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
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Some things I enjoy, aside from tech and improv:
● Comic books
● Karaoke!!!
Poll time
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!!!
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)
Improv Principles

People don't listen, they just wait for their turn to talk.

--- Chuck Palahniuk ---

Active Listening
Improv Principles

START YOUR SCENES HEALTHY, HAPPY AND WELL - JOHN REMAK

Happy, Healthy and Well
Improv Principles

Serve the piece, not the form

"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
Improv Principles

Make other players look good
Improv Principles

Accepting Failure As Part Of The Process

“Success is going from failure to failure without a loss of enthusiasm.”
-Winston Churchill
EXERCISES
I love
Improv Exercise

Shared Memory
Further Reading/Listening

This presentation as a blog:

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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Blog

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Thanks