



Royal Conservatoire
of Scotland

*I never want to see him again
In truth*

*In truth
I am done with her*

BA PERFORMANCE IN BSL AND ENGLISH

rcs.ac.uk/baperformance

**LIKE
NOWHERE ELSE:
A PROGRAMME
AS UNIQUE AS
YOU ARE.**

If you identify as D/deaf or hard of hearing, and want to perform or create work on stage and screen, we want to meet you.

We are looking for potential. If you are interested in performance and have the drive and commitment needed for a career in the Arts please get in touch. You should be keen, curious and ready to work.

Our students use BSL and/or spoken English. It is your choice. We look at how to create performance through both of these languages.

Choose to study with us and be part of a unique programme which is breaking down barriers in the industry and opening up theatre to new audiences.

You are welcome to come and meet the team and observe our classes in advance of applying. Get in touch!

BA Performance in BSL and English

In association with

SOLAR BEAR

Three years, full-time
rcs.ac.uk/baperformance

Why choose us?

- | The only degree of its kind in Europe
- | Excellent staff-student ratio
- | Small class size means more personalised support
- | The majority of core staff on the programme use BSL
- | There are interpreters provided in every class
- | Work with students from across the different courses in RCS
- | Professional connections including National Theatre of Scotland, BBC, Glasgow Film Theatre and Playwrights' Studio Scotland
- | Industry showcases in both Glasgow and London
- | 80% of students went straight into professional work upon graduation
- | Jenny Sealey MBE is the programme patron



DID YOU KNOW?

This programme has been created with input from artists and professional companies and we work closely with them to deliver a high quality of training.



“This unique course exists to train talented D/deaf and hard of hearing performers. It is one of only a few courses of its kind in the world. With this programme, we are seeking to enrich the pool of talent in the UK and beyond and create a generation of informed, professional and diverse performers who can influence the contemporary scene into which they emerge.”

Head of Programme: **Claire Lamont**

Year one

This is a foundation year where you learn skills: you study acting - exploring character and situation. You also develop your understanding of acting for camera. Devising classes teach you how to make original theatre based on your own ideas. In the register and text module you learn to develop your signing and/or vocal skills. Movement classes develop an understanding of how you use your body in an expressive and creative manner. Visual theatre classes explore a range of performance ideas from a D/deaf perspective. You will also have an opportunity to collaborate with students from across the conservatoire.

Year two

This is a project-based year where you apply your skills in public performance. The first performance is script-based and allows you to develop your acting skills through a full rehearsal and production process. The Outreach module gives students the opportunity to create and deliver workshops to schools and community groups.

The *On The Verge* festival is a chance to create and perform your own pieces of devised work. In Script to Screen, you learn to generate and write ideas for short films to be made in your final year. Second year is also the beginning of Professional Preparation classes which start to get you thinking about working in the industry after graduation.

Year three

In your final year you will put the two strands of acting and performance-making together. The curriculum includes three public performances, one of which will be a touring co-production with an industry partner and also a professional showcase to agents and casting directors. You will use your skills to create innovative performances across our two working languages. Also, students' short films are developed, filmed and screened. We also encourage students to work professionally where invited to do so. You will continue to develop your professional practice, employability and business skills so that, when you graduate, you are well equipped to manage your career as a professional performer.

“For me, the programme has become an essential part of the Scottish theatre landscape, and working with the students has expanded my own artistic practice, making it richer as well as more inclusive.”

Joan Cleville Artistic Director, Scottish Dance Theatre



Teaching staff

- | **Claire Lamont** Lecturer (Devising)
- | **Mark Stevenson** Lecturer (Acting)
- | **Ramesh Meyyappan** Lecturer (Visual Theatre)
- | **Melanie Drake** Lecturer (Register and Text)
- | **Rita McDade** Lecturer (Register and Text)
- | **Tim Licata** Lecturer (Movement)

Our graduates

Our alumni have gone on to be performers, devisers, campaigners and producers. They are changing perceptions every day as to what is possible within the industry. At the point of publication our graduates were working across a range of productions.

- | **Ciaran Alexander Stewart** appearing in TV Drama *Traces* on Alibi and re-tour of *Pop Music* with Paines Plough
- | **Bea Webster** Working at The Royal Shakespeare Company in their new season of work and previously seen as Katrin in *Mother Courage* with Red Ladder Theatre Company (alongside Pauline McLynn)
- | **Jamie Rea** Just completed a national tour of *4.48 psychosis* with Deafinitely Theatre Company
- | **Moira Ross** Currently performing in *Extraordinary Wall of Silence* with Ad Infinitum Theatre Company.

- | **Craig Andrew** Just completed a tour of *Happiness project* with Solar Bear Theatre Company and will be sharing new work at Manipulate in 2020
- | **Connor Bryson** Currently performing in *Cinderella* in Doncaster and will be sharing new work at Manipulate in 2020
- | **Petre Dobre** Associate BSL Producer/Director at the Macrobert
- | **Brooklyn Melvin** Working with Ramps on the Moon in their new production of *Oliver Twist*
- | **EJ Raymond** Founder of company Turtlear will be performing with Fingersmiths in *My Mother Said I Never Should* which continues touring nationally in 2020

Facilities and resources

RCS is one of the busiest performance venues in Scotland and has five professional venues on campus for student performances. As a student within the School of Drama you will have access to drama rehearsal rooms, dance studios, an IT suite and one of the largest performing arts libraries in the world, the Whittaker Library.

You will also work closely with the Centre for Voice in Performance through the module Register and Text specifically designed to look at the range and register available in both BSL and English.

DID YOU KNOW?

You will have an opportunity to collaborate with students on other courses at the Conservatoire. Graduates have been involved in experimenting with BSL integration on numerous productions across the conservatoire including collaborations with Acting, Musical Theatre and Classical and Contemporary Text courses.

Application details

This programme runs every three years and the next entry date is **September 2021**.

There are no academic entry requirements. Candidates will be assessed on their potential for the programme through audition and interview with RCS staff. Applications should be made directly to the Conservatoire.

Please contact us if you need any information in BSL or any help with the application process: hello@rcs.ac.uk

Tuition fees and scholarships

Tuition fees can be found at [rcs.ac.uk/fees](https://www.rcs.ac.uk/fees), along with information on financial support and scholarships.

Want to know more?

Go online to watch a short film on this unique programme:
[rcs.ac.uk/baperformance](https://www.rcs.ac.uk/baperformance)

Auditions

We want you to enjoy the audition process and use the opportunity to find out what life on the programme is really like. The audition is your chance to discover more about RCS and see if it is the right place for you.

Most auditions take place on campus in Glasgow, however we do offer some international auditions, or you can submit a recording. Please see [rcs.ac.uk/baperformance](https://www.rcs.ac.uk/baperformance) for more information.

Preparation for Audition

When you apply we will send you a list of things to prepare. We will send you this information in both BSL and English.

At your audition, we will ask you to:

- | Perform a monologue in English or BSL (you can choose from a list we provide or pick one of your choice)
- | Create a short piece of original performance. This can be based on a theme or subject matter of your choice. It can be visual or include text if you would like but it must be an original work and not from an existing script
- | We will give you a task in advance of the audition day (e.g. watch a live performance) and ask you to contribute to a group discussion around the task

Short Courses

We offer a range of short courses and summer schools throughout the year, including Deaf Performance Skills, for people who wish to develop their skills and passion for performance.

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 Performance in BSL and English programme, please contact us at admissions@rcs.ac.uk and we'll be happy to help you.

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