



# How to Slate Your Performance

SLATING PERFORMANCES AND TECHNICAL PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

UPDATED SPRING 2017

## What is a Slate?

A slate is a clear, simple introduction to your performance piece, including the names of the performers, the title and playwright for the material, and the identification of the performer's Thespian Troupe.

## Why Do We Slate?

When your work is being judged—as it is in an academic setting, a festival, or an audition—it's important that the adjudicators match the performance they are seeing with the data in front of them—whether it's an adjudication form at a Thespian Festival or a headshot and resume at a college or professional audition. Your slate ensures that the judges know they are making notes about the correct performer.

Your slate is an opportunity to express your confidence and organization to an adjudicator. Be **CLEAR**, be **CONFIDENT**, be **WARM**, and be **WINNING**. Don't make unnecessary apologies ("sorry I was late!") or excuses ("I'm a little sick this week, so if I cough, that's why!") Just relax, stand "at ease," and say your truth to the audience.

Proper slating is required for our Thespian Festivals; be aware that expectations at professional and college auditions may vary.

## How Do We Slate?

Be **CLEAR** and **CONFIDENT** and **WARM** and **WINNING** as you look at the adjudicators/audience/etc. and state the following things:

**YOUR NAME(S)**

**THE TITLE AND PLAYWRIGHT FOR YOUR PIECE** (if you don't know the playwright's name, just the title is okay)

**THAT YOU PROUDLY REPRESENT TROUPE 4937** (for Thespian Festival and classroom use only)

### A sample slate for a Duet Acting scene might be:

"My name is Nathan Flagler (' and I'm Susan Rivers') and we will be performing a scene from A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE by Tennessee Williams. We proudly represent Troupe 89999."

### A sample slate for a Costume Design presentation might be:

"My name is Nathan Flagler and I've designed costumes for A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE by Tennessee Williams. I proudly represent Troupe 89999."

Give consideration to what you are doing with your hands, feet, face and voice during your slate. Your slate should represent YOU—not the character you're about to play. You may adapt your slate as needed for other performance categories and for different settings—but whatever you do, be **CLEAR** and **CONFIDENT** and **WARM** and **WINNING**!