

# BA (Hons) Opera Studies

By Distance Learning

## Programme at a Glance

### Level 1

- Opera at Work
- Making Sense of Music
- Opera in Context
- Ways of Talking About Opera: the critical audience

### Level 2

- The Baroque
- Romanticism *Electives:*
- Monteverdi
- Mozart
- Verdi
- Wagner
- The Libretto
- Opera in France
- The Orchestra and Conductor
- The Singer

### Level 3

- Birth of the Modern *Electives:*
- Shakespeare in Opera
- Britten
- Berg
- Nationalists
- Opera since WW II
- Production, Design, Direction
- Women in Opera
- Wagner's *Ring*
- Lieder
- Independent Research Project (Hons only)

## Why take this programme?

The programme offers you a unique opportunity to deepen your passion and understanding of opera whilst balancing work and family commitments. You work at your own pace and from your own home – wherever in the world that might be. We aim to give you a thorough knowledge of diverse aspects of opera ranging from the social, historical and aesthetic contexts in which opera flourishes to the practitioners, directors, singers, librettists and composers who create it.

## How does the programme work?

The programme is divided into three levels. Each level is equivalent to one year of a full-time degree, although as a Distance Learning student you can spread your work over a longer period of time, up to ten years. On completion of each level you will accumulate enough credits to earn a qualification, the degrees are validated by the University of Manchester:

Completion of Level 1 (120 credits)

### HE Certificate in Opera Studies

Completion of Levels 1 and 2 (240 credits)

### HE Diploma in Opera Studies

Completion of Levels 1 and 2 plus 60 credits at Level 3 (300 credits)

### BA pass degree in Opera Studies

Completion of Levels 1 and 2 plus 120 credits at Level 3 (360) credits

### BA Honours degree in Opera Studies

Within each level, the programme of study is divided into modules, each focusing on a specific topic.

## Duration

Minimum 3 years  
Maximum 12 years  
(Depending on Hons, Pass, Diploma or Certificate).

## Entry Requirements

None – open access

## Career Progression

Graduates may continue to study at Masters or PhD level, including the College's own MA and Research degree programmes.

## Term Start

September, 2010.

## How to Apply

Contact the Programme Director on 020 8308 2647 or email [fiona.schopf@bruford.ac.uk](mailto:fiona.schopf@bruford.ac.uk)

A host of electives surround the core, compulsory modules enabling you to pursue your particular areas of interest as you progress.

### **Entry requirements**

The Rose Bruford Opera Studies Distance Learning degree is open access and has no formal entry requirements. For this reason, many people who do not possess standard University entry qualifications may apply for this degree. At the time of application, the Programme Director will contact you for an informal discussion about your aspirations and expectations and your choice of modules for the first year. No prior musical knowledge is required as we teach you everything you need to know to progress through the programme.

### **Study time**

Although the programme is designed to be flexible, we suggest that on average you allow eight hours per week per 30-credit module; each module is divided into eight Units designed to be studied one a month September-April. You may study more than one module at a time but all modules run concurrently. Each module has two written assignments due to be submitted on December 1st and May 15th.

### **How we teach**

You have a personal tutor for each module who is there to help you succeed. Tutors are on hand to answer your academic queries, advise you on planning your work and to provide feedback on your assignments. The Programme Director is also available to provide advice and guidance. We support you every step of the way, you are never alone.

The module material is written in a conversational style with little Tasks and Exercises strategically placed to help you gauge your assessment of the material. All exercises have full written responses.

### **Free online Study Resources**

As a credit-taking Opera Studies student you will have complete free online access to the best music dictionary in the world *Groveonline*, all tracks published by Naxos in their Music Library, the academic journal archive JSTOR and the online learning resources of Opera America. These resources enable you to study at any time as you are not restricted to library opening hours etc. thus making the programme flexible to fit around other life commitments. They also save you hundreds of pounds!

### **Study Events**

The programme holds various optional study events and residentials which are an ideal way of meeting fellow students.

### **Library Access**

The College's Learning Resources Centre (LRC) is open to all Distance Learning students for personal use and for borrowing. Those of you who live at a distance can borrow the books through your local library. The LRC staff are happy to provide photocopies of articles or chapters from books. The LRC also provides information about useful web resources and you can access information by logging on to the College website. Of particular importance is the College's membership of the SCONUL Access scheme. This reciprocal arrangement between colleges and universities in the UK allows you access and borrowing rights at the library of your nearest participating Higher Education Institution.

### **College Access**

As a Distance Learning student you are welcome to attend College events on campus including the annual Symposium, bi-annual Music on Stage conference, guest lectures, master classes and productions. The Opera Studies programme has its own quarterly student magazine, *Capriccio*, which contains articles by students on various productions they have seen around the world. There is also an internet Forum to enable you to contact each other, sell books and CDs and post short reviews.

### **Head of School**

Dr Paul Fryer

### **Programme Director**

Dr F J Schopf

### **Tutors & Sessional Staff**

Ben Curry MA  
Dr Sinead Dempsey-Garratt  
Dr Anne Desler  
Susie Dingle MA  
Dr Michael Downes  
Dr Laura Hamer  
Dr George Kennaway  
Professor Marcelo Marango  
Dr Rachel Milestone  
Barry Mitchell MA  
Neil Pennock MMus  
Dr Claire Seymour  
Kevin Stephens MA  
Michael Walling MA