

# Credit where credit's due

Non-accredited drama schools are growing in number, says **Susan Elkin**, as performers seek to develop teaching careers and the cost of mainstream theatre education rises.

Brian Timoney, who runs the Brian Timoney Actors' Studio in north London, which teaches method acting, has concerns about the curriculum in CDS schools. "The difference between the American method acting approach and the conventional British actor training is significant," he says. "A traditional UK drama school will teach you how to use your voice, how to learn lines, stage business, set responses and imitating what

you did before, but producing real emotional experiences and in-depth, gritty performances is not their forte. That's what we do in the method."

Timoney expanded his operation last autumn to offer a one-year, part-time course in method acting using the techniques of practitioners such as Lee Strasberg. It involves 12 three-day weekends per year and includes a method acting boot camp in Los Angeles. Limited to 14 students, it costs £9,775.