

Consent is C.R.I.S.P

An acronym for fostering consent in the creative process of performing scenes of intimacy

Considered

Consent is a choice made without pressure, manipulation, coercion, threat or potential reward or under the influence of drugs, alcohol or other intoxication or mental incapacity. To this end, performers must be allowed time and space to consider what is being proposed before making a decision so that the team can work to counteract the coercive effects of urgency.

Reversible/Revocable

Consent must be allowed to change at any time during the process. Clear communication and consent-based practices throughout the production process can greatly reduce the chances of reversed consent. In most cases, when a performer revokes their consent, it is possible to clarify the new boundary and collaborate to determine a different way to tell the same story. In cases where this is not possible, it is imperative that the actor is able to leave the project without retaliation.

Informed

A performer can only fully consent to something if they have the relevant information pertaining to the situation. Performers must be given as many of the details of a proposed action and working environment as possible in order for them to consider a proposal. This includes, among other information, what the specific story of the scene is, when, where and who will be present when working on a scene, what the approach to creating the choreography will be as well as the details of proposed physical contact and what technical aspects will influence the scene in performance.

Specific

Consent to a simulated action or level of nudity in one scene or production does not mean that the performer will consent to the same simulated action or level of nudity in another. Consent is applied to a specific set of circumstances and must be sought anew if any circumstances or aspects change.

Participatory

Performers must be equal collaborators in the creation of a scene of intimacy, not subject to the decisions or commands of a director or scene partners. Consent requires active, inclusive and ongoing communication from all parties, so that the performer maintains their agency, their voice and their ability to be fully present in the creation of these scenes.