

Diploma in Acting (Part Time)

COURSE OUTLINE

The part-time Diploma is a two-year vocational training in Acting. Students on this programme study part time at Bute Street between the hours of 7pm – 9pm, Tuesday and Thursday and for approximately 5 hours on alternate Saturdays.

This course provides a solid foundation in the skills of performance, enabling students to move on to further training or into the profession, depending on individual progress.

The two year acting course is a course designed for those who are starting off in acting, coming back to it after a break and / or cannot commit to a full time training program.

Students on this part-time course will be taught by the same instructors as our full time Diploma courses and have access to the same facilities.

This course in Acting is open to anyone over the age of eighteen who may have very little experience of acting or to those who show a natural ability in performance. Although students are not expected to have a high level of experience, they are expected to have, as with most of our courses, a good work ethic and to be dedicated.



SUBJECT AREAS



ACTING

Over the two years' students experiment with the various techniques developed by most of the leading theatre practitioners enabling each course participant to more freely access their acting potential. Finding the truth in a character is an essential aspect of any actor's approach to performance. This will be the major focus during the acting classes over the two years. The students are encouraged to develop their individual creativity. There will be studies of character behaviour, impulse and animal work. Understanding the beginnings of textual analysis in some acting classes is covered. They will address related historical, political and social relevance, varying developments in styles of theatre and why writers were writing as they did.

The students also learn the techniques involved in breaking down a text for analysis using units and beats. They then apply Uta Hagan's acting questions to their monologues, scenes and play studies. They detail the text with their objective, obstacle, motivation, and action choices. These choices are based on knowledge of the character's time line and/or biography and the student's characterisation decisions. They then apply this knowledge of text analysis to their scene study, monologues, rehearsal projects and performances.

VOICE

The students will explore release and use of tension, breath capacity and effectiveness, development of tone and resonance, clarity and articulation, muscularity of the word, connection and credibility. They will use the voice in varied texts. They learn how to analyse and use the voice effectively within the performance demands that are placed on them.

Students are taught to identify their inherent vocal habits and how to begin to change and control their speech patterns. Voice work includes exercises to improve breath control in order to extend vocal range and flexibility. Text work helps develop physical and imaginative control of the voice.

MOVEMENT

In movement you will cover spatial awareness, freeing the actor from habitual tensions, safe warm up techniques, finding neutral, moving as part of an ensemble, functional and expressive gesture, physical representation of inner life and using the body as a means of expression.

The students will also develop their ensemble skills and confidence in their physical ability with a view to broadening their physical vocabulary for devising work. They will also work on approaching character development with a focus on physicality. Students will also work on the Frantic Assembly Method.



IMPROVISATION

Students begin to learn to access their innate spontaneity and imagination through improvisation. Improvisation classes encourage the students to overcome these inhibitions in a fun, creative and dynamic way. The beginner exercises will help the student to open up their imagination and quickness of thinking on their feet. It encourages them to play and enjoy the art of creating their own scenes and characters. The structure of a good improvisation will be explored using status, storytelling, blocking, the magic "if" and characterisation.



ADDITIONAL MODULES:

- CAMERA TECHNIQUES

Working on a dedicated screen-acting technique encouraging the students to focus their performances for the camera in a truthful and engaging way.

- SINGING

The aim is to become familiar with the students' voices and to instil a basic understanding of singing technique. Simultaneously covering a range of material to introduce students to singing in harmony as a group and building confidence as solo singers.

- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Audition Techniques and other professional development. Students will be provided information and guidance on areas relating to professional preparation (casting sites, headshots etc).

- BASIC COMBAT SKILLS
- TEXT ANALYSIS
- SHAKESPEARE STUDIES
- GUEST DIRECTORS / SPEAKERS / PRACTITIONERS

REHEARSAL EXERCISES, PRESENTATIONS AND GRADUATE PRODUCTION



During the two years of the course, students will be involved in several rehearsal exercise projects; this is where the students rehearse specific scenes, monologues and excerpts with a view to performance. This gives the students the opportunity to put into practice the skills and techniques they learn during each of the individual classes. It is essential they experience the live audience situation at the end of their module of work. They then begin to understand their nerves and individual reactions to this experience in a safe environment which encourages their confidence in the performance arena.

The first, second, third, fourth and fifth terms' performances will be in-house to an audience of fellow students and tutors. The pieces range from monologue work in their first term to contemporary and classic scene work in the following terms. By the end of the sixth term, a graduation performance will take place in an established central London theatre. Students have the opportunity to invite people from the acting industry to see them in this production, as well as their family and friends.

Before the end of the course students will be advised on how best to take their career forward through individual tuition and guest lecturers from Industry professionals.



COURSE AIMS

By completing the Part Time Diploma course you can expect to be able to:

- develop and play a character in rehearsals and performances and sustain it before an audience or within the framework of an audio / visual production
- show evidence of the skills of basic characterisation
- create believable characters and emotions appropriate to the demands of the text and production
- define the objectives of a character and embody and express these within the context of a production
- make full use of individuality in performance
- work sensitively with other actors in both rehearsal and performance
- begin to show evidence within performance of creative imagination, emotion, thought, concentration and energy
- develop an effective working process
- draw upon and make use of personal experience and observation to assist in the creation of a role
- prepare and sustain the quality of concentration necessary for each performance
- use costumes and props effectively to develop performance
- communicate to an audience with expression, emotion and spontaneity
- read and interpret texts with accuracy and confidence
- textual analysis, research and observation in the development of a role
- study text and make full use of the structures and phrasing in order to reveal character, intention and the development of a story



LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course endeavours to deliver to the graduating students a solid grounding and understanding of what is required of them for their future professional career. They will begin to understand themselves as creative artists and acquire knowledge of the discipline involved in the pursuit of their possible career choice.

If a student successfully participates in and completes the course, making full use of the opportunities for learning that this course provides they should know and be able to do the following:

VOICE

- develop individual vocal potential
- develop and protect the vocal resources to the full
- begin to develop the skill of creating and communicating character, emotion, thought and narrative through the use of language
- develop the skill of reading and interpreting texts
- develop expression. communicate emotions and thoughts with spontaneity
- develop the skill of communicating the meaning of texts of various periods and style
- develop the skill of communication with confidence and assurance
- develop the skill of reading with clarity and understanding from a prepared passage and understand the needs of sight reading
- develop and apply vocal techniques of breathing, centering and relaxation in relation to pitch, resonance, projection and articulation and sustain long passages of speech in rehearsal and performance
- develop and understand the necessity to prepare and execute suitable warm-up exercises in order to protect the voice and ensure the optimum potential in rehearsal and performance
- develop the skill of responding, listening to other actors and being aware of the audience

BODY

- develop the use of the body in a free, safe and flexible manner while taking care of physical resources
- develop realising character, emotion and narrative through the use of body and movement
- develop communication physically in performance with confidence and assurance
- develop movement with an understanding and awareness of space
- move economically and expressively and use relaxation and balance as a sound basis for the efficient use of body and voice
- maintain stamina in specific movement tasks and demanding work over a lengthy period
- develop and understand the necessity to prepare and execute personal warm-up exercises in order to avoid personal injury and to facilitate the fullest use of physical skills in performance

COURSE DATES

2019/20 ACADEMIC YEAR – YEAR 1 - 8th October 2019 – 11th June 2020

- TERM 1 -** 8th October - 5th December 2019
(Saturdays – 12th, 26th Oct, 9th, 23rd Nov)
- TERM 2 -** 7th January – 26th March 2020
(Saturdays – 11th, 25th Jan, 8th, 22nd Feb, 7th, 21st Mar)
- TERM 3 -** 21st April - 11th June 2020
(Saturdays – 25th Apr, 9th, 23rd May, 6th June)

YEAR 2 - TBC

COURSE FEES

The total tuition fee for the course is £2,075 per academic year, which is £4,150 for the entire 2-year programme.

This fee is inclusive of the required £500 confirmation payment (due on acceptance of place). The remainder is to be paid in two instalments of £1,825 before the start of each school year. A discount rate of £3,990 applies if full tuition fees are paid prior to course commencement.



ABOUT LSDA

London School of Dramatic Art (LSDA) was set up to provide a comprehensive and professionally relevant vocational training that was both accessible and centred around the individuality of the students attending. The management, staff and tutors at LSDA are all working professionals: a fact that ensures relevant training methodology and approach, along with a clear focus on current industry requirements and practices, are always at the heart of the training experience.



Graduates of LSDA's courses have been successful in obtaining professional acting work within all performance mediums; stage, TV, film, and voiceover as well as gaining representation by reputable agents. In addition to this they have established relationships with industry casting consultants and directors.

Our style of teaching is not to impose methodologies but to provide the tools to enable students to become imaginative creative professionals. We foster the individual talents in all our students. We encourage them to take responsibility for creating specific character choices whilst studying at LSDA and throughout their ongoing career. LSDA aims to assist each student in reaching their full potential.

LSDA admits only a limited number of students each year because we want to maintain a high creative standard of student in a close-knit learning environment. We believe this sets the right scene for growth and development for an actor.

The founding principles of the London School of Dramatic Art continue to remain the essence of what makes this school a unique and refreshing place to train.

LSDA is a partnership with David Game, Chairman of the David Game College Group, Drama Centre London trained Jake Taylor (current Principal), Casting Director Urvashi Chand and BAFTA-award winning actor and director Noel Clarke who is recognised for discovering and nurturing new talent.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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