

# *BA (Hons)*

# *Creative Lighting Control*

## *Programme at a Glance*

### *Your first year (Sessions 1, 2 & 3)*

- Preparation for study
- Introduction to lighting design
- Introduction to performance
- Lighting design and production
- Visualisation and communication (including CAD and WYSIWYG training)
- Context: ideas of performance
- Introduction to video in performance
- Performance making practice

### *Your second year (Sessions 1, 2 & 3)*

- Advanced programming and network design
- Production practice: management (Chief Electrician show role)
- Context: ideas of practice
- Production practice: programming (Lighting/Video Programmer show role)
- Show control (the technologies used to automate various production elements)
- Industry study (including a work placement)
- Modes of performance (dance, musicals, architecture, opera, and corporate events)

### *Your final year (Sessions 1, 2 & 3)*

- Independent research project (an extended independent enquiry)
- Professional practice (including a work placement)
- Major project (one large or two small show roles)
- Collaborative projects (explore different roles or types of performance)

## *Why join this programme?*

With digital technologies now at the heart of almost every kind of performance, the live entertainment industry needs people who can be creative and work together to make great events happen. Rapid changes to lighting technology have seen automated lighting become commonplace along with the widespread use of video in live performance.

Lighting Control is a unique course, created in response to the industry demand for creative technical practitioners. This programme will equip you to meet the growing need for specialist lighting programmers and technicians, who can work with the technology and who also have the creativity needed to orchestrate the very best live events.

The programme will prepare you for a career as a creative lighting professional, able to work on different performance types including live music, entertainment events, theatre, dance, corporate events, exhibitions and installations. You will focus primarily on the specific role of the programmer for lighting and video, although we will expose you to all aspects of lighting, from lighting design to lighting management. We believe that the lighting programmer role requires you to be creative with technology when interpreting and implementing a design, as well as having excellent craft and technical skills. We look for students who have a passion for lighting and enjoy learning and operating new technologies.

## *Duration*

3 Years.

## *Entry Requirements*

A levels, BTEC or equivalent. All applicants are invited for interview (portfolio required).

## *How to Apply*

Applications made through UCAS

## *Institution code*

**name:**

Rose

## *Institution*

**Application code:**

R51

## *Programme Code:*

WG46

## *Term Start*

September, 2010.

### **Resources and facilities**

The Lighting Control programme has access to the College's two theatres (including a 350 seat theatre-in-the-round and the 99 seat Barn Theatre) and two studio performance spaces, as well as to three lighting laboratories and a digital laboratory with CAD and computer visualisation software (currently AutoCAD, Vectorworks and WYSIWYG). You will use a wide variety of lighting consoles such as Avolites Pearl Expert, Grand MA2, Strand 500, ETC EOS/ION, and Wholehog III, together with media servers such as Catalyst and Mbox. The College continually updates its resources as new equipment and systems become available.

The College also has a dedicated Learning Resources Centre containing specialist books, videos, support materials and an extensive collection of research material on this subject.

### **Industry and professional links**

The programme regularly employs experts in their field to enhance the core staff team. Taking time out of their busy professional work, their input into specific modules helps to ensure that you will achieve professional standards and learn up-to-date practices. Often these professionals can offer you placements and advice on specific production issues, and may even lead to full-time employment. The College also has excellent links with theatres, other venues and with manufacturers and service suppliers in the lighting industry. We regularly host industry events and meetings, which ensures a continual dialogue between emerging and established professionals.

### **Placements and exchange opportunities**

Under tutor guidance you will undertake work placements in both your second and third years, in order to develop and test your skills and to find out more about the industry you will be entering. Your placements may be with theatres or other venues, with production houses, or with hire, sales and manufacturing companies. You may also be attached to an individual professional.

The College also has links with other institutions worldwide, such as Divadelni Fakulta, Prague, Czech Republic, Teatterikorkeakoulu (Theatre Academy), Helsinki, Finland, Centre de Formation Professionnelle aux Techniques de Spectacle, Paris, France and Institut del Teatre, Barcelona,

Spain and it is often possible to undertake some of your study abroad. The majority of students who do this find it a hugely enriching and valuable experience.

### **Graduate success**

Lighting Control is a new programme for 2009-10. However, Rose Bruford graduates from other programmes have gone on to work as lighting programmers for concerts (U2, Scouting for Girls, Jay Z, Eurovision Song Contest), theatre and musicals (National Theatre, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Drowsy Chaperone*) and events (Musium, BRIT Awards), as well as in many other roles in the lighting industry. Our current students are already making valuable industry contacts through their work placements with professional lighting designers, manufacturers and venues.

### **Your interview**

Entry is through the UCAS system. All applicants who satisfy the entry requirements set out in the prospectus are offered the opportunity to attend an interview with programme tutors. During the interview you will be expected to demonstrate your understanding of visual creativity, your technical proficiency, an ability to combine the analytical and the practical, and your passion for your chosen art form. Students typically choose to do this in the form of a portfolio. There will be at least one student on hand to talk to you about the programme and show you around the College. You will be in College for about two hours. We accept students from many diverse backgrounds, though most have experience in drama or performing arts, either at National Diploma/GNVQ or at 'A' Level.

### **Cost of study**

You will be expected to have a basic tool kit when you start, which can be supplemented as the programme develops. You will also need to have your own working clothes and personal protective equipment. There are some core books that you will be expected to buy, although there are a limited number of copies in the College library. You will also be expected to fund theatre visits and trips as required.

### **Contact**

020 8308 2600

### **Head of School**

Nick Hunt

### **Core Staff**

Rachel Nicholson  
Adrian Sledmere  
Hansjörg Schmidt

### **Visiting Professionals**

Rob Halliday  
Liz Berry

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.