



# Acclaimed actor R.H. Thomson to host digital training series

ARC Academy digital training series resumes for second season

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SAINT JOHN – After the success of his first ARC Academy online intensive, R.H. Thomson is returning to ARC Academy’s Zoom lecture hall for a second round of *Listening for the Story*. This will be a five-week online course that will run from April 7<sup>th</sup> until May 5<sup>th</sup>.

The course is open to six young theatre artists with ties to Atlantic Canada who have completed an accredited training program and have early professional experience. Each selected participant will receive a \$500 honorarium.

This online intensive for actors will focus on ‘hearing the story’. The workshop is an appeal for actors to consider themselves as ‘artists’ first and ‘performers’ second. What drives the choices you make as an actress or actor: emotions, instinct, the director, vanity, the story, fear, artistry, ambition, or your agent? The course, structured as a multi-week workshop, will explore these challenges through script work, art, poetry, and music.

The course will run for five weeks from April 7<sup>th</sup> until May 5<sup>th</sup>. Those interested in applying are asked to send a resumé and a brief letter of interest to ARC’s Artistic Director, Stephen Tobias, at [director@atlanticrep.ca](mailto:director@atlanticrep.ca). The deadline for applications is 5:00 PM AST, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

R.H. Thomson has appeared in film, television, and theatre across Canada, in roles such as Matthew Cuthbert in *Anne With An E*; the movie *Chloe*, directed by Atom Egoyan; as Marshall McLuhan in *The Message* by Jason Sherman; and *This Was The World* by Ellie Moon. As well as being an advocate for the arts, R.H. has worked on many history/arts projects. For the First World War Centenary, he built *The World Remembers-Le Monde Se Souvient*, an international commemoration exhibit now installed at the Canadian War Museum: [theworldremembers.org](http://theworldremembers.org). He is a Member of the Order of Canada and was awarded the Governor General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Artistic Achievement.

Since its launch in the fall of 2020, ARC Academy has become an integral part of the ARC’s plan to recruit young professional artists and help them develop long-lasting, meaningful careers in the arts. After offering four online intensives in 2020-2021 with Richard Rose, R.H. Thomson, Seana McKenna, and Diane D’Aquila, plans are underway to expand the program and offer even more professional



development opportunities. No longer a COVID-19 reactionary measure; ARC Academy is a sustainable, exciting program that will continue for years to come, and *Listening for the Story* is just the beginning of what is in store. Stay tuned for even more online intensives and exciting ARC Academy opportunities in 2022.

ARC Academy is supported by the Pannell Family Foundation, the Province of New Brunswick, and the RBC Foundation.

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