

Contemporary Performance Making MA

About the course

The Contemporary Performance Making MA is a practice-focused programme for aspiring artists who want to develop their artistic practice in one or more of Brunel's specialist areas:

- ▲ writing/directing
- ▲ live art/installation
- ▲ digital performance

The programme draws on Brunel's expertise and the resources of London, combining critical engagement and practice-based research.

The course delivers a broad training in practices and theories of contemporary performance through compulsory modules. You will work towards your final project in collaboration with one or more of Brunel's internationally renowned artists and theorists including Johannes Birringer, Sue Broadhurst and Fiona Templeton. There are regular guest seminars by some of today's most influential artists and theorists (past guests include Simon Vincenzi, Stacy Makishi, Ron Athey, Kira O'Reilly, Julian Maynard-Smith and Wendy Houstoun).

Compulsory modules

- ▲ Exploring specialist options:
Teaching blocks in various skills vary from year to year. You will explore each skill as groundwork for your final performance project or written dissertation in the final two terms. You will produce two practical pieces together with documentation.
- ▲ Digital Performance Technologies:
This practice-based module also provides groundwork for your final project. It gives practical instruction in a laboratory setting for sustained experimentation with vocabularies and strategies of multimedia and digital performance composition. You work with video-shooting and editing techniques, sound recording and processing techniques, interactive sensor environments (using Brunel's unique sensor toolkits), and multimedia real-time integration.
- ▲ Approaches to Performance/Mise-en-Scène Making:
This module addresses the interdisciplinary nature of contemporary performance. It looks at the multiplicity and diversity of approaches to performance making over the past 100 years. You will study a variety of practical and theoretical approaches that will contextualise your own work.
- ▲ Research methodologies:
This module develops independent thought and an understanding of interdisciplinary research methodologies

in performance studies. You engage with abstract concepts, advanced ideas and current trends. In this way, you will discuss and analyse your own and others' approaches. This is a platform to test your ideas and present a series of short papers on selected topics.

- ▲ Professional placement:
In the first term of this module you will attend lectures and workshops on professional development with staff and guest lecturers/leading experts in the field. In the second part of the module, you will undertake a placement/apprenticeship with an established partner organisation such as a national or international theatre company, festival or university with whom we will sign a learning contract. Previous students completed placements in the UK, US, Canada, Hungary, Romania and France.
- ▲ Final Performance Project/Dissertation:
During the spring and summer terms you will work towards your practical performance project or written dissertation. The performance project should be a final performance either in directing, performance writing or solo performance, supported by a written document. Or you may choose to submit an entirely written dissertation.

Mode of study

- 1 year full time
- 2 year part time

Start date

September

Entry criteria

A UK first or second class honours degree or equivalent internationally recognised qualification usually in theatre or a related arts discipline. Other qualifications and relevant professional or practical experience will be assessed on an individual basis.

Fees 2016/17

Information can be found online at www.brunel.ac.uk/pgfees

Scholarships

Find out more online at www.brunel.ac.uk/pgscholarships

How to apply

You can apply online at www.brunel.ac.uk/ma-cp

About Brunel University London

Brunel University London is home to 15,000 students from over 100 countries, who work, think and learn together on one campus. Brunel is one of the top 25 universities worldwide founded in the last 50 years. We combine academic rigour with a practical, entrepreneurial and imaginative approach to meet the challenges of the future. www.brunel.ac.uk

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