

29th July, 2008

Egil Kipste
National Institute of Dramatic Art
215 Anzac Parade
Kensington NSW, 2033

Dear Egil,

I have known Victor Kline for the better part of a decade. He has become a close personal friend during this time and his sage advice has saved my life on at least three occasions. Vic is indeed a multi-talented man: I have worked with him in his various incarnations as a writer, actor, producer and director – and it is this last skill that is his strongest.

He has a rare talent for making great theatre which audiences love. In fact, I competed against him in the Short & Sweet festival in 2006. He directed the play “Uncomfortable Silences”, a work which just about everyone had passed on before it fell into his hands. His unusual casting and measured direction made the play a hit – in fact, returning the biggest ever audience vote at the festival, and scooping the prize pool at the gala final, winning Best Overall Production. His “Doctor Faustus Sings” in 2002 was a remarkable blend of Marlowe, new writing and musical numbers and Vic’s creativity and attention to detail made it one of the most unusual and memorable nights of theatre I’ve seen.

He has a great rapport with actors and brings a friendly authority and experience to every production he tackles. His experience as a producer is no doubt responsible for his strong diplomacy skills; as an actor he brings a canny sense of delivery and timing to a piece; and his writing skills give him the ability to bring out the best in a piece of writing. He soaks up new experiences like a sponge and I believe that the pairing of NIDA and Victor Kline can only be a fruitful one for both parties.

Yours sincerely,

Steven Hopley
0415 117669