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B**REAKING THE RULES:** It is not usually a good idea to pull stunts at casting calls. Usually actors don't pull them off and they end up embarrassing themselves and annoying the casting folk and producers. But occasionally a brash young actor eschews the rules out of a moment of frustration and the payoff comes. In this case it was actor **Scott Rose** who pulled a stunt that propelled his career swiftly and suddenly forward. Without an agent, he was able to secure himself an audition for the upcoming HBO feature *High Voltage*, to star Antonio Sabato, Jr., William Zabka and Shannon Lee (daughter of Bruce Lee). But that wasn't the pushy part, once he got into the audition he read the sides—the part, a bank robber, consisted of just one line, "Don't move." Rose recalls, "As I was waiting in the lobby to audition, several of my fellow actors were rehearsing their 'Don't move!' line. It was like a scene out of *Soapdish*. Everyone was trying different intonation, different body posture and different vocal ranges to get that one line just right." Rose watched as each actor was called into the casting office and as each left just a few moments later. The time was his chance. He'd been smart enough to read the entire script well ahead of time, so he knew exactly how the character worked into the plot. After seeing dozens of similar young men walk in and out so briskly, he knew there was little to lose. "What the hell," he thought, "I'm gonna take a risk." And he did. As he walked in he faced the casting director, the director and the producer staring at him. "I took a deep breath and said, 'Now I know this character has only one line, but I have developed a little story about this guy that I'd like to show you.' So I made up this entire scenario, adding all sorts of dialogue and actions of my own and turned this one-line role into a fully-realized character that was integral to the rest of the plot. And at the climax of my three-minute improvisation, I ended with the original one line "Don't move!" Not only was Rose cast in the role, but the creative team rewrote the entire film, expanding his role to 20 pages based on his audition. Certainly this was a risky situation, but Rose took chance and supported it with a great deal of preparation. Of course, this kind of bizarre story needed corroboration, so we contacted the film's producer **Mike Mains** of Big Killing Productions, who describes the audition from his vantage point. "Scott informed us that he had prepared a little improvisation of what he felt the character went through while waiting in the getaway car. He was wearing a trench-coat and glasses and went through a hilarious interpretation of the character's life as he sits in the car, imitating, like **Don Knotts**, the seasoned professionals inside the bank. It was extremely funny and imaginative and we did expand the character's scenes, incorporating Scott's ideas into the bank robber scene as well as writing an entirely new scene with his character and the other bank robbers that took place before the robbery. Scott is an extremely talented comedic actor. It was his imagination and creativity that landed him the part and inspired us." Look for *High Voltage* on HBO this March.



Scott Rose gets charged up for 'High Voltage'