

TRINITY LABAN CONSERVATOIRE OF MUSIC & DANCE



Independent Study Programme: Foundation (Musical Theatre Pathway)

September 2017 Entry

Disclaimer: This document describes the ISP Foundation music programme and relevant modules / components currently offered by Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance. The Conservatoire will endeavour to provide the modules / components indicated in this document, but their availability cannot be guaranteed. In the event that a module / component or class cannot be provided, an alternative will be offered.

INTRODUCTION

The Faculty of Music at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance offers Independent Study Programmes at pre-undergraduate (Foundation) and postgraduate levels (Advanced). At Foundation level, a study pathway is available for Musical Theatre Performers.

The ISP Foundation Musical Theatre Performance pathway programme is designed for aspiring musical theatre artists who wish to develop their skills and techniques through a dedicated programme of practical and contextual study. It is an opportunity for students to access high-quality conservatoire training and may provide an entry route to further specialist/vocational training (e.g. undergraduate degree programmes within the conservatoire or wider higher education sectors, particularly within the UK) or a platform for a dedicated period of personal study. For international students it may additionally provide a route to develop their English Language skills alongside intensive instrumental / vocal / composition training. Students may also wish to use the programme as a platform for access to London's vibrant cultural life.

On successful completion of this programme, participating students receive a transcript including a full listing of all learning undertaken.

The programme is available for one year of full-time study only.

STUDENT DESTINATIONS

On the ISP Foundation programme as a whole, 82% of students who apply for further study at a UK conservatoire receive an offer. Around 53% of all completing students are offered places for further study at Trinity Laban; 63% of all students are offered places for further study at a UK conservatoire, and 83% of students are offered places in UK higher education (figures from 2012 – 16).

As the ISP Foundation Musical Theatre Performance pathway was newly introduced for the academic year commencing September 2016, no student destination information exists for this pathway at the current time.

HOW WILL I LEARN?

Learning takes place through a blend of formal tuition, experiential learning and personal study.

Singing, dancing and acting tuition is the central element of the provision, with the Skills & Techniques module consisting of a range of individual one-to-one lessons, intensive group tuition in singing, dancing and acting, and performance workshops. You will develop and contextualize your individual learning within rehearsal and performance settings within the Creative Performer module, and engage with cross-disciplinary working through the Creative Collaborator module which includes participation in Trinity Laban's renowned annual CoLab festival.

Throughout the programme your learning will be consolidated through extensive self-study and access to the college's many learning resources.

The programme aims to enable you to begin developing independent learning strategies for lifelong learning. Your tutors will regularly encourage you to reflect on your learning and to formulate personal programmes of study and targets for learning.

Certain modules/components in the programme will involve you studying with other student(s) in a collaborative way (e.g. creating work with other musicians, dancers &/or other artists). This may involve you working alongside students from other programmes at a

variety of levels. Collaboration is considered to be at the heart of professional artistic life and opportunities such as these represent valuable learning experiences.

APPLICATION

Trinity Laban places greater emphasis on its own audition and tests than on formal qualifications. As a guide, please note that the course is aimed at students considering entry to undergraduate study at conservatoire or university, and places are offered to candidates who demonstrate the potential to reach that level within the year.

Audition requirements currently map entirely to those for the BA (Hons) Musical Theatre Performance degree – for further details please see <http://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/study/how-to-apply/musical-theatre-applications>.

For students whose first language is not English an English language assessment will be undertaken on application/audition, on the basis of which a recommendation for further study may be made. The normal minimum standard for entry to the programmes is IELTS 4.0 in all four areas. This is also the minimum requirement for Tier 4 student visas. Alternative English Language accreditation will be considered.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International students benefit from all the facilities and performance opportunities available at the Conservatoire and enjoy the unique experience of living and studying within our vibrant international community. Applicants will normally qualify for a Tier 4 (General) Student Visa. To meet visa requirements, international students will be required to sit a TCL diploma.

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMME

Modules: (totalling 120 non-HE notional credits)

MODULE	Credit Weighting
Skills & Techniques	90
Creative Performance	20
Creative Collaborator (incorporating CoLab)	10

Full details of an individual student's programme will be determined in consultation with the Programme Leader, and will be based on the student's audition results, academic experience, English Language skills, personal aims and objectives, and advice from the Pathway Leader and relevant Module Leaders.

Credits (notional, non-HE credits) can only be awarded for those modules/components attended in full for a whole year, and all assignments and assessments must be completed. However, these credits are non-transferable and cannot be used for direct entry into a higher

year on any programme at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance or any other Higher Education Institution within the UK.

Please note that enrolment on the ISP Foundation programme does not guarantee automatic progression to any other programme, which are all subject to competitive audition.

CONTENT OF THE PROGRAMME

COMPONENT	FOUNDATION
Skills & Technique classes (singing, dancing, acting)	An average of 20 hrs per week x 25 weeks.
Individual vocal tuition	45 mins x 25 weeks = 18.75 hrs 1-2-1.
Creative Performance Project	75-80 hrs project rehearsal/preparation over a 5 week period in conjunction with the creative team.
Audition Technique Classes	1.5 hrs x 20 weeks including mock auditions/interviews with Course Leaders from selected vocational institutions.
Show Choir (in conjunction with BA (Hons) MTP students)	1.5 hrs x 25 weeks.
CoLab	One week-long intensive project.
Personal Tutorials	ISPF Musical Theatre Performance Pathway Leader (meetings by individual negotiation).
Additional Study Options	Optional additional 1-2-1 study may be taken on the payment of the appropriate hourly fee (please see Table of Fees below).
English Language Classes (Not applicable to students whose first language is English)	Available as an additional option on payment of an additional fee (please see Table of fees below) (2 hrs x 20 weeks).

PROGRAMME CONTENT

Skills & Techniques

The Skills & Techniques module introduces you to the underpinning technical foundations of the musical theatre techniques required in professional industry settings. You will explore a range of relevant skills and techniques in classes, developing your competence in these skills while also gaining knowledge and understanding of the principles related to each individual area of study; in addition, you will develop corresponding skills that will enable you to apply these principles to your own practice.

The module content includes a structured series of practical classes focusing on the development, application and consolidation of your musical theatre skills and techniques, including:

- Individual singing lessons
- Ensemble singing class
- Repertoire classes
- Musical Theatre Voice (MTV) class
- Acting class
- Voice class
- Acting through song masterclasses
- Dance classes (Ballet, Tap Jazz and Body Conditioning)
- Audition technique classes
- Individual practice and preparation.

Classes enable skills development and preparatory work leading to formative class-based assessments at the end of term one, and a summative assessment in term two. The formative assessments will give you feedback, and allow you to critically reflect on your skills and understand not only your levels but your future development needs.

The aims of the module are to:

- Provide firm technical foundations in musical theatre singing, acting and dancing
- Expose you to a range of Musical Theatre repertoire, styles and genres.
- Develop a range of repertoire appropriate for audition
- Explore and develop relevant learning strategies
- Develop self-awareness, evaluation and personal management skills.

Each student will be allocated to a musical theatre vocal professor for their individual singing lessons. Great care is taken in making the allocation to ensure that a fruitful and happy working relationship can be achieved between student and teacher. Teachers agree learning plans with their students and keep progress under review.

ATCL Musical Theatre Performance

The ISP Musical Theatre Pathway includes one free sitting of the ATCL Musical Theatre Performance Diploma.

The ATCL is a single unit qualification comprising a performance programme of 25 minutes, and a viva voce. Candidates must demonstrate professional potential in two major musical theatre disciplines (dance, singing, acting) and present a varied programme including sung and spoken items, one of which may be a duet or duologue; one item must be dance-based. The content of the diploma is prepared both during class time and independent practice time, and is assessed by an external examiner. The ATCL Musical Theatre Diploma is equivalent to Level 4 on the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF).

Creative Performance

Creative Performance provides you with a performance platform that will allow you to apply and adapt your developing skills to meet the needs of a variety of musical theatre repertoire, involving the use of a technically competent, safe, well-produced appropriate singing voice, believable, character-driven acting, and musical theatre dance steps and routines. Module content includes project rehearsals in which you re-combine the various skills required into integrated musical theatre performances (approximately 5 weeks in all). Roles will usually be split and the repertoire may be cut or adapted as required to meet the learners' development needs for the project.

Development sessions include:

- Individual project audition, preparation and delivery
- Group rehearsal and performance.
- Individual practice and preparation.

The Creative Collaborator

As a musical theatre performer it is important to understand the benefits of working alongside and collaborating with other creatives in order to develop innovative and forward facing performance based art for future audiences. Historically musical theatre has been developed and reinvented through the collaboration between successful teams and partnerships of writers, musicians, directors, choreographers and other theatre practitioners.

The Faculty of Music has placed collaboration at the centre of its curriculum by creating CoLab, Trinity Laban's annual two-week "festival" of cross-discipline student-led experimental work, enabling you to experience and reflect upon your emerging identity as a performer and collaborative artist working within an experimental and collaborative session across the institution.

This Collaboration Lab (CoLab) enables Trinity Laban students to focus their attention on their artistic relationships with other musicians, dancers, artists from other disciplines, local and global culture.

For a two-week period, students and staff will work together, and with others, to create, rehearse, devise and develop week-long projects, encourage the participants to take artistic risks and learn from the process.

While CoLab may culminate in performances, recordings or informal sharings, the emphasis is on process; outcomes of projects will be shared in variety of ways but will not necessarily lead to formal performances. Participation in CoLab activities and observation of others activities is the key aspect of this module. Students are assessed on their reflective responses to participation.

The aims of the module are to:

- Introduce students to a range of creative processes and methods
- Apply technical and artistic skills appropriate to context
- Develop a mature and self-critical approach to individual development and insight into group dynamics within challenging creative environments
- Demonstrate individual participants' creative bravery and encourage them to explore personal challenges
- Enable students to reflect on, and develop a critical account of the creative process and its development through performance.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

In the Skills & Techniques module, you will be assessed in class on the development of your singing, dancing and acting skills and submit a Skills & Techniques portfolio. Your portfolio submission will be designed to support your learning by engage you with preparatory and research activities including the development of audition repertoire.

The ATCL will be assessed by an external examiner. The assessment is divided into two parts: the performance programme (70 marks) and the viva voce (30 marks).

Within the Creative Performance module both rehearsal and performance elements are formally assessed. Gratings are agreed between the Creative Team using formal assessment criteria. The rehearsal assessment reflects your own and directed preparation, punctuality/time-keeping, the quality of your participation and contribution to ensemble, your adaptability and responsiveness to direction (from any of Creative Team). The performance assessment considers your performance within allocated role(s) within a performance project, taking account of style and genre.

The Creative Collaborator module is assessed through the creation of a Working Journal and self-critical analysis of your process in relation to your allocated CoLab project.

You will receive regular formative feedback in class from teachers, and written feedback (including an indicative grading) following each formal assessment point.

PERSONAL TUTOR

The Musical Theatre Performance Pathway Leader acts as Personal Tutor to each student on the ISP Foundation Programme (Musical Theatre Performance pathway), supporting individual student's pastoral and academic needs for the duration of their study at Trinity Laban. The Pathway Leader is the first point of contact for all structured consultation, advice and guidance. On-going learning-related enquiries are dealt with in the normal manner by lecturers, teachers, component leaders or the Head of Department: Musical Theatre. Welfare concerns or issues are referred to Student Services as appropriate.

LIBRARY & VLE

The programme grants full access to the award-winning Jerwood Library's collection of scores, books, recordings, journals and online resources. Trinity Laban uses the Moodle platform as a virtual learning environment to support practical and academic learning, and modules embed coursework activities to support holistic and consistent development throughout the year. Training in using the library and Moodle are offered at the start of the academic year.

FEES:

ISP FOUNDATION PROGRAMME (Musical Theatre Pathway) £9,550

(Full-time option only – one year)

ADDITIONAL INDIVIDUAL TEACHING (ONE-TO-ONE), per hour £79

ADDITIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASS, per academic year £475

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Admissions

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