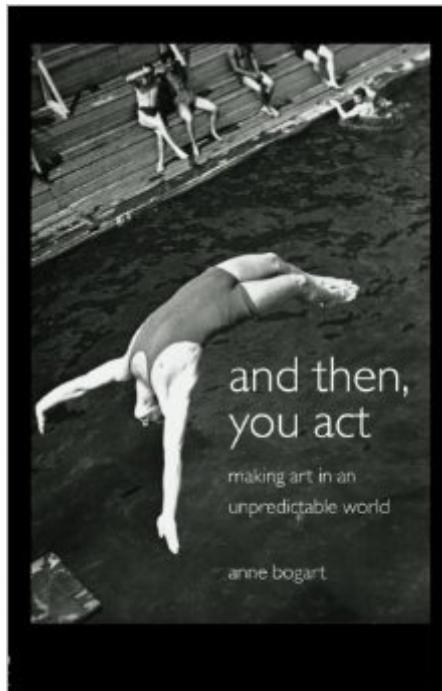


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# And Then, You Act: Making Art In An Unpredictable World



## **Synopsis**

From well-known auteur of the American theatre scene, Anne Bogart, *And Then, You Act* is a fascinating and accessible book about directing theatre, acting and the collaborative creative process. Writing clearly and passionately, Bogart speaks to a wide audience, from undergraduates to practitioners, and makes an invaluable contribution to the field tackling themes such as: intentionality, inspiration, why theatre matters. Following on from her successful book *A Director Prepares*, which has become a key text for teaching directing classes, *And Then, You Act* is an essential practitioner and student resource.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This book is truly a phenomenal work. Building on her previous "A Director Prepares", this book is an examination of why we create art in the world today. It also explores how to create art of worth in today's society. The essay on intention is amazing, and covers what exactly art is, and how it comes about. This book is a must read for any serious theater practitioner.

A very philosophical take on making art. It took me a while to digest Ms. Bogart's genius and will most likely take reviewing several sections many times to glean as much of the wealth of thoughts presented.

I had certainly heard of Ms. Bogart's work before, but when this slim volume arrived, I did not expect

the depth of writing, the passion that she conveys about the theatre - and art itself - in just a couple of hundred pages. This is one of THE best books I have ever read about the theatre - and I've read tons of them, dating back to my Emerson and NYU days as a drama major undergraduate. I wish I had this book then - or maybe I wasn't ready for it until now. The book is brilliant about the use of TIME in art - how to make it work for us, instead of feeling it as a constraint. There is one quote that has stayed with me, which she quotes from another artist: "Things are not difficult to do, it is getting oneself ready to do it that is hard," or something to that effect. On page after page, with a mixture of personal stories, anecdotes from others, examples of plays, books, songs, and other art works, Ms. Bogart does a brilliant job in helping us make sense of the world as artists: beyond the awful reaches of the internet, FOX or MSNBC news, the entire technological mess we have gotten ourselves into, which always threatens to destroy our humanity. The book is as much about the COURAGE needed to create as anything else - and, because Ms. Bogart champions artists of every stripe, the book reads as much as a kind of "self help" manual for artists and, especially, theatre artists, as it does as a primer on what theatre is - and what it is capable of. There is another quote, connected to another author, at the end of this book: "we do theatre to find out who we are - and what we can become." That could stand as the thesis of Ms. Bogart's book as well. It's a superb book and I only wish it was not listed as being so expensive. As an educator, I was able to order this from a publisher at very low cost. I hope they will make this essential book affordable for all - it will do wonders for the inspiration of theatre lovers and artists of all ages. Five stars!

The section on "enthusiasm" is makes the whole book worth while. So true, what performing artist has never felt the wonderfull "tempting" of jumping off the cliff of live performance.

This book is inspiring, educational, and challenging at the same time. Theater work is viewed through a wide enough lens that the material is applicable for actors, directors, playwrights, and designers alike.

If you're a theatre professional of any kind - read this book! Anne Bogart is a pillar of American Theatre and though she name-drops a lot, it helps give her theories reference and backs-up her experiences. LOVE THIS!!!

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