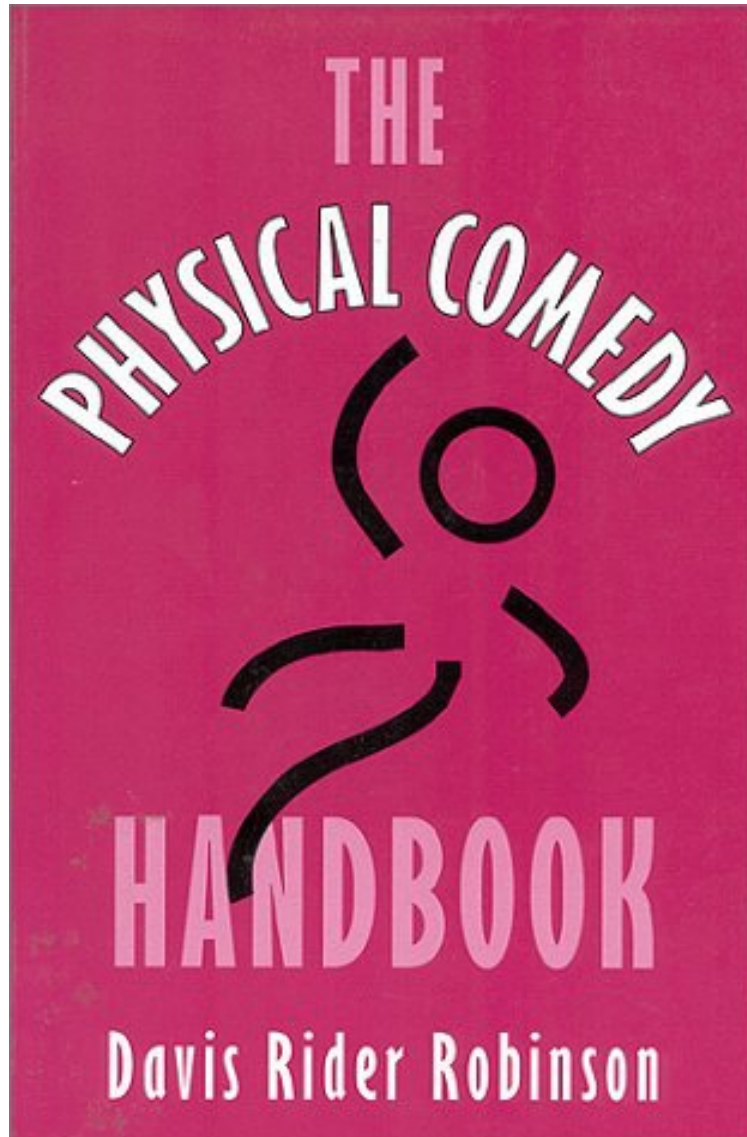


## The Physical Comedy Handbook

*Davis Robinson*

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**Davis Robinson : The Physical Comedy Handbook** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Physical Comedy Handbook:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fun, practical and inspirational By Jason Pern Excellent book. There is great insight into the world of physical comedy and I found the exercises to be very helpful and explained in great detail. In particular I like how the author notes variations and pitfalls as well to all of the exercises. I came away with an appreciate for how fun/play meets practice and technique in the world of physical comedy. I've also been inspired

to go back and watch films and skits from some of the masters (Keaton, Chaplin, Marx Brothers, etc). Well worth the time and effort. As other reviewers already mentioned, some illustrations would have been a big help with certain exercises, but the book is still worth a 5 star review in my opinion. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Yes By Jill Bernard It's a challenging topic - how do you write about things that probably should be shown? This book does an excellent job, and some of these exercises are a permanent part of our curriculum. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great book! By abombtmc I loved this book! Very well written, with a perfect blend of specific instruction balanced with open-ended freedom to explore each exercise. I've been using many of these techniques on stage for years, but it was incredibly validating to see them written out and to understand why they were already such an integral part of my unconscious comedic mind.

Although there are numerous books that examine physical comedy from a historic or aesthetic perspective, few provide guidance in how to do it. So where can actors and teachers go for instruction? To *The Physical Comedy Handbook*. *The Physical Comedy Handbook* is a one-of-a-kind resource for actors, teachers, and directors interested in physical comedy - from slapstick pratfalls to the theater of the absurd. Davis Robinson believes that the basic physical skills of comedy can be taught to anyone. His twenty years of practical experience - including workshops with Jacques LeCoq, Tony Montanaro, Bill Irwin, Avner Eisenberg, Mark Morris, and Ronlin Foreman--have taught him so. Robinson shares what he has learned in this book, providing a thorough explanation of a range of techniques for developing comic timing, writing original material, and working with scripts. The book includes numerous hands-on exercises designed to help anyone, regardless of experience, develop their sense of play. Acting students will learn how to sharpen their physical skills. Teachers will learn how to structure and guide their students' work. Actors will explore a range of comic styles. Directors will discover a number of tools for bringing comedy to life.

About the Author Davis Robinson is Director of Theater at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. He is also Artistic Director of Beau Jest Moving Theater, an award-winning ensemble that has appeared at numerous festivals and theaters, including Off-Broadway and at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival.