

**HOW TO PLAY SOME GREAT THEATER GAMES** – Many of these games appear weekly in the EIGHT IS NEVER ENOUGH shows. Examples at [www.youtube.com/eightimprov](http://www.youtube.com/eightimprov) or [www.eightimprov.biz](http://www.eightimprov.biz)

**AUTHORS** – A fun version of conducted story, a type of game where actors share the duties of telling a story, while a conductor decides who talks when. When the conductor switches speakers, that actor picks up immediately mid sentence, sometimes mid-word. In authors, each actor takes on the persona of a favorite writer. Sometimes it is funny if one actor takes on a poet, Children’s Author, published celebrity, non-fiction, magazine/newspaper/journal, or other gimmick.

**SWITCH** Two actors perform a scene. When ever MC yells switch, the actors switch up the word, phrase, sentence, or physical activity that just occurred.

**WORLD’S WORST** Players present the “World’s Worst” Person OR thing to say at Job, Event, Location etc. This is a fast paced high-energy game. Each character is presented in 5-10 seconds.

**ONE to FIVE** Two Players perform a one-minute scene. The scene then repeats at 30-seconds, 15-seconds, 10-seconds, 5-seconds, maintaining the basic structure of the original. **PERFORMANCE NOTE** – build a real arc. Beginning, Middle, End. Make 3-4 major physical shifts, stage crosses etc. The scene becomes like a collapsing outline getting closer and closer to just the important points.

**COLUMNS or HUMAN MAD LIBS™** The MC calls two audience volunteers to the stage. They sit on the DS corners. The Actors perform a scene, using the “Columns” to fill in the blanks. Actor should repeat the word or phrase and then justify it into the scene.

**FREEZE TAG** – Two actors start a scene. The focus is on connecting and acting through physical movement. The MC calls freeze. Another actor tags into the scene and replaces one of the first actor’s exact physical position. A new scene is started, inspired by the physical/spatial relationship of the new acting pair.

**MIRACLE EAR** – Two actors are performing an interview. One is the special guest author of a book. A third actor interprets the interview via fake sign language. The interviewer needs to start the scene, ask a few questions and then find a wrap. Details are key.

**FREEZE FRAME / HUMAN SLIDE SHOW** – Actors and audience volunteers create a series of posed pictures, often utilizing a black out in between each. 1-2 actors narrate the slide show.

**SOUND EFFECTS VERSION ONE** – One actor provides sound effects. Another actor mimes a scene.

**SOUND EFFECTS VERSION TWO** – Two actors perform a scene. Two audience volunteers provide sound effects.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE** – Two actors perform a scene in gibberish. Two other actors translate the scene.

**FOREIGN OPERA** – Add the element of music to FOREIGN LANGUAGE

**FILM & THEATER STYLES** – MC gets a number of styles from audience. Two actors start a scene. Each time MC yells “FREEZE” a new style is introduced.

**SONG STYLES** – Actors create songs on the spot. Popular versions Blues, Tango, Hoe Down, March, Oldies Ballad, Rap, R&B and more

**MADRIGAL** - A cappella vocal. Each actor gets a news headline. Mix up the sports, pop culture and politics. Each topic is introduced as a vocal line as a conductor indicates for a new actor to sing. After each topic has been introduced the actor may mix up the headlines creating fake news and new vocals.

**SHORT – FORM IMPROV** - Typically a 3-5 minute form resembling a sketch or song. All of the above are versions of short form improv games.

**LONG-FORM IMPROV** – Often looking like short or one act plays, actors create entire narrative works based on one suggestion.