

China's 1st bilingual  
book about Auditioning

THE  
**IX**  
INVALUABLES  
TO AUDITIONING  
(& SUCCEEDING!)  
成功试镜的 **九**大奥秘

ROBERT VICENCIO  
万山树 / 著

 文匯出版社

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## **成功试镜的九大奥秘**

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A person is standing in the center of the frame, wearing a highly reflective, shiny jacket. The background is dark and filled with smoke or mist, with a bright light source on the right side creating a glow. The overall mood is dramatic and moody.

## DEDICATION

*I dedicate this book to my beautiful sisters Angelica & Alaine and to my amazing mother & father, Amada Doris & Rene Vicencio who have always believed that I would fulfil every dream and goal I set out for myself and still to this day, supports me every step of the way.*

## 题献

我要把这本书献给我漂亮的妹妹 **Angelica** 和 **Alaine**,  
尤其是我亲爱的父亲, 母亲 **Rene Vicencio** 和  
**Amada Doris**, 他们始终坚信我会实现自己的每个  
梦想和目标, 在我的人生路上不断给予我鼓励,  
支持我至今, 谢谢你们。

# THE **IX** INVALUABLES TO AUDITIONING (& SUCCEEDING!)

成功试镜的九大奥秘

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# MESSAGE FROM CLAUDE-MICHEL SCHÖNBERG

**Concept & Composer of Les Misérables  
and Miss Saigon**

音乐剧《悲惨世界》和《西姐》的创作者

*"Each time I meet Robert, something extraordinary is happening.*

*As a friend or as a singer, you can always expect the best from this flamboyant young man. His will is contagious, his joy is a remedy, and his talent is a gift as a composer, like me.*

*He loves life and music but life and music love him!!*

*I wish you the best my dear Robert,"*

“每次我见到Robert的时候，总会有些与众不同的、非凡的事情正在孕育着。

作为一个朋友或是歌手，你总是能够从这个年轻人身上期盼看到最棒的事情发生，他的意愿会感染你，他的欢声笑语是扶平不快的良药，而他的才华更是给予我们这些创作者的礼物，就像我，有时也会受到他的启发。

他热爱生活 and 音乐，生活和音乐也爱他！

我亲爱的Robert，祝福你。”

**Claude-Michel Schönberg**



## MESSAGE FROM CHENG PEI PEI

*"Robert Vicencio always keeps a dream alive in his mind, one being the hopes of the Musical Theatre industry from Broadway & the West End developing and growing in China. He has recently written a book and has asked me to comment on his new endeavor.*

*I then asked him, 'What have you written your book about?'*

*His answer was simple. His book would help people in auditioning, with a focus on Musical shows.*

*I believe he is fully qualified to share this story with everyone based on his many years of experience on the stage of international Musical shows. This book is especially helpful during the first steps of the domestic musical industry growing in China as more and more young people are showing interest in Musical Theatre, I believe it's necessary to encourage a right direction for these children to follow.*

*Robert further mentioned that he will address common problems and challenges faced by first time auditionees, for example, how to deal when your voice breaks, how to control your nerves and even when you forget your words on stage!*

*Now it gives me great pleasure to introduce someone who would like to share his experiences with you, I suggest that you don't miss this fantastic opportunity..."*

**Cheng Pei Pei**

Movie Legend & Star of Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon

## 郑佩佩留言

一直以来Robert Vicencio都有一个梦想，他希望能看到百老汇的音乐剧会在中国开花结果，他最近写了本书，即将出版，他让在他的新书里帮他几句话……

我问他：“……你的那本书写的是啥啊？”

他说在他的这本书里，他会告诉大家，该怎么去参加音乐剧的试镜。

我想以他这么多年在国际上演出音乐剧的经验，他是足足有余跟大家分享的，尤其是音乐剧在国内开始起步，走进这个领域的年青一代的越来越多，是需要给孩子们指出一个正确的方向……

他告诉我，他会更进一步的把一些常碰到的问题提出来，譬如，突然失声了怎么办，怎么克服你紧张的情绪，甚至于在台上把台词给忘了怎么办……

在这儿有人肯跟你分享他的经验了，这么好的机会你怎么能错过

……

郑佩佩  
武侠影后

## **PREFACE**

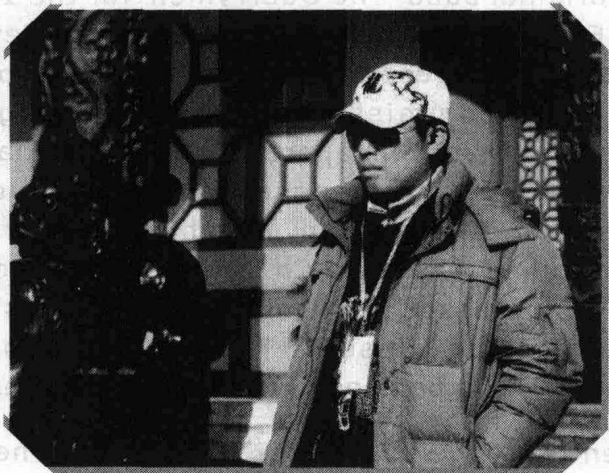
This book is not intended to be read from beginning to end as this book was not written from beginning to end. This book provides nine points of equal importance depending on the reader and his or her current strengths and weaknesses. Most audition books out in the market have been written by casting directors, directors, producers or teachers, very little to none at all have been written from the perspective of an actual performer going through the emotions and experiences of auditioning. I based this book on my experiences from both an actor, to being a director and to the observations, comments and memories I has encountered or heard of from my many years in the industry both in Musical Theatre and Film. I made an important point not to write long and winding sentences that lead to who knows where, instead, I designed a book with simple, straight forward and non-technical applications.

I hope this book provides a practical, straight forward approach to the trials and tribulations of auditioning without the use of scientific or technological jargon which becomes a quick reference in those moments of uncertainty that occurs around about 30mins before an audition.

## 前言

这本书并未写得完全详尽，因此并不奢望大家能完全融会贯通，本书给读者们阐述了9条试镜的箴言，以供读者选用。目前市面上出版的大多数视听读物都是由选角导演、导演、制片人或演员教师撰写的，而通过有实际经验的演员根据自己的经验和感想而写的却少之甚少。我将以自己作为演员和导演的亲身经历，及多年来我在音乐剧和电影事业上的所见所闻，通过这本书来告诉各位读者。我并不打算把这本书写成言辞繁杂的长篇大论，而是用简单直接的文字方式表现给大家。

我希望这本书能通过简洁并且实用的文字表述，而非复杂难懂的技术性行话，来告诉大家试镜的艰辛与挑战。谨以此书作为参考，希望能帮助大家快速摆脱试镜前30分钟的紧张焦虑。



## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Robert Gabriel Vicencio was born in 1976 - the Year of the Dragon. Virtually from the moment he exited the womb, Robert was well aware that he was destined to achieve the things which for many are so unattainable: in London's West End & around the world he has performed as a principal in one of the world's longest & largest running productions - Miss Saigon, has played significant roles in international films with both London & Hollywood Studios, produced & directed concerts around the world & worked with the global TV giant National Geographic on two of their China based productions.

He backpacked the world at 19, produced and directed the only West End Concert commemorating John Lennon's 20th Anniversary of his death bringing together John Lennon's original band 'The Quarrymen' for the 1st time in the West End, earning him an exclusive interview on BBC World News, has recorded songs released on CD in London, was commissioned by the Singaporean Government to write Singapore's Sports National Anthem and furthering his entrepreneurial spirit, has successfully established his own company teaching Mandarin Online and Offline called AskBenny.Cn - all before the tender age of 30 and is now based in Shanghai following his dream of further developing Musical Theatre in China & the development and expansion of his dotcom business.

More recently, at the publication of this book, he is in the middle of production for directing his very first full length feature film entitled "Distance Runners", shooting in China with an international cast and due to be released in

## 关于作者

出生于1976年—龙年。从他在母亲肚子里的那一刻起，Robert就已经意识到他这一生将与众不同，似乎他命中注定将去实现普通人难以实现的梦想。他的足迹从伦敦西区延伸到全世界，在世界著名音乐剧《西贡小姐》中饰演主要角色，并随该剧在全球长期巡回演出；在伦敦与好莱坞国际大片中担任重要角色，表演不俗；导演并策划全世界各国的音乐会舞台剧；与世界国家地理杂志合作，完成了2部关于中国纪事题材的作品。

19岁时，他开始背包环游全世界；在纽约西区制作并策划了唯一的一场纪念“John Lennon”逝世20周年音乐会，当时他将“John Lennon”的老乐队“The Quarrymen”又重新请回到纽约西区演出，同时还赢得了英国BBC广播公司电台的独家专访机会，并将那场具有深刻意义的演唱会录制成专辑CD在伦敦发行；他还被新加坡政府委任，为新加坡国际运动会会歌填词，更进一步激起了他的奋斗精神。现在他还成功创办了自己的汉语教学公司——AskBenny.Cn，通过线上线下结合的方式传授中文；而这上述种种的成就都只是在他30岁以前便已经得以实现的。如今他又来到了上海，将在中国继续发扬他所热爱的音乐剧事业和汉语教学网络事业。

日前，就在此书即将出版之际，他还在导演他的第一部电影作品“Distance Runners”，该片由国际剧组在中国制作拍摄，预计将在2009年2月发行。

February 2009.

His extraordinarily long and impressive list of accomplishments - and indeed the force which drives his work ethics and entire attitude to life - is founded on the basis of the maxim of Robert's alma mater, St Aloysius College:

Ad Majoram Natus ("Born for greater things").

This is his first book.

**Robert Gabriel Vicencio**

## **QUOTATIONS FOR THE SOUL**

Throughout this book is a collection of quotes which I have lived by throughout my life. Many of them I actually photocopied and posted close to the door of my dressing room in every city I have performed in, to remind, re-iterate & inspire me in times when I needed it most. I would regularly read them several minutes before I went on stage. It always gave me great happiness when cast and crew from the show would walk in now and then to read the quotes for themselves as I believe, quotes were always intended to be shared.

他的非凡成就，又进一步加强了他对自己的工作理念和工作态度的不懈追求：正如他所信奉的那句出自圣·阿洛伊修斯学院的拉丁格言一样——为伟大的事业而生(拉丁语为：Ad Majoram Natus)。

这是他的第一本书。

万山树

## 心路历程

本书中有一些在我多年生活经历中，指引我不断前行的励志名言。每当去一个城市演出，我就会复印一套，把这些警句贴在演员更衣室门的附近，以此来不断提醒自己，激励自己。在每次上台演出之前，我都会反复念好几遍。当剧组和演员们准备上台致词时，当他们读着这些警句时，我会很开心，因为警句就是用来和大家分享的。



## INTRODUCTION

"You're not Caucasian, you can't audition! Isn't that about a British Ship with a British Captain? I think you have to be English!" This was the first thing my mother said when I came home from school one afternoon in 1992 and told her that I was auditioning for our school play "HMS PINAFORE" by Gilbert & Sullivan. Undeterred, the following day after the 8th period, I queued up with fellow students outside the music room and waited in line. I can't actually remember what song I sang but all I know is, a week later when the cast was posted on the Music Notice board, I had been given the lead role of "Captain of the Pinafore". Instantly my heart erupted with joy and rapture. It was to be my first role in a musical. It became my first ever musical playing one of the leading roles. A moment never to be forgotten, thanks to my mentor and then Music Co-ordinator at St. Aloysius College, Mr. James Long, who pioneered in the non-stereotyped casting of school plays.

"Within the first 15 seconds of you entering into the room, a director will already know whether they want you or not. Everything you do after that will simply confirm their initial thought either way. So your job is if they want you, **to make them see that they have made the right choice**, and if in their minds they don't want you, **then to prove them wrong**"

-Robert Vicencio