

# Creative Collaboration Between the Director and The Actor

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**Abstract:** This article analyzes the importance of the creative collaboration between the director and the actor in the art of theater, methods for enhancing the effectiveness of this process, and the necessity of this collaboration for the success of the stage performance. It discusses various stylistic approaches based on the experiences of famous directors and actors.

**Keywords:** Creative process, stage works, imagery, character, directing, acting, exchange of experience, character.

**Introduction:** In the creative process of theater, the director and the actor stand at the center. Their mutual understanding, trust, and collaboration determine the artistic level of the performance. This collaboration is not limited to merely executing technical tasks but plays a crucial role in creating the psychological and emotional depth of the character on stage. A director is someone who, in addition to having professional knowledge in the field of theater, possesses a profound understanding of various other fields and has the ability to closely observe life. [1, P.114-115]. The director, as the main author of the stage production, provides a theatrical interpretation of the dramatic text. The actor, on the other hand, is the creative tool that brings this interpretation to life. Their collaboration is defined by several key factors, with the actor delving deep into the character only when he or she believes in the director's vision. During the rehearsal process, the director and actor experiment together to find the most effective means of expression. The director must give the actor freedom, but it is important that this freedom does not deviate from the overall thematic line of the play. For example, directors like Konstantin Stanislavski and Vsevolod Meyerhold considered the creative dialogue with the actor to be the heart of theater. They allowed the actor the freedom to work on the character, but they maintained strict control over the overall rhythm and conceptual direction of the performance. The creative collaboration between the

director and actor is a joint effort toward a common goal, and it plays a crucial role in the development of theater as an art form. Behind every successful performance lies this sincere and effective collaboration. Strengthening this partnership remains a priority in theater education and practice. Directing is the process of shaping the overall appearance of a work presented on stage or screen, in which the content of the work, characters, actions, stage composition and other artistic elements are presented as a cohesive whole. Acting is the art and skill of actors in creating characters, through their deep understanding of the character, emotions, actions, and speech, bringing the meaning of the work to life. The director guides the actors on how to create characters and reveal their traits. The actor, in turn, realizes the director's ideas based on their individual talent. As a result of their collaboration, each character becomes vivid and believable. The elements of directing art originated in traditional Uzbek theater and it was referred to as korfarmon. [2, B 75] The director places each element on stage (movement, decoration, lighting, sound) in a balanced way, but these elements must be correctly expressed by the actors. Actors must move appropriately according to the situation on stage, and the director provides the right guidance for them. The director plays a significant role in establishing emotional and psychological connections between actors. There must be trust and mutual understanding

between the actors, as they need to be able to respond correctly to each other's actions and intentions. Actors bring the director's ideas to life. Their creativity is based on the director's vision and intentions for expression on stage.

The actor's skill and experience help in a deeper understanding of the work's meaning and each situation on stage. The director, in turn, shapes the actor's performance and guides it in the right direction. An actor's role is to embody a specific character on stage or screen, transforming their traits, emotions, and actions. The actor's role is not only about external appearance but also about shaping the character's inner world, emotions, thoughts, and social and psychological aspects, creating a unique persona. Through their art and creativity, the actor makes the events on stage or screen believable and lifelike. The main task of the actor is to portray their character clearly and convincingly on stage or screen. To achieve this, the actor must fulfill several elements. The actor needs to understand the character's traits, goals, fears, inner world, and development. A deep analysis of the character's psychology, historical, and social aspects is essential. Through their role, the actor must express the character's inner emotions authentically. The ability to express emotions clearly and accurately, presenting them to the audience in a convincing way, defines an actor's skill. The actor also takes on the responsibility of fully embodying the character physically. This includes their walk, hand gestures, facial expressions, body posture, and other physical elements. The actor's voice and speech are also crucial. Through variations in tone, speed, intonation, and accents, the actor expresses the character's traits, emotional state, and level of sentiment. Actors rely on several approaches to create their character on stage or screen. Each actor may use a unique method, but the most common methods include: Stanislavski's system: The primary focus of this method is to understand the character's inner world, their emotions, thoughts, and motivations. The actor uses techniques like "feeling the emotion" and "showing the inner life" to bring the character to life. Meyerhold's system: This approach focuses on the transformation and elevation of an actor's movements, aiming to perform each action in a precise and defined manner. In this method, stage actions are developed in several layers. Lev Dodin's method: This is a creative process where the actor focuses on "improvisation" and "concentration," allowing for flexibility and personal interpretation of the character while remaining connected to the director's overall vision. Each method offers a different pathway for the actor to engage deeply with their character, allowing them to create an authentic and compelling performance. In this

method, the actor always strives to create something new on stage. The following stages are crucial in creating the role: the actor thoroughly studies how they should behave on stage, how to perform actions and speeches. This includes mastering body posture, clear pronunciation, and coordinating movements. The actor studies the psychological aspects of the character. During this stage, they aim to gain a deeper understanding of the character's emotions, thought processes, and worldview. While performing the role on stage, the actor must sometimes be ready to make adjustments and adapt to new situations. Each stage performance is unique, so the actor must continuously adjust to the changing circumstances on stage. In many scholarly works [4], topics such as the basics of directing and acting, stage performance techniques, and collaboration between the actor and director are explored, highlighting the significance of the relationship between the two. The director manages and guides the actor's creativity, instructing them on how to express the character. Based on these instructions, the actor brings their own creativity to life. The mutual understanding and trust between both parties ensure the success of the performance, as the actor delves into the character's history, the surrounding world, goals, and relationships with others. Moreover, the actor analyzes the character's other traits and the process of their development. The actor activates their own emotions, aligning them with the character's feelings to embody the emotional connections that arise. Every action, speech, and facial expression is based on the character's internal motivations, and the actor adjusts their movements to match the character's emotional state. The role is not only composed of external appearance or large stage actions, but also involves expressing the inner world, emotions, decisions, and movements. Through their skill, creativity, and intuitive sense, the actor brings the character to life. The actor's role is one of the most important aspects of art, and their believable and profound performance makes the artistic work real and valuable.

The director is the artist responsible for staging and performing the work in theater, film, television, and other forms of stage art. Their task is to create the overall appearance of the work, properly organize each scene and element, and bring the artwork to life by working with actors and technical staff. During the process of creating the work, the director makes artistic and technical decisions and communicates their idea or vision to the actors and other members of the creative team. They coordinate all aspects of the work (stage, actors, lighting, music, decorations, etc.). The director develops the overall concept of the work and plans all

the details of its staging. They manage the actors' performances, guide them on how to express their characters, create the characters' motivations and inner world, and ensure the correct development of their emotions, actions, and speech. The director determines the composition and dramaturgy for each scene, which involves organizing the stage, determining where actions should take place, setting the location, and incorporating other visual elements. The director makes numerous creative decisions to establish the artistic atmosphere of the stage. They decide on how lighting, music, the significance of the set, costumes, and other technical elements will be used. During the staging process, the director collaborates with technical staff, including operators, set designers, lighting specialists, and other personnel in the field. Their work helps realize the director's vision. The director's approach and style are typically influenced by their artistry and experience. Common approaches include: Realistic directing, in this approach, the director bases the events and characters of the work on real life, aiming for actors to move and behave in a natural and believable way. This style is often seen in modern drama or film. Expressionism: this approach focuses on expressing the director's inner emotions and psychological state. In expressionism, actions, speech, and set designs on stage are often exaggerated and abstract, with a strong emphasis on portraying the emotional intensity of the characters and the atmosphere. Each of these methods offers a different way to interpret and present the material, allowing the director to shape the performance in alignment with their creative vision. In this approach, the director abandons real life and conveys information through symbols. Each element or action carries meaning and is layered with multiple interpretations. The director aims to highlight the meaninglessness or absurdity of life. Actions and situations are often ambiguous, suspended, and paradoxical. The director's process is divided into several stages. Before staging the work, the director develops its artistic concept. During this phase, they collaborate with the writers, playwrights, and other members of the creative team. The director creates an initial plan for working with the actors and the technical team during the rehearsal process. They work with the actors to assemble the scenes, refining each scene and character. The director brings their creative ideas to life in order to create each character in a unique and believable way. The director manages rehearsals with the actors, striving to improve each scene and action. Simultaneously, the director focuses on technical details in collaboration with the stage and technical teams. Throughout the entire process, the director must consistently control the stage, ensuring that the

artistic and technical elements are well-coordinated and aligned with the overall vision of the performance. The director observes the actors' performances and the overall atmosphere on stage. They must respond quickly to any changes and maintain control over the situation on stage. The director's style often reflects their artistic and creative views, and they work with all members of the creative team on the project. They communicate their creative decisions to the team and organize the work to function as a cohesive unit. The director's works often address social or cultural issues, presenting their position or ideas on stage or screen, which can have a significant impact on the audience. The director is both the creator and the organizational mastermind of the art form, bringing their ideas and art to life through the medium, whether on stage or on screen. The director's skill and creative approach directly affect the success of the artwork. They manage not only the technical aspects but also the actors' creativity, stage composition, dramaturgy, and the overall visual presentation of the work. In doing so, they ensure that the artwork is presented as a complete, cohesive piece. The director is the person who controls the actor's performance and the style of expression on stage. In working with actors, the director identifies their strengths and directs them toward delivering a precise and accurate interpretation of their roles. By altering or fine-tuning the actors' movements and dialogue, the director shapes the overall atmosphere of the performance. The success of stage art is fundamentally based on effective communication. The relationship between the director and the actors is crucial in this process. The director must guide the actor on how to execute their actions on stage, while the actor, in turn, must express their emotions and experiences through their performance. Trust and mutual understanding are essential in this collaboration. The connection between directing and acting leads to the true elevation of the art form. Actors perform their roles based on the director's ideas and instructions, while the director successfully manages the actors' creative potential to bring the scene to life. Their collaboration ensures the charm, power, and depth of the art form.

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