We Are All Making This Up:
Improv Lessons For Developers
Hi, I’m Dwayne
Agency and Community Success Manager At Pantheon Since 2014
San Francisco Based Improv Actor And Producer Since Beginning of 2010

Some things I enjoy, aside from tech and improv:
● Comic books
● Karaoke!!!

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Elastic Hosting

- WordPress Optimized Hosting
- Advanced Caching
- Automated DevOps
- Highly Secure

Web Development Tools for Teams

- Dev, Test, and Live
- Cloud Environments
- Permissions & Security
- Cloud Integration Tools
Poll time
Why Improv?
Why Improv?

Everyone has a plan, until they get punched in the mouth.
Poll time
Creativity is not the clever rearranging of the known.

Creativity is a state that allows us to touch the unknown and to bring it into the phenomenal world: To make the invisible visible.

The unknown is a territory that holds all possibilities, until it is revealed. The act of revealing – that is creativity.

– Viola Spolin
Why Improv And Developers?
Parallels between Developers and Improvisors

1) Crafts uses best practices and frameworks
2) End product enjoyable on multiple levels
3) Every effort is unique
4) Requires all sorts of cooperation and teamwork to produce the best results
5) LOVES TO PARTY!!!
Improv Principles
Just say yes and you'll figure it out afterwards.

— Tina Fey —

Yes! And...
There is nothing more deceptive than an obvious fact.

(Arthur Conan Doyle)
People don't listen, they just wait for their turn to talk.

— Chuck Palahniuk —

Active Listening
START YOUR SCENES HEALTHY, HAPPY AND WELL - JOHN REMAK

Happy, Healthy and Well
"It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent that survives. It is the one that is the most adaptable to change."

Charles Darwin*

*actually Leon C. Megginson

Serve the piece, not the form
YOU ARE ALL SUPPORTING ACTORS - DEL CLOSE

Make other players look good
“Success is going from failure to failure without a loss of enthusiasm.”

-Winston Churchill

Accepting Failure As Part Of The Process
EXERCISES
I Love
Shared Memory
Further Reading/Listening

- Improvisation for the Theater - Viola Spolin
- Truth in Comedy - Del Close and Charna Halpern
- Improv at the speed of life - TJ and Dave
- Affect Imagery Consciousness - Silvan S. Tomkins
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Thanks