

[Ebook pdf] Group Improvisation: The Manual of Ensemble Improv Games

## Group Improvisation: The Manual of Ensemble Improv Games

*Peter Gwinn, Charna Halpern*

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**Peter Gwinn, Charna Halpern : Group Improvisation: The Manual of Ensemble Improv Games** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Group Improvisation: The Manual of Ensemble Improv Games:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Thanks Peter Charna! By Jill Bernard This book is a great list of exercises and does an excellent job of explaining clearly how to play them. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Improv Primer By Dawn D Hansen This is a great little book for newbies to the improv comedy world. It

is easy to use and the games are fun. It gives great ideas on how to use them and is helpful for anyone wanting to take up improv or teach a beginner class. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three Stars By asaI expected more... a bit shallow...

Who would have thought that participating in group improvisation could be so enlightening and rewarding! Over 40 improv games for developing group chemistry are included in this concise book, organized into sections: Bonding, Focus, Awareness, Creation, Energy, Dynamics and more. Every group, not just improv teams, benefits from increased communication, and author Peter Gwinn reveals many secrets about how to facilitate this connection in fun and creative ways. The many improv games and exercises he presents here, appropriate for high school age or older thespians, help heighten awareness, break the ice, increase concentration and wire brains together. Gwinn and his colleagues at the iO Theater in Chicago developed the concept of "The Group Mind" to create a synergy between team members. With this increased connection, your actors feel part of a greater entity, with a sense of excitement, belonging and importance that takes teamwork to a new level.

About the Author Peter Gwinn is the founder of the musical improv group Baby Wants Candy. After over a decade of improvising and teaching in Chicago, he moved to New York in 2005, where he played with The Stepfathers and Arsenal at the UCB Theater. Peter has taught at the Improv Olympic and UCB Theaters. He is currently a writer for the Colbert Report in New York. Variety called her one of the top ten women to watch in entertainment. Mike Myers named her the Uta Hagen of Comedy. Charna Halpern, the co-creator of long-form improvisation with her partner, the late Del Close, has changed the face of improvisational comedy forever. Halpern and Close created their famous signature long-form piece, the Harold, a meta-game that "ate" short-form improvisation and became popular worldwide. Halpern and Close have been responsible for creating the talents and sensibilities of some of the biggest comedic stars in show business. Together and apart, their alumni include John Belushi, Bill Murray, Gilda Radner, Mike Myers, Chris Farley, Tina Fey, Amy Poehler, Andy Dick, Andy Richter, Adam McKay, David Koechner and many other illustrious cast members and writers of Saturday Night Live, MADtv, Late Night with Conan O'Brien, The Daily Show and The Colbert Report. As director of i.O. in Chicago (formerly ImprovOlympic), and i.O. West in Los Angeles, Halpern recently celebrated her twenty-fifth year in business with the return of all of her alumni in a star-studded celebration in Chicago that will soon yield a DVD and a television special. Under Halpern's guidance, i.O. is producing the next generation of artistic geniuses. In addition to directing and teaching at i.O., Halpern travels the world teaching seminars in improvisation. She was hired by The American Embassy in Cyprus to teach her philosophy of agreement to the Greek and Turkish Cypriots in an effort to bridge their communication gap. Her first book, Truth in Comedy, is considered the bible for improvisation in the entertainment industry and is mandatory reading in theatre departments on most college campuses.