



Royal Conservatoire
of Scotland

BA PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT

rcs.ac.uk/productiontechnology

**LIKE
NOWHERE ELSE:
EDUCATING
YOU FOR A
WAY OF LIFE**

The BA Production Technology and Management programme is a very practical course that will see you take on industry-standard roles from the very start. With a timetable that is also reflective of industry practice, you will build the stamina and resilience to withstand a challenging yet rewarding career.

Working closely with local, national and international leaders in the industry, we are proud of a diverse and inclusive curriculum that encompasses a wide range of material including opera, ballet, Shakespeare, plays, devised work and musical theatre.

BA Production Technology and Management

Three years, full-time
[rcs.ac.uk/productiontechnology](https://www.rcs.ac.uk/productiontechnology)

As the only programme of its kind in Scotland, the Production Technology and Management degree will support you in becoming a confident, adaptable and employable theatre practitioner, whilst also developing a specialism in one of the following areas:

- | Stage management
- | Stage technology
- | Production lighting and sound
- | Lighting design
- | Sound design

As a conservatoire, RCS offers multiple theatre practice opportunities with a strong emphasis on cross discipline peer engagement in order to expand your knowledge and experience in the arts.

RCS is a major public performance venue with world-class facilities. The combination of professional venues, workshops, construction spaces, design studios, and the latest stage and workshop technologies provides a fantastic learning environment.

Why choose us

- | The only conservatoire-based technical theatre degree in Scotland
- | Industry placement during your studies
- | Award-winning stage management department
- | Small class sizes
- | Regular workshops and masterclasses with distinguished visiting professionals
- | Work on a diverse range of productions including ballet, opera, contemporary performance and Christmas shows
- | Fully equipped proscenium arch theatre with a fly tower and automated flying capabilities, as well as the highest level equipment in both lighting and sound
- | Opportunities to study abroad in Europe, Australia, California and Hong Kong
- | New kit acquisitions include Martin & Robe moving lights, Kinesys stage automation, Yamaha QL5, Kinesys, KV2, Shure Axient and DPA microphones.
- | Develop invaluable industry contacts with our unrivalled professional partners including, Black Light, Warehouse Sound, the Production Lighting and Sound Association, the Association of Lighting Designers, National Theatre of Scotland, Scottish Ballet, Scottish Opera, Citizens Theatre, Pitlochry Festival Theatre, Audio Engineering Society and Soundgirls.org



“Our students gain practical experience working on a huge range of productions, including opera, ballet, contemporary performance and theatre. No other UK institution can offer this to students all within the one campus.”

Head of Production: **Ros Maddison**

Year one

Your first year will be based on experiential learning and skills acquisition focusing on the context of production through a range of classroom, workshop and venue-based experiences. This culminates in allocated assistant roles in core areas on RCS productions (e.g. Assistant Stage Manager, Assistant Electrician). You will also investigate the collaborative nature of production and performance, and have the opportunity to work with other students from across RCS.

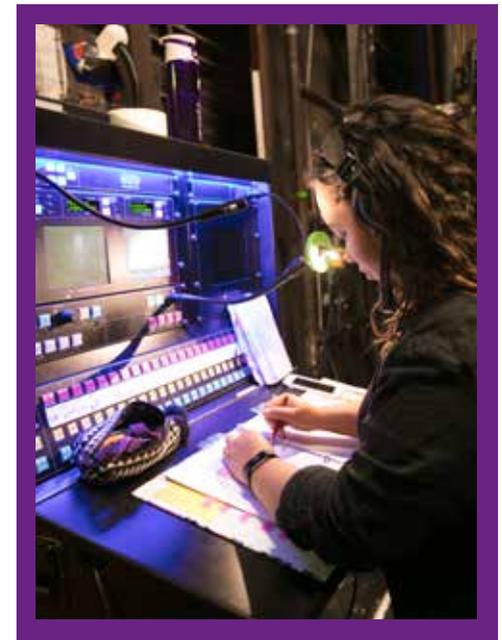
Year two

You will be allocated to production roles, with increasing levels of responsibility focusing on your specialist subject area. Advanced teaching in the key areas of your specialism, as well as integral skills such as management and communication, leads to allocation on more senior roles on RCS productions (e.g. Stage Manager, Production Electrician). You will also engage with Options modules where you can choose from a range of modules on offer from programmes across the institution.

Year three

In your final year, you are expected to perform with autonomy, consolidating your learning and applying the specialist skills you have gained in senior roles on RCS productions. Staff support is available on request and through tutorials but we expect you to operate on an almost professional level. You will negotiate your individual pathway in your final year to take advantage of the available production roles, Options modules and work placement opportunities.

Want to know more about interviews? Watch Ros Maddison discuss her top interview tips for Production students online: [rcs.ac.uk/productiontechnology](https://www.rcs.ac.uk/productiontechnology)





Teaching staff

The teaching staff are highly trained professionals with many years of experience in the industry. They understand the challenges that you will encounter and can provide help and advice as you progress.

- | **Ros Maddison** Head of Production
- | **Clare Hibberd** Lecturer (Sound)
- | **Susan May Hawley** Lecturer (Stage Management)
- | **Steve Macluskie** Lecturer (Stage Technology)
- | **Christopher Wagner** Lecturer (Lighting)

You will also work with the Central Production Unit tutors and the Venue Technicians Team on a regular basis who will provide help and guidance during your studies.

We frequently invite freelance designers and directors to work with students on productions in order to enable our students to learn from industry experts currently working in the field. These professional practitioners will support your learning and allow you to grow your creative network.

DID YOU KNOW?

Production Technology and Management students work on approximately 35 shows each year.

Our graduates

Our graduates work in a huge range of companies all over the world.

- | **Maciej Kopka** Head of Sound, Dundee Rep Theatre
- | **Emma Geddes** Head of Automation, Cirque du Soleil, *Kurios*, *Cirque 2020* and *La Perle* (Dragone), Dubai
- | **Chariya Glasse-Davies** Stage Manager's Assistant, National Theatre of Scotland
- | **James Gow** Project Manager, Black Light Ltd.
- | **Chris Gowling** Production Manager, Beacon Arts Centre
- | **Eve Kerr** Assistant Stage Manager, National Theatre, *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*
- | **David MacMorris** Fleet-wide Audio Developer, Disney Cruise Lines
- | **Wendy Manson** Automation Advisor, Cirque du Soleil
- | **Andrew McCabe** Automation Technician, Cirque du Soleil
- | **Sean Quinn** Project Manager, Apex Acoustics
- | **Alix Ross** Senior Technician, Royal Opera House
- | **Calum Willoughby** Project Manager, Unusual Rigging
- | **Neil Foulis** Lighting Programmer, Scottish Opera
- | **Sam Martin** Head of Projects, Factory Settings Ltd
- | **Rory Boyd** Head of Automation, Cirque du Soleil, *Ovo*

DID YOU KNOW?

The New Athenaeum Theatre is fitted with an industry standard Stage Technologies Automated flying system, and we were the first educational institution in the UK to offer stage automation training as part of our curriculum.

How to apply

Before you apply, please go to rcs.ac.uk/productiontechnology to read full details on the programme and the application and admissions processes.

The application deadline is **15 January** for UK/EU applicants and **31 March** for international applicants.

All applications must be made through the UCAS Conservatoires online admissions service: ucas.com/conservatoires

Our institution code is **R58** and the programme code for BA Production Arts and Design is **204F**.

Entry requirements

Entrance to RCS is based on talent, potential and ability. We are looking for students who display outstanding dedication and ambition.

Academic and language requirements

- | Three passes at Scottish Higher level
- | or Two passes at A Level
- | or International Baccalaureate minimum score of 24 with 3 subjects at Higher level
- | Minimum IELTS Score of 6.5 (5.5 across all components) if English is not your first language

For more specific entry requirements, please visit rcs.ac.uk/productiontechnology

Tuition fees and scholarships

Tuition fees can be found at rcs.ac.uk/fees, along with information on financial support and scholarships.

Interviews

Before your interview we will send you an exercise to complete. You should bring this with you and be prepared to talk about the process of your work. The panel will also ask you to discuss a piece of theatre that you have seen recently.

We encourage Production Technology and Management applicants to bring other examples of practical work, which could include portfolios, sketches, models, photographs and samples of practical work or evidence of previous production experience.

The panel will be looking to find out your understanding of the production industry, your goals and career aspirations and the relevance of your previous experience. We also use the prepared exercise to assess your skills and to demonstrate your approach to a given task.

At your interview, you will be given a tour of the facilities by a current student and we encourage you to ask them questions about their experience.

More details on the interview process can be found online.

Junior Conservatoire

The Junior Conservatoire of Production programme is the only one of its kind in the country and is for talented young artists and technicians aged 14-18 who want to pursue a career in the world of backstage.

Find out more at rcs.ac.uk/junior

Short Courses

We offer a range of short courses and summer schools for people who wish to develop their skills and experience. To see what courses are on offer this year, please visit rcs.ac.uk/shortcourses

Contact us

If you have any questions about your application to the BA Production Technology and Management programme, please contact us at admissions@rcs.ac.uk and we'll be happy to help you.

The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

100 Renfrew Street, Glasgow G2 3DB

Telephone: +44 (0) 141 332 4101

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