

ACTING SHAKESPEARE**2 JUNE - 25 JULY 2008**

This course is designed for actors with experience (or those who have already undertaken serious training elsewhere and are about to set out on an acting career). It takes place over eight weeks and a certificate is awarded on successful completion of the course. It draws on the classical aspects of the three year BA Acting Degree and offers an opportunity to expand, explore and deepen awareness of Shakespeare's text in the company of other professionals, working with tutors who are drawn from senior members of the Academy's teaching staff as well as professional directors.

During the course all aspects of vocal technique are taught, with classes to develop the resonance and range of each student's voice, to uncover individual tensions that block vocal development, and to work on strategies to remove them. Verse speaking, which pays particular attention to Shakespeare's sonnets, and Language and Style are treated as separate subjects. Classes working on a particular play, on monologues, scenes and songs of the Elizabethan era, complement Alexander Technique, which is taught as a basis for comprehensive physical skills work which includes Stage Fighting, Period Dance, Action and Improvisation.

Participants are divided into groups of approximately sixteen for the main acting and rehearsal schedules. These groups are sub-divided into smaller groups for specific skills classes. Each participant is also allocated a personal tutor for the duration of the programme, whom they will meet for one to one feedback.

The first six weeks of the course are devoted primarily to in-depth acting and skills classes, during which there will be two internal presentations for tutors and other course members, in order that students have an opportunity to try out newly discovered skills; the first, a Sonnets' presentation in week three; the second, a Monologue presentation followed by a Scenes and Song presentation in week six. Both these occasions are followed by feedback.

The last two weeks of the course are spent in full-time rehearsal for a workshop production of an abridged version of a full length play, which has three performances in one of the RADA theatres during the last days of the course. It should be noted that all presentations are 'in-house' and are in no sense external showcase productions.

Entry is deliberately restricted and places are awarded by competitive audition. Auditions are held in London and New York. Video audition tapes are also accepted (UK or USA format). **Please note this is the only RADA acting course for which video audition is accepted.**

Dates

The course will begin on Monday 2 June and finish on Friday 25 July 2008.

Qualifications

Fluency in both written and spoken English is essential, as is experience of acting at either professional or graduate level.

Students below the age of eighteen are not normally accepted. There is no upper age limit but older applicants are advised that the course is physically demanding.

Application

An application form will be found in the middle of this brochure. Please return it to RADA together with a detailed resumé of your acting experience and a written reference from a reputable director or drama teacher with whom you have worked recently.

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Admission

Admission is by audition in New York (3-7 March 2008) or London (January-March). Video auditions are accepted (on this course only). For the audition you should prepare two pieces; one from Shakespeare and one from a modern play, neither of which should exceed three minutes in length.

In person: To register for an audition either in London or New York please complete the application form enclosing a non-returnable £40.00 registration fee and send to 62-64 Gower Street, London WC1E 6ED. Those opting for a New York audition will then be contacted in due course by the Institute of International Education in New York with an audition date and time. An audition fee of approximately \$100 will then be payable direct to the Institute.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 12 FEBRUARY 2008.

By video: If you choose to audition by video please send a tape (UK or USA format) or CD of your pieces with your completed application form and enclose a non-returnable £15 registration fee. Video cassettes will only be returned if international reply coupons to the value of five pounds sterling are enclosed. **APPLICATION DEADLINE: 10 MARCH 2008.**

Notification

Applicants will be informed by post at the address given on the application form, whether or not they have been accepted. In some instances a 'waiting list' place may be offered.

Fees

The fee for the course is £4,800 which includes lunch, Monday to Friday. **Please note there are no RADA Scholarships available for short courses.**

Cancellation

The course fee is non-returnable unless notice of withdrawal is received by, at the latest, 1 May 2008. In the event of a cancellation before this date, the sum of £200 will be retained to cover administration costs. After 1 May 2008, a cancellation will result in the forfeiture of the entire course fee.

Hours of Work

Classes generally take place between 9.30am and 6.30pm (approx), Monday to Friday, although you should be aware that some sessions each week will go on later. In the latter part of the course extra rehearsals will be called in the evening, and some weekend working will also be required.

Undertaking

Applicants undertake to accept their grouping (which will be governed by the information given on their application form) and the casting as decided by their director.

Staff

Tutors are drawn from the Academy's senior staff and experienced professional directors.

Facilities

The Academy's refectory is open from 8.30am to 2.00pm Monday to Friday.

The RADA library has a unique collection of some 25,000 theatre-related books. Participants are welcome to make use of this facility on payment of a returnable deposit.

Your place on the course entitles you to one complimentary ticket for each RADA production. You are also encouraged to see as many professional theatre productions as possible for which special offers are sometimes available.

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Certificate

The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art's certificate stating a minimum number of contact hours will be awarded on completion of the course.

University Credits

In the case of students who are attending courses at Universities in North America (or elsewhere), it is a matter for each University or College to decide whether to include the RADA Acting Shakespeare course as part of their students' accreditation process.

What to bring

Please have your own copy of the Complete Works of Shakespeare. In general, clothes for all classes should be loose and comfortable to allow maximum flexibility and soft-soled shoes must be worn in all studio rooms. Please bring clothing suitable for movement classes. Male students will need to bring a white shirt, black trousers and black formal shoes and female students will need a long black practice skirt, a white blouse and black character shoes. Further details will be sent to you once you have been accepted onto the course.

Accommodation

It is possible that basic student hostel accommodation can be arranged for you. Further details will be sent to you once you have been offered a place on the course.

Rules and Regulations (see page 16)

All students must undertake to conform to such rules and regulations as may be required by the Academy. The Artistic Director shall, at his absolute discretion, have the right to terminate the course in respect of any student whose presence or conduct is, for any reason, incompatible with the standards or reputation of the Academy. **Friends or other persons who are not officially enrolled are not permitted to sit in on classes, rehearsals, or end of course showings.**

Insurance

It is strongly recommended that all students insure themselves to cover the loss of fees in the event of illness or accident, for which the Academy cannot accept any liability.

Note: This is a course intended for experienced actors. Applicants whose resumé are not considered appropriate may be invited to take part in the RADA Summer School (see page 7).

For further information about the Acting Shakespeare Course, please contact either:

Patrick Quagliano, 300 West 23rd Street # 7C, New York 10011, USA
Tel: (212) 803 5457

or

Sally Power, Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, 62-64 Gower Street, London WC1E 6ED
Tel: +44 (0)207 636 7076 Fax: +44 (0)207 323 3865