

ALEXANDRA ROACH

I was fortunate enough to be trained by Dee Cannon for five terms instead of the usual three at RADA. Because of this I have so many memories and feelings toward her and the training I received - it has been rather difficult to find the words to sum up how much of an impact this wonderful woman has had on my life.

When I first moved up to London a little lost Welsh girl, I was instantly intimidated by RADA, it's staff, the building, the knowledge on theatre that everyone had, made me want to get on the first train home to Swansea and then I met Dee.

Dee is extremely passionate about Acting, about having a life on stage and the character becoming part of your blood and muscles. Her technique and direction was my lifeline from day one. What Dee said made complete sense to me and was so refreshing to hear. I have come to trust her instinct and judgement 100% and she alone has changed the way I approach a character forever. Dee's room at RADA, 'David Garrick' became my playground. Here I was fearless because Dee had set up such a safe environment to try different things, always learning from failures as well as the successes. What I love about Dee is how specific and observant she is - she never misses a thing! She demands all of you and if you are willing to give that, she will help you become the best actor you can ever be.

Now I've started my professional career Dee's role has been crucial. This technique has become my safety blanket and my armour in meetings. When I heard I had an audition for the part of the Young Margaret Thatcher in *The Iron Lady*, I went straight to Dee for coaching immediately. I will never forget that night. She went above and beyond in her coaching, taking the fear of a big transformation away and coached me in such a personal way that the transformation happened organically and I felt prepared, confident and excited for the meeting the next morning. I will forever be thankful for that night and all you've ever taught me.

Thank you Dee.