



TAMRYN SPEIRS

MEG

RICKARDS

AUTHORS

A Filmmaker's Guide to
Working with Children
Tamryn Speirs and Meg
Rickards

Published by Routledge, Taylor and
Francis Group



AUTHORS BIO

Tamryn Speirs has 25 years of experience as an actor, director, teacher, and movement coach. She has written and directed her own short films, including *The Innocents* and *Blood Rose*. She is a much-sought-after acting coach for adult and child actors (*Wheel of Time*, *How to Get Away with Murder*, *One Piece*, *Unseen II*).

Meg Rickards had directed four multi-award-winning feature films: *Snake*, *Atlantis*, *Kaalgat Karel* and *Tess*. She also directed a mini-series called *Land of Thirst*, as well as co-directed a feature documentary, 1994: *The Bloody Miracle*. She has directed work for SA's Sesame Street and written scripts for a UNICEF media campaign. She studied at the London Film School and holds a PHD in Film Studies from UCT.

ENDORSEMENTS

"A Filmmaker's Guide to Working with Children is an indispensable exploration of one of the most mystifying parts of filmmaking- and how to get it right." **JIM MICKLE**

Director/Showrunner, Sweet Tooth

"If you've ever felt torn between "we need the shot" and "is this right for a young performer?", this book resolves it with usable steps. Clear, humane, actionable. A rare book that changes behaviour on set. Buy it, mark it up, and make it policy." **LIKARION WAINAINA**

Director, Supa Moda

BOOK LAUNCH SUN 07 JUNE 4PM SCREENING 6PM



“ A thorough, honest, gentle and practical must-read for anyone who is thinking about having a child actor on set. Not only essential for directors but also useful for all members of the crew. This book might be the spark of a revolution in how we direct kids on screen.” **MATTHEW KALIL**
Author, *The Three Wells of Screenwriting*

SYNOPSIS

A Filmmaker's Guide to Working with Children is a vital resource for ethical filmmaking with child performers. Building on their collaboration on the film *Snake*, the authors offer practical strategies for creating captivating performances while ensuring safe and joyful environments across all production stages, from casting to release. To foster confidence in child actors, the book guides readers through playful and respectful methods of working on set. The book also assists with navigating relevant legal and logistical challenges to safeguard young talent while crafting compelling stories.

The book incorporates professional insights from interviews with Directors, Jennifer Perrot (*The Midwich Cuckoos*), Likarion Wainaina (*Supa Moda*) and Matthew Warchus (*Roald Dahl's Matilda: The Musical*), as well as from Acting Coaches Miranda Harcourt(*Lion*), Bree Peters (*Sweet Tooth*), and Amanda Brennan (*Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*). The chapters provide case studies of films, including *Room*, *Capernaum*, and *The Florida Project*.

Aimed at directors, producers, and aspiring filmmakers, this guide is an essential tool for anyone committed to impactful, ethical storytelling in film and television.

SHORES KEEP

8 KIEWIET CRESCENT

SANDBAAL. HERMANUS

TICKETS R150

CHEESE AND WINE / REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED