#### Focus On ACTING



# Acting = pretending to be something you're not



What if things are pretending to be what they really are...?

Copyright @ 1996 by Gerald Grow

## **Creating Characters**



#### Process: Research

Al Pacino is famous for "doing his homework" to become character.





### Observation

Jamie Foxx observes and mimics people to get to his characters.





### Dialect (accents)

Mike Myers often uses funny accents to bring his

characters to life.



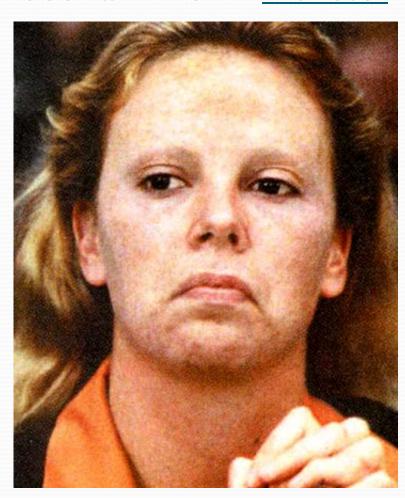


### Make Up

Charlize Theron had the make-up artists downplay her beauty for the role of Aileen the serial killer in <u>Monster</u>

(2003).





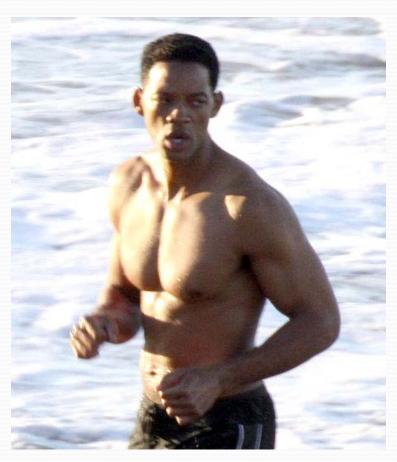
## **Body Shaping**

Robert DeNiro trained as a boxer, then packed on 60 lbs. for <u>Raging Bull</u>

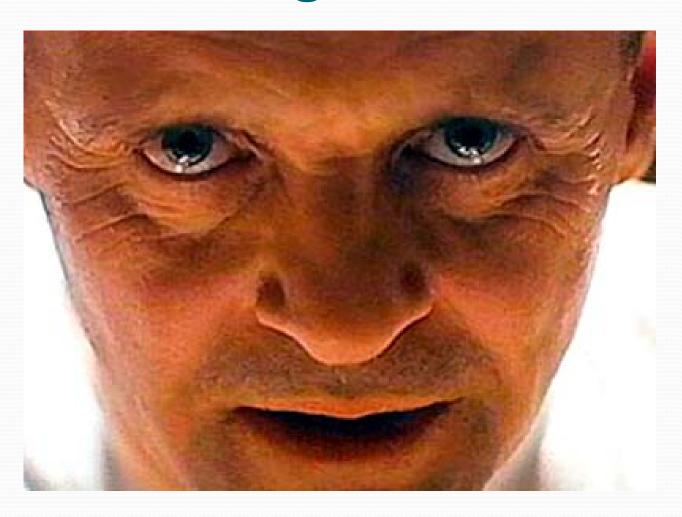
Will Smith added 30 pounds of muscle (with a personal trainer) for <u>Ali</u>.







### In movie acting, less is more.



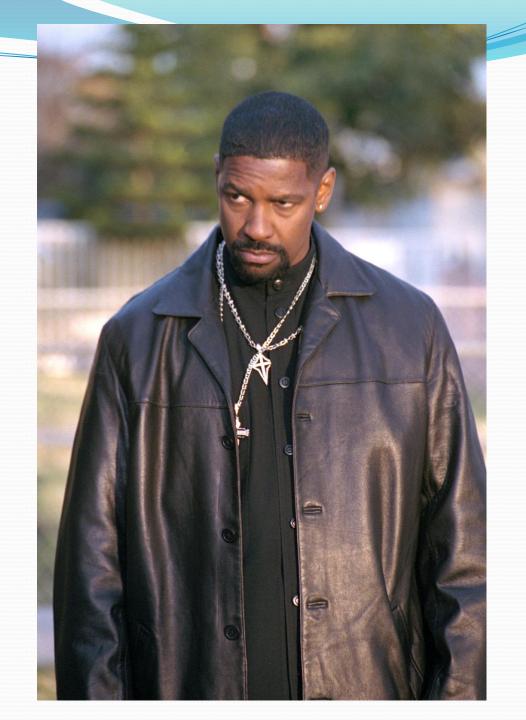
# Because the camera magnifies, movie actors need to be subtle.

Close-ups force actors and actresses to communicate with their faces.





The Trick: Being larger than life while being true to life....



## Acting Schools of Thought



## Typecasting

Roles are chosen on the basis of your looks or

personality.





## The "Just Do It" School

Harrison Ford: "Acting is more a craft than an art.



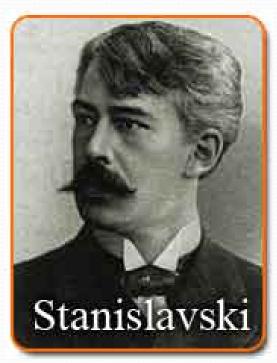


## The Stanislavsky "Method"

Involves delving into yourself to recall emotions and use them in your performance.



It was developed in the 1920's by Konstantin Stanislavski



#### Plusses & Minuses

Can lead to very realistic performances.



Can be very time-consuming.



# Bottom line: A good performance is any performance you believe.

