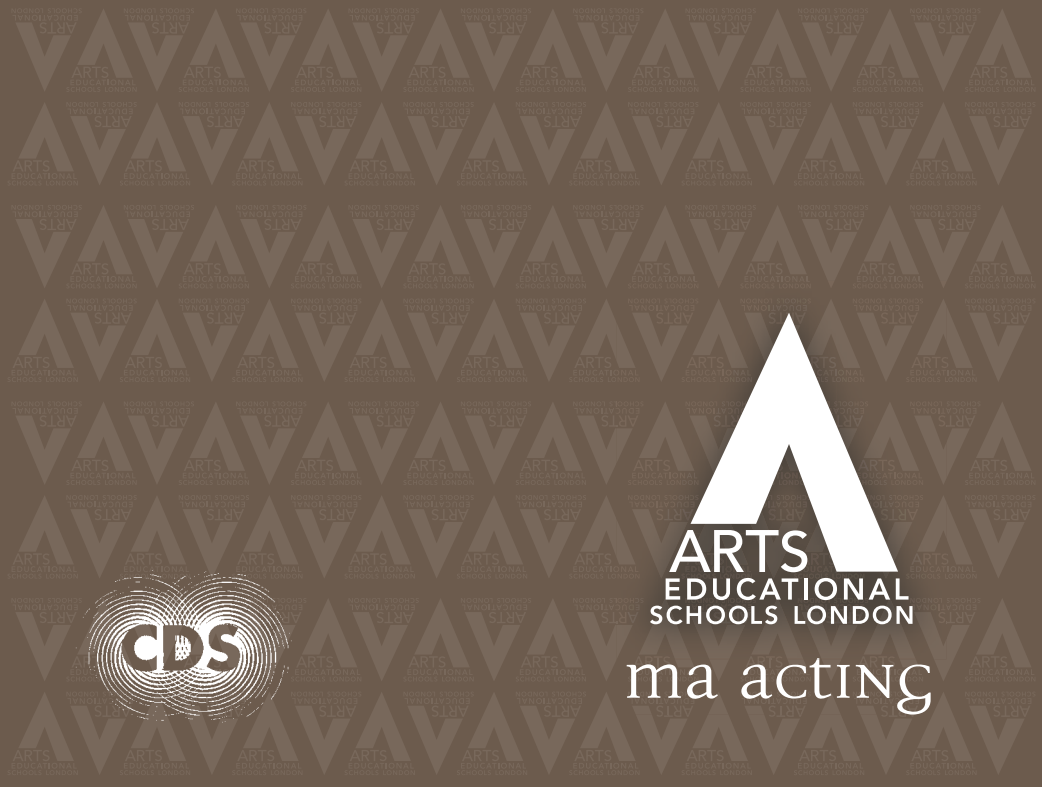


1YR MA ACTING 2012



ma acting

The study of the craft of acting is first and foremost a study of humankind. The work of the actor is to reveal the potential of the human spirit and the truth of the human situation.

This MA course exists to enable mature students to gain an advanced understanding and ability as professional actors and to allow them to explore their creative possibilities as artists both for stage and screen acting.

The course is built around the following principles:

The idea of an ensemble, the belief that actors will develop most successfully in a group with a communal work-ethic and mutual respect for each other.

The belief that each actor will develop their innate potential through having a safe space in which to take bold creative risks in an atmosphere where both success and failure are seen as part of the creative enterprise.



1YR ma acting 2012

COURSE OVERVIEW

This MA course exists to enable mature students to gain an advanced understanding and ability as professional actors and to allow them to explore their creative possibilities as artists both for stage and screen acting.

The course seeks to develop in the actor the ability to research, experiment, test, extend, reflect and process the art in themselves, within an atmosphere of rigorous constructive criticism. The emphasis of the training is in learning to live truthfully under a given set of circumstances raised to the optics of the theatre/screen. The atmosphere is non-competitive and encouraging of artistic and creative risks, where the student is guided by specialist tutors and directors.

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CORE SKILLS TRAINING

ACTING

Acting Technique: Student will be introduced to Meisner's repetition exercise, in which each actor works on developing their point of view and starts to own their unique responses to others' performances. They progressively discover how they interact and come into connection with their fellow actor. We will train students' ability to see clearly and respond truthfully from their unique point of view. Extending their capacity to really put their attention outside of themselves and honing their ability to be perceptive and responsive.

Rehearsal Exercise: Using contemporary theatre scripts in term one and classical texts (usually Shakespeare) in term two, this module aims to equip the actors with an imaginative work process and to provide them with a unified work method, work discipline and an actor's vocabulary within a creative ensemble.



Screen Acting: This module provides the actor with an advanced professional working knowledge of screen performance and the vocabulary and culture of the film and television industries.

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THE EXPRESSIVE BODY

Physical Practice: This module develops students' physical fitness, flexibility, stamina and core strength. Through study of a wide variety of physical practice techniques drawn from the work of successful theatre companies like Complicité, Told by an Idiot, Trestle and Frantic Assembly, students will develop the skills and sensibilities necessary to be versatile, imaginative and physically dynamic actors. Physical practice is physically demanding but importantly it is character based and exercises the students' imaginations.

The Transformation Class: In order to develop the actor's imagination, concentration and sense of observation and invention through an understanding of their own bodies, the outer and inner characteristics of animals are studied and used in the process of human character transformation.

Alexander Technique: To enable students to use their bodies in an easier, freer and more coordinated way and to let go of excess tension, the practices and principles of the Alexander Technique are taught as it applies to acting training and daily life.

Stage Combat: A thorough training in combat skills, basic safety devices and combat choreography.

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THE EXPRESSIVE VOICE

Voice for the Actor: An actor's voice must be sensitive enough to convey the subtleties of thoughts and emotions, sometimes over a considerable distance on a stage and sometimes with exquisite delicacy in front of a microphone. The aim of this class is to begin work on the full realisation and awareness of the potential of each individual voice.

Singing for the Actor: Singing is the voice "in flight" and this class develops appropriate techniques for actors to realise their possibilities and to engage with the demands of narrative music theatre.

PERFORMANCE TERM

Public Productions: Supported by a full production team and production values, each student is cast in a play, for which they audition in front of professional directors. The plays are rehearsed and then presented in one of our two theatres.

Screen Performance: Students work over a series of weeks with a professional television director on rehearse/record and other filming methods, developing a profound understanding of the difference in process needed to reveal a performance on the screen to that of the stage. The students will crew for each other, giving them an insight into every job on a film set and an understanding of the rhythm of film-making. These short location-based scenes will generate enough material to enable the students to make their own showreels at the end of the course: an essential sales tool for the modern actor.

Showcase: All the students will work with a professional director on a showcase of short scenes. This is presented at a London venue for an invited audience of industry professionals.

ALL TERMS

The Actors Journal and Reflective

Appraisals: An opportunity for analysis and structured reflection on their creative processes as the actor moves through the course and discovers the effect of the training on their instrument demonstrated through a "log book" and written reflection during the two breaks in training and at the culmination of the course, together with a Professional Development Plan.

PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

Professional and Business Preparation:

To contemporise the actor's knowledge and experience of the realities, opportunities and requirements of the industry at large, a number of guest speakers from the industry are invited, at the end of the second term, to give talks and seminars, these may include directors, producers, actors, agents and personal managers, film makers and past students.

Professional Employment Skills:

To ensure that the students are fully prepared to present themselves professionally and favourably at auditions, a performance term module includes: interviews and casting sessions, audition technique, audition tutorials, individual singing repertoire, together with advanced vocal work.

Professional Development Plan:

This provides a mechanism by which the actor may audit and profile their competencies and understanding of their own work and create an action plan for the year following graduation.



WHAT OUR GRADUATES GO ON TO DO

Since the beginning of this course in 1993 we have produced an international body of actors now working in Australia, New Zealand, the USA, Argentina, South Africa, Scandinavia and Europe, as well as the UK. We have also produced some fine directors, writers and teachers. Recently we have had actors in the National and Royal Shakespeare Companies, in the West End and in major national tours, as well as major films and TV series. Other former students have worked in Educational Theatre, Fringe Theatre or started their own companies and even theatrical agencies.

Most of our graduates are actors who have former careers or trades on which they can rely to provide for the many times that a contemporary actor in our society is either under or un-employed! Our training is for life – not for who gets the first job – and our major concern is training the artist as a cultural architect, a person who grasps the overall picture of their professional and cultural vocation and is prepared to influence attitudes and shape the future.





fees AND FUNDING

MA ACTING £12,500

(this includes the City University Registration Fee of £90)

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Full fee's and funding details can be found on our website www.artsed.co.uk


ADMISSIONS

Admission requirements

If you are over 21 years of age and have a first degree or at least 3 years professional experience you may apply. Your potential for training will be assessed at a workshop audition.

How do I apply?

Download an application form from our website www.artsed.co.uk



To apply please download the application form and return along with the appropriate attachements.

The application forms are in Adobe Acrobat format. If you do not already have Acrobat Reader installed you can download it for free here:
<http://get.adobe.com/uk/reader>

MA Acting Applications

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