

Michael Chekhov

July 17, 1937

ADVICE BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE
LIFE ON THE STAGE \

ADVICE BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE:

This is more than a rehearsal of our sketches; it is a rehearsal for our future theatre; therefore, it is very important how we rehearse. Our behavior in the theatre, and during the performance, is of great importance.

Tonight I want you to act fully and freely, and do what you want, but one thing I will require of you: everything you do must be full of life. You must not forget this condition for one moment during the whole evening; in fact, you must strive to increase the life. You will be able to rest between the sketches, but the moment you enter the stage, you must, as actors, form the habit of consciously creating this life on the stage.