

24th January 2011

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Mr Jeremy Brookes

It has been my pleasure to have known Jeremy since he first took part in a workshop in Audition Preparation here at Birmingham School of Acting in Spring, 2010. At this point he was in the process of making initial applications to Drama Schools.

He subsequently applied for and was offered a place on the Foundation Course in Acting.

Jeremy is an extremely enthusiastic and also a highly disciplined student. It is clear that he has a genuine passion for the theatre and a real desire to be a professional actor. In common with many young candidates, he has much to learn about the history and nature of the business as well as about the processes of acting, but it is very difficult to fault the energy and application he brings to the challenges of learning.

He is always well prepared for classes and takes research tasks very seriously. He is usually amongst the first to have lines learned, he is always amongst the first into class or rehearsal. His attendance record is excellent and his punctuality exemplary. In many ways, he is a model student.

His grasp of text work is excellent. He reads well and has a quick comprehension of the dramatic implications of modern text. He tends to find classical text slightly more challenging, but this is not at all uncommon in young actors.

He finds movement classes are a challenge, and although he is making good progress in this area, he still needs to work on co-ordination and balance.

When he started the Foundation Course, his work was inhibited by a very high level of physical tension. During the first term of the Course he has relaxed considerably, but this remains an area in which he needs to apply himself to achieve release. This tension also currently inhibits Jeremy's transformational skills; this is another area in which he working hard, and where progress has been seen.

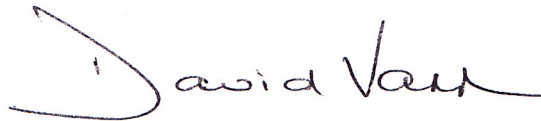
Inevitably this tension also has an impact on his vocal work, which suffers a little as a result. I have been very impressed by the way in which Jeremy has confronted this issue. Although there is still a great deal to be done, the progress he has made in a very short time suggests that there is scope for continued progress and development. The work he is capable of producing when he is physically free and released is of a high standard.

PTO

Perhaps he sometimes takes his work a little too earnestly and it might be beneficial for him to learn to lighten up occasionally.

I think that Jeremy is demonstrating potential for training, but he is aware that there is still a lot to be done in order to achieve the fearless freedom of mind and body needed to succeed in his ambition.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Vann". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial 'D'.

David Vann
Course Director – Foundation & Part-time Courses

david.vann@bcu.ac.uk
www.bcu.ac.uk/pme/school-of-acting

Tel: 0121 331 7558
Fax: 0121 331 7221