Craic April 8th, 2016

In memory of our dear friend, Patrick Jehosephat Cooper
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A moment of silence
And now, to business
History

The earliest well documented use of improvisational theatre in Eastern history is found in the Atellan Farce of Africa 391 BC. From the 16th to the 18th centuries, *commedia dell'arte* performers improvised based on a broad outline in the streets of Italy. In the 1890s, theatrical theorists and directors such as the Russian Konstantin Stanislavski and the French Jacques Copeau, founders of two major streams of acting theory, both heavily utilized improvisation in acting training and rehearsal.
Another fact

Joan Littlewood, an English actress and director who was active from the 1930s to 1970s, made extensive use of improv in developing plays for performance. However, she was successfully prosecuted twice for allowing her actors to improvise in performance. Until 1968, British law required scripts to be approved by the Lord Chamberlain's Office. The department also sent inspectors to some performances to check that the approved script was performed exactly as approved.
MODERN DAY AMERICAN IMPROVISATION
Short form

Shortform improv consists of short scenes usually constructed from a predetermined game, structure, or idea and driven by an audience suggestion. Many shortform exercises were first created by Viola Spolin, who called them theater games, influenced by her training from recreational games expert Neva Boyd.[3] The shortform improv comedy television series *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* has familiarized American and British viewers with shortform.
Long form

Longform improv performers create shows in which short scenes are often interrelated by story, characters, or themes. Longform shows may take the form of an existing type of theatre, for example a full-length play or Broadway-style musical such as Spontaneous Broadway. One of the better-known longform structures is the Harold, developed by ImprovOlympic co-founder Del Close.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wwcuu3x3cds

Improvisational comedy
Party

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TMwe9kduGNI
Sound effects

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJSDTVvjwmU&nohtml5=False
Helping Hands

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-7zr6ZQY5aE