

LIPA

THE LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE
FOR PERFORMING ARTS

2020 entry overseas audition guidelines
BA (Hons) Acting
BA (Hons) Acting (Screen & Digital Media)
Foundation Certificate Acting

Congratulations on being invited to an audition at LIPA.

We understand how nerve-wracking the prospect of auditioning can be, so please read these guidelines carefully. Being able to follow instructions is an important part of being an actor.

Remember we're interested in finding out about you as an individual, so please try to relax, be yourself and enjoy yourself on the day.

What to prepare for your individual audition

Please prepare three pieces:

- One contemporary speech of your choosing from any piece written after 1960 (2 minutes)
- One verse speech of your choosing (2 minutes)
- One devised piece (2 minutes)

Contemporary speech guidance

Choose a modern speech from the naturalistic genre from a play written after 1960. This play should reflect your own age and life experiences. We're looking for something that allows us to get to know you, so choose a character that you make a connection with and make sure it's within your playing age. Aim to select a monologue that means that you are addressing another character, rather than just speaking to the "audience."

Verse speech guidance

Please present a verse speech of your choosing, contrasting in tone to your contemporary speech. This verse speech may be, but is not limited to:

- Classical poetry
- Twentieth century poetry
- Spoken word
- Shakespeare
- Elizabethan
- Jacobean
- Restoration

A verse speech will contain a metrical rhythm; it may or may not rhyme. What's important is that you choose a piece that allows you to demonstrate your ability to interpret heightened forms of speech, while revealing your ability to communicate images and stories.

- Choose a verse speech that excites, challenges and engages you.
- If there are words or phrases you aren't sure you understand, get help from tutors, friends, or check books or other resource materials.
- Imagine where, exactly, you are, and who it is you're speaking to.
- Speaking the verse to a friend may improve your sense of imagination about the piece.
- Don't try to imitate what you think verse speaking should sound like. Use your own voice, your own imagination and your own feelings.
- Consider contemporary artists (for example: Kate Tempest, Luke Wright) as well as established authors/playwrights/poets.

Devised piece guidance

Your ability to create your own work is nurtured on our course, as it is a valuable addition to your technical and creative skillset. We therefore ask you to create a two-minute piece of theatre.

It must be an original, devised performance which communicates, in a carefully structured way, something about yourself and your relationship with the world you

live in. You should incorporate a physical hand prop/object of your choice into your performance piece (literal or symbolic). Whatever object you choose, you should engage with the object in a meaningful way. The object should be an integral part of your devised performance piece, allowing your engagement with the object to help you reveal something about yourself. Here are a few hints and tips to help you create this piece:

- It does not have to be naturalistic or 'tell a story'.
- Avoid a 'talking head' performance piece. In other words, don't just perform the devised piece as merely a spoken monologue. Try to turn your ideas into performed images.
- Movement, sound, spoken word (originally written or from another source), song, music (recorded or live), and gesture can all be part of your devised piece. Please don't present a dance.
- Ensure your devised piece expresses an essential quality of who you are, and where you believe your place is in the world you inhabit.
- Consider, within your structure, a beginning, middle, and end to your devised piece.

Each of your three pieces should be no longer than two minutes. The panel may stop anyone who goes over that time.

Other aspects of the event

Workshop

Subject to time restraints and venue size, a workshop with a member of the Acting staff may be offered. There is no need to prepare for this, but please aim to engage with it as fully as possible.

Interview and redirect

We may conduct a short interview with you, so please ensure you have made yourself fully aware of the details of the courses by reading through our prospectus and website so you have an understanding of all elements involved in the degree courses and what will be expected of you over the three years. We may also take a few minutes to direct your monologue, giving you advice and instruction on how you might approach the monologue from a different angle, helping you to understand other aspects of the character through the language the playwright has given them. You will then attempt to incorporate this advice.

What to wear to the audition

Please wear loose clothing, comfortable for movement. Please do not wear jeans or other restricting clothes. You may also be asked to work barefoot in a workshop. If for medical reasons you cannot work barefoot, then please ensure you have appropriate, flat footwear.

What to bring to the audition

Please bring your hand prop/object for the devised piece, a passport photo or headshot, water, refreshments and something to read. There are periods when you will be waiting around.

When will you hear from us afterwards

need time to reflect on the candidates we've seen, so we do not normally tell you the outcome of your audition on the day itself. Normally, we communicate the decision within four working weeks.

Any questions?

We wish you the best of luck and hope you enjoy your day with us. In the meantime, if you have any concerns about any aspect of the audition please contact our International Team, tel +44151 330 3118, email: international@lipa.ac.uk.

We want to achieve equality and diversity and to be accessible to all. These audition guidelines can be made available in other formats if that would be helpful to you. If you are disabled, we can often make adjustments to your audition. If you would like to discuss this, please contact Penny Byrne, our Student Support Manager, at p.byrne@lipa.ac.uk or +44 (0)151 330 3013.