

# BA (Hons) Lighting Design\*

## **Programme at a Glance**

### **Year 1**

- Introduction to the fundamentals of lighting design
- Analysis of contemporary theatre practice and theatre styles and genre
- The use of light to create meaningful images
- Developing skills to create complex cue structures on a range of lighting consoles, and use of moving lights
- Practical seminars and workshops in lighting space and lighting emotions
- Practice on both individual and collaborative projects

### **Year 2**

- Developing skills and knowledge to take a design from text to performance
- Collaborative project to present a realised lighting design
- Investigation of the principles and techniques of lighting for dance, musicals, opera, corporate events, and architectural lighting
- Practical examination of the role of the lighting support team

### **Year 3**

- Lighting design for fully-realised productions and small-scale experimental work
- Collaborative project to create a genre-specific lighting design
- Substantial research project into a lighting subject of your choice
- Elective project – individually negotiated project

## **Why join this programme?**

The Lighting Design programme will develop your creativity by asking you to develop high standards in a collaborative art form. It is vocational, so your study will be rooted in the practical approach to a task, but we will ask you to think and ask questions about what you are doing and the work that you are involved in making. You will have the opportunity to collaborate with other students studying complementary performance and design disciplines to create fully mounted productions. The programme offers diversity by embracing different approaches to lighting, performance, and culture, and prepares you for a wide range of careers in the lighting industry.

## **Resources and facilities**

The programme has its own resources that complement the College's excellent facilities. College wide, there are four performance spaces, which are all equipped with a good range of lighting facilities. There is a digital laboratory for CAD and visualization, including AutoCAD, Vectorworks, and WYSIWYG.

At programme level, there are three specialist teaching spaces: a seminar room and two lighting laboratories. The lighting labs are each equipped with a 24 way low-voltage lighting rig, as well as a range of different lighting consoles (ETC Express and Ion, as well as Avolites Pearl, MA2, and Wholehog III). There also is a Catalyst media server, and a range of intelligent luminaires. 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.

## **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:**

W4W2

## **Term Start**

September, 2010.

**\*NCDT Accredited**

### **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 host industry events and meetings over the year, which ensures a continual dialogue between emerging and established professionals.

Some of the practitioners and companies who are working with our students include lighting designers Paule Constable, Natasha Chivers, Simon Corder, and Durham Marengi. Companies and venues include Sadlers Wells Theatre, The Royal Opera House, The World Famous, the clod ensemble, Mesmer, Musion, White Light, Hawthorns, Stage Technologies, PRG, and Cirque de Soleil.

### **Placements and exchange opportunities**

As a student of Lighting Design you will be supported in undertaking an industry placement where your skills can be tested and enhanced. Your placement 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 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 Design graduates go into many different areas of the lighting industry. Some work as assistants to established lighting designers such as John Rayment (LD for the Sydney 2000 Olympics), Mark Jonathan (LD for L.A. and Metropolitan Opera in the U.S.), Howard Harrison

(LD for *Mary Poppins*) and David Lawrence (LD for *Virgin Atlantic*). Others work on the lighting teams for West End and touring productions (*Lion King*, *Chicago*, *Daddy Cool*, *Tonight's the Night*, Royal National Theatre, Royal Opera House, English National Opera, English Touring Opera, and many more). Some work for design, hire or sales companies (White Light, Midnight Design, Marlin Lighting) and some work for regional theatres (Aberdeen, Bath, Colchester, Exeter, Worcester). Some are involved in education and many develop successful freelance careers as lighting technicians and designers.

### **Your interview**

Entry is through the UCAS application system. All applicants who satisfy the entry requirements set out in the prospectus are offered the opportunity to attend an interview with one of the programme tutors. During the interview you will be expected to demonstrate your understanding of visual creativity by presenting your portfolio. We will also want to talk to you about your interest in combining the analytical and the practical, and your passion for your chosen art form. 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.

Our students have a wide range of backgrounds and many have studied Performing Arts or Drama at 'A' Level or National Diploma/GNVQ, though we don't require you to have studied any particular subjects.

### **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

### **Programme Director**

Hansjörg Schmidt

### **Core Staff**

Ben Ratcliffe

### **Visiting Professionals**

Rick Fisher

Durham Marengi

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.