

BA (Hons) Performance Sound

Programme at a Glance

Year 1

- Preparation for study
- Introduction to audio technologies
- Application of audio technologies
- Introduction to performance
- Sound installation
- Performance making practice
- Context: ideas of performance

Year 2

- Sound for theatre
- Production practice: design
- Production practice: operation
- Show control (the technologies used to automate the control of various production elements)
- Modes of performance (sound for different types of performance and events)
- Context: ideas of practice
- Industry study (including a work placement)

Year 3

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

Why join this programme?

Performance Sound is a comprehensive vocational programme in theatre sound design and operation, live concert mixing, conference sound, sonic art installation, and radio drama recording and production. You will be taught by professional staff with experience in the industry and you will have the opportunity to collaborate with other students studying complementary disciplines to create fully mounted performances.

Resources and facilities

The programme has access to five digital recording studios, Mac laptops, and show control computers equipped with the latest software (CSC, Logic, Melodyne, Waves Renaissance, Ableton Live, Reason, Final Cut Studio 3). In addition there are mobile sound reinforcement and sound installation systems which you will use on productions. Our digital laboratory has fourteen iMacs with Logic-pro for audio sequencing and editing purposes. Lecture rooms are equipped with digital projectors and audio interfaces.

Productions take place in a variety of venues including the College's own 350 seat theatre-in-the-round and the 99 seat Barn Theatre. 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 is composed of a team of permanent staff and visiting professionals who make the link between education and vocation. Visits to and placement in the industry form an essential part of the programme. These links

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:

WJ49

Term Start

September, 2010.

encourage our students to establish connections that may lead to employment.

Recent visiting lecturers have included West End sound operator, Digby Shaw, (*Mamma Mia*, *Grease Is the Word*, *Jersey Boys*); Steven Brown, Head of Sound at the Manchester Royal Exchange; Gerard Albo, freelance mixing engineer (Amy Winehouse, Prince, Robyn, Zero 7, Belle & Sebastian, Chick Corea, Dionne Warwick, Portishead).

Industry links include: Orbital Sound, DiGiCo, Jungle Studios, P&O Cruises, Systems ETC, West End Studios, Capital Sound.

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 and so has no graduates yet. The programme is designed to equip you to pursue an active career in the live sound industry, such as forming your own hire company, becoming a sound designer, operator or live sound mixing engineer, either as a freelancer or as a member of a theatre company or venue team. You may also pursue a career as a sound designer in radio drama and audio postproduction.

Your interview

Entry is through the UCAS application system. All applicants who fulfil the standard requirements set out in the prospectus are invited to an interview with programme tutor. During the

interview there will be a chance for you to present your portfolio of work to support your application. There will be at least one student on hand to talk to you about the programme and show you around the College.

We do not require you to have studied particular subjects, but typically our students have taken 'A' Levels, BTEC or equivalent qualifications in areas such as drama and performance studies, music, music technology, computing, design and technology - systems and control, electronics, media communication and production.

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 need a good quality pair of headphone monitors, and a large storage capacity portable hard-drive. You will also need to have your own working clothes, and many students also make use of their personal laptop computer. 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

Ben Davies

Adrian Sledmere

Marina Venturini

Visiting Professionals

Steven Brown

Gerard Albo

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.