JULIAN MERCER

ACTOR

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Stage and screen actor with 10+ years of regional theatre, television, and commercial credits. Member of Actors' Equity Association and SAG-AFTRA who builds characters from script analysis, works well in ensembles, and takes direction quickly in short rehearsal periods.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Company Actor Feb 2022 - Present
Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Ashland, OR

- Perform principal and supporting roles across three repertory productions a season, 8 shows a week, for houses of up to 600.
- Played the lead in a modern-verse adaptation of a classical comedy for a 42-performance run that reached 91% of seating capacity.
- Learned and performed 1,100+ lines of verse text across two roles by building a daily line schedule with the voice and text coach.
- Led a community school workshop series on Shakespeare for 300 high school students, which was repeated the following season.
- Served as Equity deputy for the company, relaying rehearsal concerns to management and union staff.
- Rehearse new productions in 4 to 5 weeks while performing a different show at night, tracking blocking changes in a personal script for each role.
- Run a pre-show vocal and physical warm-up for the cast of 14 before each performance, which reduced missed-line calls from the stage manager.

Actor Sep 2018 - Jan 2022
American Conservatory Theater, San Francisco, CA

- Performed in four mainstage productions, including a world premiere, adapting performance choices during previews based on audience reaction.
- Created physical and vocal choices for a supporting role in a new play and refined them with the playwright over a 5-week rehearsal period.
- Understudied two principal roles and went on twice with one day of notice, keeping both performances on schedule.
- Took part in post-show talkbacks and educational outreach events with local schools and community groups.
- Worked with the dramaturg to research a historical play, then shared findings with castmates that shaped scene work in week one.
- Joined the understudy rotation for a musical revival, learning two tracks and the full choreography in nine rehearsal days, then covering a principal role once without staging changes.

Actor, Stage and Screen Jan 2016 - Aug 2018
Center Theatre Group, Los Angeles, CA

- Performed in two Center Theatre Group stage productions and booked day-player and supporting roles on television and commercial shoots, arriving off-book and ready to shoot.
- Self-taped 150+ auditions a year with a prepared home setup and booked roughly 1 in 25 callbacks.
- Worked with directors and editors to match continuity and eye lines over multi-day shoots.

Actor Aug 2014 - Dec 2015
Shakespeare Theatre Company, Washington, DC

- Joined an early-career acting company, performing ensemble roles in three productions and understudying a lead.
- Studied stage combat and dialect work with company coaches and earned a stage combat certification during the contract.

CORE SKILLS

Script analysis | Classical text and verse | Contemporary realism | Dialects | Stage combat | Improvisation | Cold reading | Self-tape production | On-camera technique | Voice and movement | Ensemble work | Understudy preparation | Singing

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Arts, Boston University, Boston, MA

CERTIFICATIONS

Member, Actors' Equity Association | Member, SAG-AFTRA | Society of American Fight Directors Certified Actor-Combatant