How to Pitch with Impact

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Introduction
This is me.
43 years old.
Father of one 4 year old.
15 years in advertising.
Jumped ship through CSI.
Now GM of TFN.
Has anyone heard of The Funding Network?
5 P’s

1. Passion
2. Purpose
3. Planning
4. Practice
5. Performance
1. Passion

The neuroscience of persuasion
“Culture eats strategy for breakfast”

“People fund people, not programs”
HBR evaluated 150 hrs of the most popular TED talks against Aristotle’s ancient formula for storytelling:

Ethos (your credibility): 10%
Logos (facts and data): 25%
Pathos (emotion and storytelling): 65%
How much of communication is non-verbal?
Probably, more than 50%!

Words 10%
Tone of voice 25%
Body language 65%
Previous interactions.
Your energy.
What you wear.
Using their first name.
Your body language.
Eye contact.
Your opening remark.
Who you pitch with.
The stories you tell.
How you close.
Your personal WHY...
2. Purpose

Know your why!
“People don’t buy what you do; they buy why you do it.”

Simon Sinek
3. Planning
How communication works...
“Oh shit! I have a pitch next week, what am I going to say?”

Opens PowerPoint...
Start with **Who** you’re talking to, and what **Response** you want from them.
Art of Response Management

NOTICE
THINK
FEEL
DO
- Sensory
- Rational
- Emotive
- Action
Mapping your Pitch
a. Context

Describe the ‘macro’ situation – national or global. What is the broad issue you feel compelled to solve. Credible sources of data. Shock or surprise your audience. Killer facts.
b. Implications

Now get specific: what does this mean for the community or individuals you are helping?

What is life actually like in their shoes. A moving story of disadvantage.

Reference real places or people. Personify the real human consequences.

Place the audience in the picture if you can.
c. Solution

Describe your program or your business model. Exactly how does it work?
Evidence of success from elsewhere. Outline the key players involved.
Testimonials or endorsements from third parties or customers.
d. Impact

What will your program achieve, and for whom?
How are you intending to measure impact?
Timelines and project plan.
Outputs and outcomes.
Feedback loop to funders and continual learning.
Get granular and detailed in this section.
e. Call to Action / Ask

How much is it going to cost?
What are you inviting your audience to do? Set a big goal and also granular chunks.
When do you need them to act?
How they can take action?
Be clear, be strong, be emphatic.
The role of Storytelling
“The most powerful person in the world is the storyteller. The storyteller sets the vision, values and agenda of an entire generation that is to come.”

*Steve Jobs*
1. Protagonist
2. Challenge
3. Transformation
4. Resolution
1. **Challenge**
What does the person need? Describe a moment that illustrates this. What does it feel like, look like, smell like?

What’s the social issue - emotional + tangible?

Why does it exist? (context)

2. **Character Traits**
List defining traits – physical or emotional

3. **Journey**
What are three events that happened on the way to solving the problem/need? Describe them.

4. **Impact**
How did the person solve the problem/need? Describe a moment that illustrates how things are different. What does it feel like, look like, sound like?
4. Practice

Know your material, backwards.
5. Performance
Opening & Closing.
Posture.
More “you”, less “I”.
Deep and sustained eye contact.
Smile with your eyes.
Repetition.
Question Pause Answer. Look Breath Move.
Don’t’ stand behind a lectern
Get out into your audience, touch them.
Ditch the notes.
Don’t’ use a mic at all, project your voice as if you were in the Roman Collusseum.
Use a lapel or earphone mic if you have to.
Free up your hands.
Don’t’ use PowerPoint, or if you must, use high impact video or photography.
Nerves and the Wonder Woman pose.
Standing like a Superhero for as little as two minutes changes our testosterone and cortisol levels, increases our appetite for risk, causes us to perform better in job interviews, and generally configures our brains to cope well in stressful situations.

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TFN Pitch-coaching Workshops

Half-day for up to 5 pairs = $5,000
Full-day for up to 10 pairs = $10,000

Open workshops
Half-day, for $1,000 per pair

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Questions?
Thank you!