



How to MO'CAPTURE THE JOB

*VON Interviewer Alan Shires
chats with Motion Capture/
Voiceover Actor Victoria Atkin
at Get Your Game On 2019*



By Alan Shires

ALAN SHIRES:

Here we are with Victoria Atkin Performance Capture super star, what are your top tips of booking Performance Capture jobs?

VICTORIA ATKIN:

Number one - be truthful and live in the moment.

Listen to what the other person is saying and respond honestly.

Be off book - know your lines, this is very different to voiceover.

If you're a girl put your hair up away from your face and if you're a boy shave your beard.

.....

ALAN SHIRES:

What resistance can you face when trying to book a Performance Capture job?

VICTORIA ATKIN:

Normally auditions will come through agencies so trying to get that can be hard initially. If you have representation that's fantastic but if not then networking and making friends with people who have performance capture studios can be another way to get in. I think it's quiet a small knit community, but I guess getting your foot in the door is the first hurdle.

.....

ALAN SHIRES:

Can you get a Performance Capture job without an agent?

VICTORIA ATKIN:

I think so but it's much easier to get it with an agent and I think finding an agent that understands motion capture whether that's an on-camera agent or a voice over agent it is important. You need someone who understands what the difference between motion capture, facial capture and performance capture work is and also how the industry is moving. You need somebody who can negotiate a good contract for you.

VICTORIA ATKIN:

For a performance capture job they will look at your voiceover reel and your on-camera reel. It really varies it can be a voice over job that turns into performance capture when they have the budget or it could be a voice over job that turns into facial capture.

If it's a big lead AAA lead game I've noticed they normally look at on camera talent and they look at how you are on camera so having both would definitely tick all the boxes.

because I always learn something from a casting and I always try and grow from it. Definitely there's been auditions where I have fallen and stumbled through lines or something like that but I just try to learn from circumstances and grow from that. No casting stands out as terrible thankfully.

ALAN SHIRES:

Any encouragement you want to offer The Buzz Magazine readers?

VICTORIA ATKIN:

If I can do it you can do it, just keep going! Make sure you let your agents know that you want to be put up for performance capture jobs. Train as an on-camera actor. That will help you with your voice over and your performance capture. Make sure you plug in and know yourself; know thy self that is key.

ALAN SHIRES:

How would you prepare for a performance capture casting?

VICTORIA ATKIN:

Read the script as many times as possible and know exactly what you're saying and why you're saying it. You have to know where you are. Plug into the circumstances, what do you want? Prepare it how you would for a TV and film audition. If you do not know anything about Stanislavski or Meisner or don't have an acting technique down and a way to prepare for the audition I would say invest in some acting classes and learn how to prepare a scene.

ALAN SHIRES:

Where would you find Performance Capture work if you did not have an agent?

VICTORIA ATKIN:

If you do not have an agent it's all about networking so again making friends with studios and people that are directing motion capture. Start looking up on IMDB who's directed your favourite games and projects that are made through performance capture.

ALAN SHIRES:

What are your best and worst casting experience when casting for P.cap?

VICTORIA ATKIN:

My best experience was booking Evie Frye in Assassin's Creed Syndicate, although that was a baptism of fire because I had no idea what performance capture was. As for my worst experience, I don't really have one

ALAN SHIRES:

For a voice job you send your voice reel, an acting job you send your film reel. What would you send for a performance capture job?

