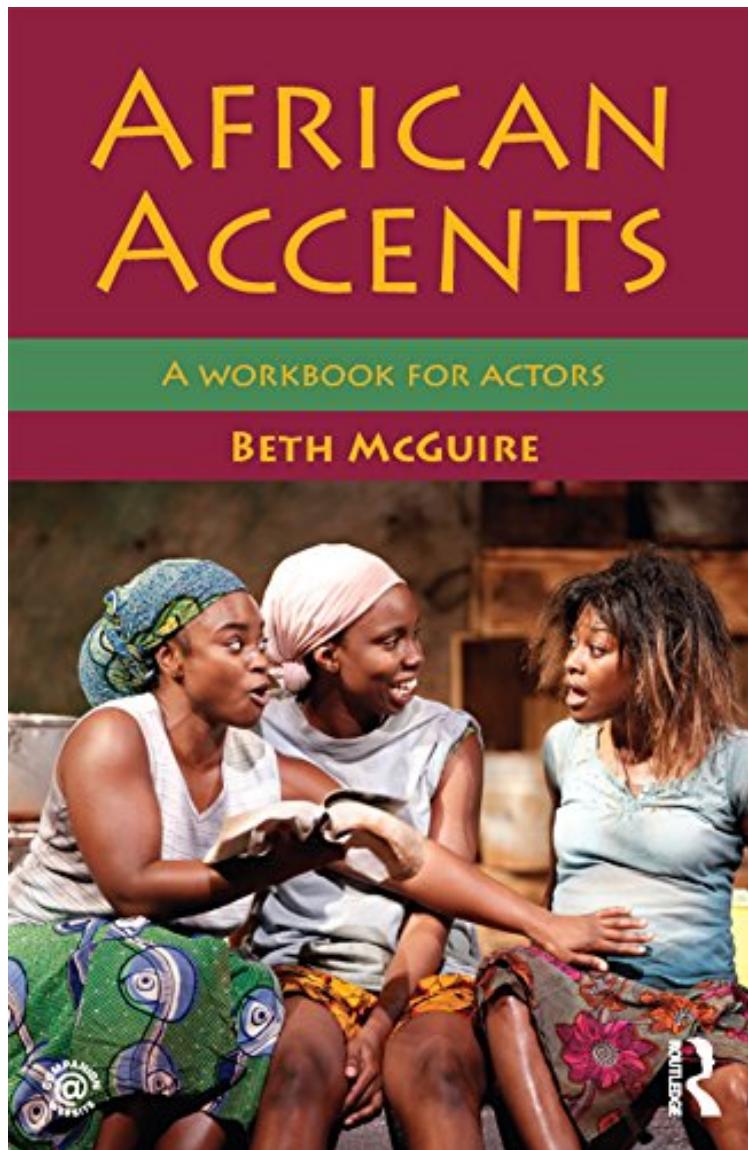


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## African Accents: A Workbook for Actors

Beth McGuire

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**Beth McGuire : African Accents: A Workbook for Actors** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised African Accents: A Workbook for Actors:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An Invaluable Reference!By Joy EllisonTo my knowledge, the only book out there with this kind of comprehensive approach. It covers not only the technical sound issues, but speaks of the differences in cultures within this amazingly diverse continent. Filled with links to related recordings. I will keep this one handy as a reference for my research and work. Very helpful.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Awesome book!By CustomerThis hugely helpful book explores the complex and detailed world of accents

and dialects. The down and dirty warm ups are a highlight. I would recommend this to any actor or dialect coach. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One of the best accent books out there! By CustomerSuper comprehensive and a genuine look at various African accents.

This is a comprehensive workbook for actors, covering the key characteristics and profiles of a wide range of African accents of English. Its unique approach not only addresses the methods and processes by which to go about learning an accent, but also looks in detail at each example. This lets the reader plot their own route through the learning process and tailor not only their working methods but also their own personal idiolect. Full breakdowns of each accent cover: an introduction giving a brief history of the accent, its ethnic background, and its language of origin; preparatory warm-up exercises specific to each accent; a directory of research materials including documentaries, plays, films and online resources; key characteristics such as melody, stress, pace and pitch; descriptions of physical articulation in the tongue, lips, jaw, palate and pharynx; practice sentences, phoneme tables and worksheets for solo study. *African Accents* is accompanied by a website at [www.routledge.com/cw/mcguire](http://www.routledge.com/cw/mcguire) with an extensive online database of audio samples for each accent. The book and audio resources guide actors to develop their own authentic accents, rather than simply to mimic native speakers. This process allows the actor to personalize an accent, and to integrate it into the creation of character rather than to play the accent on top of character.

"Beth's book is an essential tool for approaching African accents. Her comprehensive research and integrated physical approach help to demystify the complexities of different ethnic and national sounds, and allow the actor to bring a level of specificity to characters that is seldom heard. This book is a first of its kind, and I'm proud to have worked with the woman behind it." - Lupita Nyong'o, Academy Award Winner

**About the Author**  
Beth McGuire is a professional dialect and vocal coach for theatre and film. She is Director of Speech and Dialects at Yale School of Drama.