

# Shekhar Maharaj

Durban, KwaZulu Natal, 4068

South Africa

[Website](#)

The performing arts are what allow us to remember the past, but at the same time look towards the future. As an actor, I wholeheartedly enjoy telling a compelling story that can help people grow, learn and maybe even put a smile on their face!

## Headshots



## Skills

Screen Acting

Theatre Acting

Voice Acting

Script Writing/Storytelling

Karate

Software Engineering

## Hobbies

Golf

Gaming

Weight Lifting

## Accents

American: Generic

British: Generic

South African: Indian

South African: Captonian

## Contact

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[Portfolio website](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Instagram](#)



# Experience

## Feature Film

- Beggar (2013)
  - Featured extra
  - Directed by Pranesh Maharaj

## Theater Play

- Bhagwan gave me this life (2014)
  - Voice-over extra
  - One man play performed by Pranesh Maharaj

## Commercials

- Department of tourism commercial (2008)
  - Featured extra
  - Commercial by the KZN Dept. of Tourism
- African Bank TVC (2024)
  - Featured extra
  - Commercial by Darling Productions

## Videos

- Prillen Short Shorts | Would you rather edition (2023)
  - Reactor
  - Youtube short by Prillen
- [Road to the top](#) - Vlog series (2024)
  - Vlogger
  - Vlogs by Shekhar Maharaj

## Monologues

- Obsession - Tommy (2023)
  - [https://youtu.be/FR5s97SoGZw?si=gV5bUGO2OsG04Ah\\_](https://youtu.be/FR5s97SoGZw?si=gV5bUGO2OsG04Ah_)
- Monster under the bed (2023)
  - <https://youtu.be/9TYy4yr5eG0?si=Sxym5oLP1WkWS8nK>
- The Leprechaun (2023)
  - <https://youtu.be/UHAEjFUepnA>

# Training

## 33&Me Training - by Lucas Ntenti

- Upon joining 33AndMe Talent Agency, I embarked on a transformative journey through a comprehensive four-week training program meticulously designed to equip me with the essential skills and knowledge needed to excel in the dynamic world of acting.
- Throughout the duration of this intensive training, I delved into various aspects of the craft, including mastering the art of acting for commercials, honing my skills for film and television, refining audition techniques, and gaining invaluable insights into the intricate dynamics of agency-client relationships.
- Under the guidance of seasoned industry professionals and instructors, I immersed myself in practical exercises, hands-on workshops, and in-depth discussions aimed at nurturing my talent and expanding my understanding of the acting profession.
- From understanding the nuances of delivering convincing performances for commercials to learning the intricacies of portraying characters on the big and small screens, each module of the training provided me with a wealth of knowledge and practical tools to enhance my acting repertoire.
- Moreover, the emphasis on audition techniques equipped me with the confidence and strategies needed to navigate auditions successfully, empowering me to showcase my abilities and leave a lasting impression on casting directors and industry professionals.
- Additionally, I gained a profound understanding of the importance of fostering strong agency-client relationships, learning how to effectively communicate, collaborate, and advocate for myself within the framework of the entertainment industry.
- Overall, the four weeks of training at 33AndMe Talent Agency have been instrumental in shaping me into a more skilled, confident, and well-rounded actor, laying a solid foundation for my continued growth and success in the industry.

## The Complete Acting Course - by Galadriel Stineman and Udemey

- In this course, I embarked on an immersive journey led by a seasoned instructor who guided me through every essential step towards realizing my aspirations of becoming a proficient actor. Through meticulously crafted lectures, I gained invaluable insights into the intricate nuances of the craft, equipping myself with a comprehensive toolkit essential for mastering any scene.
- The instructor's insider knowledge, coupled with tailored scene exercises, empowered me to delve deep into character exploration and scene interpretation, honing my skills to a professional standard. Additionally, I received invaluable guidance on how to ace auditions, leveraging expert tips and strategies to stand out in a competitive industry.
- Featuring over three hours of engaging lecture and demonstration videos, supplemented by a comprehensive 55-page PDF workbook, this course provided me with a wealth of resources to further enhance my learning experience. With more than 15 lessons meticulously curated with custom scenes, this course caters to individuals at every stage of their acting journey, from aspiring newcomers to seasoned professionals alike.
- What I've learnt:
  - Practical, NOT philosophical lessons
  - The best way to film self-tapes
  - How to create a strong foundation for my acting technique
  - Learn the skills necessary to consistently perform every time you step in front of the camera
  - Drastically improve my acting skills through hands-on exercises
  - How to crush my next audition
  - How to dissect a scene from 15+ custom scene exercises - with a scene review after each activity
  - How to let my child-like curiosity in and sideline my self-consciousness
- [View](#)

## Self Taught

- Inspired by some of the greatest known & unknown actors in history, I have taught myself the in's and out's of the performing arts via various free online classes and keeping my skills sharp by auditioning as much as possible.
- Through my self studies I have learnt, and continue to learn, modern acting techniques to portray captivating characters and emotions that are suitable for all stories. In practice, my studies consist of theoretical research & learning and practice of, the previously mentioned, theoretical knowledge. I also learn via trial and error by rehearsing scenes from my favorite films/series as well as auditioning (and practicing auditions) as much as I possibly can.
- In my ongoing studies I practice:
  - Film/Television Acting
  - Script Analysis
  - Accents & Dialects
  - Memorization
  - Acting Techniques And When To Use Them
  - Audition Techniques
- I learn from trusted, free, sources throughout the web such as Wendy Alane Wright, Kurt Yue, ActorsAcademy and Backstage.
- I teach myself the dos' and don'ts of performing via various free coaching channels and blogs such as :
  - <https://www.youtube.com/@TheActorsAcademy>
  - <https://www.youtube.com/@BackstageCast>
  - <https://www.youtube.com/@sansgroup4732>
  - <https://www.youtube.com/@MakaylaLysiak>
  - <https://www.youtube.com/@ActingCareerCenter>
  - <https://www.backstage.com>
  - <https://www.actincareercenter.com/>

## Workshops

- I regularly attend **free** acting workshops to sharpen my skills in all aspects of the industry
- Some of the recent free workshops that I have attended were hosted by:
  - <https://www.heyisawyourcommercial.com/meet-coach-mike>
  - <https://hollywoodwinnerscircle.com/>
  - <https://theonlineactor.com/>

## Auditions and monologues

- I find that a great way to train is to audition. This helps me with practicing all aspects of performing, from script analysis to self taping.
- I treat monologues similar to how I treat auditions, I record them as a self tape audition to make the most out of the experience.

## Awards & Accolades

- x6 Medals in Karate (Kumite/Kata) - Multiple Karate Clubs
  - 2008 - 2018
- President's award - Karate - ASKDSA
  - 2013
- Regional Drama award - Just Juniors Academy
  - 2014
- Distinction in Mathematical Literacy - Greenbury Secondary
  - 2019

The End