

Foundation Certificate in Performing Arts - Singing

Module Information

Core Modules

- Acting through Song and Repertoire – 12 credits
- Specialist Skills Project – 12 credits
- Integrated Skills Project – 24 credits
- Professional Studies – 12 credits
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- Singing Technique (Specialist Study) – 24 credits
- Music Theory – 12 credits
- Introduction to Acting (Minor Study) – 12 credits
- Dance Styles (Minor Study) – 12 credits

Acting through Song and Repertoire

The module aims to provide an introduction to:

1. acting through song and the related physical, vocal and imaginative skills;
2. appropriate repertoire for audition purposes;
3. the disciplines of working with a musical director;
4. the genre of Musical Theatre.

After completing the module, you should be able to:

1. Analyse and execute the central acting journey of sung material
2. Undertake a personal singing warm-up and regular vocal exercises;
3. Select and perform an appropriate solo song for audition purposes;
4. Translate personal acting process into the context of sung, scene and ensemble material.

Specialist Skills Project

Specialist Skills project is designed to provide you with an opportunity to bring all the elements of your studies together. The module is designed to help you recognise the importance and function of each individual element of process and performance. The module is also designed to help you develop skills in critical appraisal and reflection. The module provides you with a substantial performance opportunity which develops ideas and skills and collaborative practices established within your programme, in the context of a clearly focused brief. It promotes the application of further recognition of the nature and scope of approaches, genres and media, applicable to live performance. You are encouraged and enabled to develop a range of communication skills, in order to realise the performance outcome.

After completing this module, you should be able to:

1. Employ basic levels of competence in practical activities;
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the creative/rehearsal process used for the development of performance;
3. Work creatively and efficiently as part of a team and to manage their time effectively;
4. Critically appraise their work and the work of others.

Integrated Skills Project

The Integrated Skills Project module provides you with a substantial performance opportunity which develops ideas and skills and collaborative practices established within their programme, in the context of a clearly focused brief. It promotes the application of further recognition of the nature and scope of approaches, genres and media, applicable to live performance. You are encouraged and enabled to develop a range of communication skills, in order to realise the performance outcome.

After completing the module, you should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a developed understanding of the creative/rehearsal process used for the development of performance;
2. Work creatively and efficiently as part of a team under supervision and independently;
3. Employ developed levels of competence in rehearsals and performance.

Professional Studies

This module is designed to ensure that you are able to place their work and the work of others in both a broad socio-cultural/creative context and provide you with a broad overview of the performing arts economy specifically in the UK and more generally across the world.

After completing this module, you should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a critical awareness of the social, political and historical factors that impact upon the production of meaning in performing arts;
2. Research, select, analyse and develop a clear and coherent argument in support of a thesis or idea relevant to the performing arts industry;
3. Demonstrate knowledge of ways/methods to operate independently as a freelance artist within the performing arts industry.

Singing Technique (Specialist Study)

Singing Technique is designed to provide the specialist student with a range of singing skills as soloist and in small and large ensembles. The module is designed to provide a rigorous foundation for your future development as specialist vocal performers.

Ensemble Singing is concerned with the study and practice of varying aspects of choral performance within a range of stylistic and idiomatic contexts. The module provides an opportunity to rehearse and perform in a variety of ensembles and environments.

Individual singing technique is concerned with developing individual vocal skills, including a detailed understanding of the vocal processes and health issues associated with singing.

After completing the module, you should be able to:

1. Employ considered technical, creative, improvisational and interpretative singing performance skills;
2. Demonstrate enhanced awareness of the stylistic characteristics of a range of musical genres/repertoire and ability to perform in a variety of musical styles;
3. Demonstrate an understanding of vocal processes and the ability to sing in a healthy manner;
4. Employ knowledge of rehearsal, presentation and performance techniques, and the ability to work collaboratively as an effective team member.

Music Theory

Music Theory is designed to give performing artists the basic ability to understand music notation at a practical level. Specific module aims include the development of:

- An understanding of the notated language of music
- The ability to decode (read) and encode (write) music notation
- A basic understanding of function harmony
- A foundation for further study of music through notation

After completing the module, you should be able to:

1. Identify and correctly employ time and key signatures;
2. Construct names, scales and chords;
3. Transcribe rhythms, melodies and chords;
4. Read and write basic musical notation.

Introduction to Acting (Minor Study)

The module has two broad aims:

1. To build a solid process for approaching naturalistic parts for both performance and audition preparation. The module aims to introduce you to a basic set of acting 'tools' and asks them to make critical choices in building their own process of preparation. The module encourages you to explore the relationships between motivation, tactic and pursuit of a task as the basis of a thought process.
2. To provide a broad practical understanding of vocal technique in speaking, including warm-up exercises, body voice integration, voice and text.

After completing the module, you should be able to:

1. Work freely as an ensemble member with sensitivity towards other actors, including the ability to receive and respond spontaneously to other people in improvisation and scene work;
2. Demonstrate an understanding of character thought process and be able to locate and exploit the basic dramatic tension in a monologue, scene or improvisation;
3. Undertake a personal warm-up and demonstrate an understanding of the basics in physical and vocal technique in creating a believable character portrayal.

Dance Styles

This module is designed to provide the non-dance specialist performer with broad dance skills in the area of Jazz, stage, street dance, hip-hop, social dance and physical theatre movement.

After completing the module, you should be able to:

1. Demonstrate with confidence, the correct use of body, qualities and control required in a broad range of commercial and social dance techniques;
2. Execute appropriate stylistic responses to the techniques studied;
3. Demonstrate concentration, focus and a professional attitude in class;
4. Show appropriate use of time, weight and space in the various techniques studied