

Act Now!

LA's most exclusive
Networking company

**OCTOBER
2007**

Featured Client of the Month!

Congratulations John Bobek!

Happy October to our wonderful clients. Hoping your episodic season is going well! This month, we'd love to give a shout out to this fabulous actor, John Bobek! John has been networking at Act Now since January of 2007. Since networking at Act Now, he has booked roles on "Criminal Minds," "House," "Side Order of Life," and 7 days on "Heartland."



"People scoff and ask me if workshops really work. Well, yeah. It's not a 100% success rate (and if you're looking for that, kindly bow out...sad times are ahead) and some workshops work better than others, but in the end, they're always keeping you

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Interview with Peter Pappas Casting Associate With Valko / Miller Casting!

By: Kenna Dean, Owner of Act Now!



How long have you been with your current office?

I have been with Valko/Miller Casting for 7 years.

What projects are you currently casting?

We are currently casting "Two & a Half Men", "The Big Bang Theory", "Side Order of Life" and "Unhitched" (a new FBC 1/2 hour mid-season for '08)

Can you tell me about your background and how you got into casting?

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September Successes!

(FF = Feature Film)

BOOKED!

Shon Little
Troy Vincent
Jodi Shilling
Matt Jaeger
Deprise Brescia
Joe Kunze
Bobby Sloan

Boston Legal
House
Hannah Montana
Nowhere (Short)
Big Shots
Y & R
Criminal Minds

READ FOR!

Collins Reiter

JR May
Steve Wertheimer

Alex Wright
Dufflyn Lammers

Trisha Simmons
Kimberly Williams

Glenda Morgan Brown

Liz Loza
Aisha Kabia
Helon Lampe

Helene McCardle
Collin Blair
Leslie Karpman
Mischa Bouvion
Julienne Davis
Matt Jaeger
Shana Sosin
Jennipher Lewis
Tim Coyne

Kate Huffman

The Art of Being (FF)
Straight (FF)
Hannah Montana
Half Hour News Hour
Still Waiting (FF)
Criminal Minds
CSI: New York
Backwoods (MOW)
Grave Misconduct
Pushing Daisies
Surfer Dude (FF)
Bachelor #2
New Adventures of
Old Christine
Old Mutual Comm.
Criminal Minds
True Blood
Hannah Montana
Still Waiting (FF)
Las Vegas
Cold Case
CSI: New York
Criminal Minds
Still Waiting (FF)
Honda Comm.
Still Waiting (FF)
Still Waiting (FF)
Moonlight
Still Waiting (FF)
Viva Laughlin

Act Now! is always looking for help. If you're interested in being an intern, night monitor or parking garage attendant, please call us at 818-285-8522.



Peter Pappas, cont. from pg. 1

Before I got into casting, I worked in film finance for Sony Pictures. After feeling a sense that my career needed more excitement, I met with a casting director who told me about her field. Because I am great with people and have a good memory for faces and names, I decided to try my hand at it. Nikki Valko & Ken Miller gave me my first casting assistant job on an NBC pilot and the rest is history.

What are some of your biggest do's and don'ts?

The main thing I tell actors is to come to an audition on time and be prepared. If you can do some research on the show you are auditioning for, be it watching an episode or reading a script, then you will have a sense of the timing and essence of the character you are auditioning for. Always ask questions in a pre-read if you have them, we want you to succeed! As far as don'ts, I would have to say don't give us excuses... we do not care that you just got the material or are tired, etc., be professional and on time. And also, don't miss out on reading the sides thoroughly. Many actors miss the stage direction and other character notes and I just find that to be a lack of preparation and carelessness.

How beneficial do you find workshops in your casting process?

Workshops are so important to me. I love meeting new actors and "discovering" them. I can't say how many times in our office that we set up pre-read sessions for co-star roles with only workshop actors in them. There are many times, when we are in a pinch, that we just don't have the time to release a breakdown so we will call in our workshop actors. Most actors I meet at workshops don't have comedy credits so when I do a comedy workshop and see their strengths with my scenes, then I can feel comfortable pre-reading them in the office and hopefully helping them get that first booking!

Do you attend theatre? Stand-Up Comedy? Showcases other than workshops?

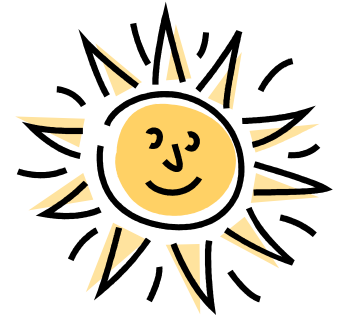
I do attend theatre around town. I love the big productions at the Ahmanson and Mark Taper as well as small quirky theatre around town...anything except for Shakespeare (unless there is nudity!)

Are there any tips you can give an actor who is just starting out in the LA market?

Actors who have just arrived in LA and are starting out should try and get representation, attend acting workshops and just get noticed. Actors should spend 40 hours a week working on their craft be it submitting themselves for breakdowns, taking classes, getting their headshots taken, etc.

Talk about headshots. This seems to always be a big challenge for an actor. What advice can you give them about getting the "right" shot?

We have no preference between color or black and white, as long as it looks like you. Because we do a lot of sitcoms, we tend to see the "comedy" shot which is great... but again, we have an imagination so as long as it looks like you, whether you are



Peter Pappas, cont. from pg. 2

smiling or not, then that is the main requirement. With respect to poses, etc...just be yourself, try and capture the right representation of your character...and mainly, it should be a headshot, ie, of your head.

Let's say an actor has the right look for a role, however doesn't necessarily have the credits you are looking for: how much can good training play into the equation of whether or not you'll bring them in?

Training and schooling is key. If we don't know an actor and there are no credits, then we do look at what training they might have and where they have gone to school, etc.

Do you respond to actors whom you've never met and/or seen their work, who submit directly to you with a headshot/resume or postcard?

If I do not know an actor but they seem to have some decent credits, then I may try and meet them via a pre-read. It's hard to pre-read everyone so again, I can't express enough how important acting workshops are with respect to meeting industry professionals.

What is the best way for an actor to keep in touch with you?

I tell actors to keep me informed of their accomplishments via postcards and if they change their headshots, resumes to mail them to me at my office.

When do you watch reels? For which roles?

I rarely watch them except for online. I like speed reels. If an actor has a reel, then they should make sure it is online. I mainly watch reels when I am in a pinch, have an electronic breakdown out and want to really get a sense of an actor when I have trouble doing so when looking at their submitted materials online.

Thank you for your time and honesty. We look forward to seeing you again soon!

Kenna Dean
Owner, Act Now

John Bobek cont. from pg. 1

in front of people. So in the end, I suppose you also have to realize that a lot of this industry is luck. It's about being able to walk through the door when the rare first opportunities are presented to you. And this place seems to give you a whole hell of a lot more opportunity. Hard working and successful people work hard to create their own luck. This place helps you do it. Or if you just want to find yourself surrounded by beautiful people. Whatever."

Thank you, John! Congratulations again! We wish you continued success!

Love,
The Act Now Gals

