Kalison, President, Studio School 310-622-4136 gkalison@relativityschool.org

ACADEMIC (cont'd)

4. Mary McCann, Director, Atlantic Theater Company Acting School
212-691-5919 mmccann@atlantictheater.org
5. Patrice Bailey, Dean of Theater, New World School of the Arts, Miami
305-237-3458 pbailey@mdc.edu
6. Tod Goldberg, Program Director, UC Riverside Creative Writing & Writing for the Performing Arts MFA 760-834-0928 tod.goldberg@ucr.edu
7. Morgan Sandler, Film Professor, University of LaVerne, Former Film Theory Course Director, LA Film School 818-355-3795 msandler20@gmail.com

ACADEMIC COLLEAGUES

1. David Kwiat, Former Professor of Acting, New World School of the Arts, Miami.
305-237-8888 dkwiat@mdc.edu
2. Doug Kaback, Acting Instructor Cal State, Northridge dkaback@gmail.com 310-418-5183

ACTORS

1. Theys Surface, Series regular on *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*, thesysurface@mac.com
2. Kristin Stone, Producer/Actress, *Inside Private Lives* kristinstone@gmail.com
3. Molly Hagen, Veteran actress firstmh@sbcglobal.net
4. Lane Garrison, *Prison Break*, *Roots*, *Bonnie & Clyde* lanegarrison9@hotmail.com
5. Erica Rhodes, Award-winning stand-up comic/actress ericarhodes@gmail.com

PERSONAL/PROFESSIONAL

1. David Mamet (To speak with Mr. Mamet, I will arrange for his office to contact you.)
2. Clark Gregg, Actor/Director, *Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D* (To speak with Mr. Gregg, I will arrange for his office to contact you.)
3. Paul Bunch, CEO, RiverRock Films PaulBunch@riverrockfilms.com 323-459-4269
4. Gregg Ostrin, Screenwriter, promo producer. 626-665-1863 greggzane@aol.com
5. Steven B. Ray, Music industry executive/producer, former personal assistant to Quincy Jones.
310-500-2111 steven.redriverpictures@gmail.com.
6. Lawrence Kopp, Director of The TASC Group (Media communications company).
917-282-2357 larry@thetascgroup.com

“A terrific actor and a passionate, dedicated student of the theatre. That he became a fine teacher came as no surprise to me. His writing is sharp, funny and original, and he brings much to the table both creatively and as an educator.” – David Mamet

“I've known Lee for over 20 years now, and what a terrific teacher he's become. From Chicago to Vermont to New York to LA, there have been many productions and many many students. I love to talk technique with him!” – William H. Macy “Shameless”, Emmy winner “Door To Door”

Lee has performed his role with intelligence, passion, and humor to the extent that students reported that they had gained more from the few weeks they encountered him than from many other courses in which they had already participated. They appreciated his experience, intelligence and mentorship. Moreover, they were inspired by his philosophical and aesthetic approach. His deep experience in the art of theater and filmmaking is enriched by the profound sensibilities he brings to the teaching of it.

His ability to communicate such perspectives has added enormously to the student experience. – Ariel Levy, former Chair of Film Studies, LA Film School.

OTHER AREAS OF INTEREST

Martial Artist (Third Degree Black Belt in Ninjutsu), Film and music memorabilia collector, blues freak, Apple geek. Can make a mean omelet. Proud father of actress Danielle Cohn and photographer Ava Cohn.