

BA (Hons) Acting*

The Programme at a glance

Year 1

- Introduction to core skills and concepts of acting
- Focus on self and text, and the methods of Stanislavski
- Introduction to voice and movement
- The application of key skills to scenes chosen from the naturalistic repertoire
- Contextual study relevant to practical work

Year 2

- The refinement of the actor's instrument and skills
- Introduction to non-naturalistic techniques
- Development of voice and movement
- Approaches to ideologically based text, Shakespearean text, clowning, chorus and ensemble work
- Advanced contextual study

Year 3

- A range of public performances
- Approaches to radio and microphone technique
- Television, film project and acting to camera
- Professional preparation and West End Showcase
- Research Project and dissertation

Why join this programme?

This highly vocational programme is designed to provide you with the skills needed to become a successful professional actor for the stage, screen and recorded media. Acting is a demanding course that aims to produce an artist who is physically and vocally flexible, and intellectually alive and curious. Over three years, you will work in a variety of genres and repertoires from classical to contemporary. Alongside the core disciplines of voice, movement and acting techniques, you will develop a range of creative and transferable skills that will encourage you to become an independent thinker and motivated artist; an articulate and reflective practitioner equipped to succeed in an increasingly competitive profession.

- You will receive first class vocational actor training.
- The team of permanent staff and part-time lecturers are highly skilled with strong ties to the theatre and film industry.
- In the third year you will take part in a Showcase in the West End of London and perform in a range of fully-mounted plays in professional venues.
- The campus facilities are excellent and include purpose-built rehearsal rooms, movement space and a range of performance spaces including two flexible studios, the Rose Theatre and the Barn Theatre.
- You will have the opportunity to collaborate with other students studying complementary theatre disciplines.

Duration

3 Years.

Entry Requirements

Suggested 'A' Levels or equivalent subjects: English, Theatre Studies, Drama.

How to Apply

Applications made through UCAS.

Institution code

name:

Rose

Institution

Application code:

R51

Programme code

W410

Term Start

September, 2010.

***NCDT Accredited**

Your first year

The curriculum offers you the tools that will enable you to develop an acting process, designed to create credible and dynamic characterisation. Stanislavski's approach to acting is a predominant basis for the training and a range of practical classes and rehearsal projects introduce you to the concept of work on self, leading to focus on role, followed by professional development. You will participate in classes in voice, movement and singing, which will emphasise the importance of an expressive, flexible and technically sound vocal and physical instrument. Texts studied in the first year are drawn from the work of contemporary naturalistic writers such as Simon Stephens and classic writers such as Chekhov and Ibsen. Final projects for this year include practical presentations of these texts.

Your second year

This year builds upon and extends the work from level 1. You will explore a wide range of non-naturalistic genres from Greek, Epic, Absurd and the Avant Garde, which will introduce you to new modes of acting, staging and playwriting. You will also cover the study and performance of poetic texts. All work in the second year culminates in the presentation of a short studio season which may take place in one of the College's performance spaces. Texts studied in this year might include Brecht, Churchill, Pinter, Buchner, Shakespeare, Webster and Marlowe.

Your final year

The emphasis of this year is on preparation for professional practice. You will participate in fully staged productions presented to a professional standard in collaboration with students from other programmes. A series of lectures, workshops, mock auditions and interviews are aimed at providing you with the broad range of skills required to be able to manage an independent career. Letter writing and CV presentation, audition and interview technique, and an understanding of the role of the professional casting director and agent are topics covered by the curriculum, which culminates in a London Showcase of work to an invited audience of industry professionals at a West End venue.

You will continue to develop new skills by applying your performance process to radio and microphone work, film and television. You will

also undertake a major research project.

Graduate success

Recent graduates have performed in plays at the Chichester Festival Theatre, the Royal Shakespeare Company, the Bush, the Royal National Theatre, the Manchester Royal Exchange, the Donmar Warehouse, West Yorkshire Playhouse and La Guardia among many others. Others have pursued a career in television, film and radio.

- Janice Byrne 2007: Film: *Zonad 2009; Uncle Bill's Barrell* 2008; TV: *Whistleblower* (2 episodes, 2008)
- Gareth Milton 2006: BBC Drama *Crash* Sept 2009; National Theatre of Wales; Clwyd Theatr Cymru; Sherman Theatre.
- Jessica Gunning 2007: Royal National Theatre *Major Barbara; The Rose Tattoo*, BBC TV *Doctor Who*
- Flora Nicholson 2007: Royal Shakespeare Company
- Simone James 2007: Royal National Theatre; National Theatre of Scotland
- Adrian de Costa 2007: Royal Shakespeare Company
- Lena Kaur 2007: *Hollyoaks*, The Old Vic Theatre
- Dana Gartland 2009: *The Comedy of Errors* at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre
- Francis Ortega 2008: BBC TV *Holby City, Body Language, Shadow Observers; The Spanish Tragedy* at Arcola Theatre

Audition

You will first need to prepare two contrasting speeches of your choice, each of approximately 1.5 minutes in length. If you are recalled you will be invited to attend a day long workshop audition where you will be asked to take part in various workshops, including voice, movement and singing.

Following the workshops, selected candidates are invited to stay for an interview with the Programme Director and other acting staff. You will be expected to demonstrate an active interest in performance arts and some prior experience; for example, work in youth groups or amateur theatre will be an advantage.

Head of School

Emilio Romero

Programme Director

Iain Reekie

Staff

Peter Bramley
Tess Dignan
Julian Jones
Marcello Marascalchi
Alison Mackinnon
Pat O'Toole
Huw Prall
Sarah Stephenson
David Zoob

Visiting Professionals

Philip Osment
Matt Wilde

Due to the specialist nature of the College, our courses often have longer contact hours than at some universities and require a lot of stamina. Hours can be irregular with some evening and weekend work required in the run-up to shows. These long hours reflect practice in the creative industries and help to prepare students for the realities of work in this sector.