

BA Theatre & Drama Studies



CR700



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Drama has been an important part of the CIT Cork School of Music for over fifty years and generations of actors have taken the speech and drama training received here out into the wider theatrical landscape and made notable contributions locally, nationally and internationally. For example our current drama artist-in-residence, Fiona Shaw CBE, doyenne of the London theatre world, received her early stage training at CSM, going on to receive Olivier and Tony awards and making many high profile TV and Film appearances. Most recently both staff and students were involved at every level in the film 'The Young Offenders' which has been the most successful Irish film of the year and continues to gather awards on the international festival circuit.

The BA in Theatre & Drama Studies is a 4-year, level-8, full-time degree focussed on a comprehensive theatre performance training. The course is designed to produce artists that are physically and vocally flexible and intellectually alive and curious. All students receive a core training in acting, movement and voice, theatre technology, theatre history and production skills before building a personalised programme of modules as they progress through the four years of the degree. In addition to their core studies, students can take electives in scriptwriting, directing, history and research, dance, musical theatre, acting in the media, set design, sound design, lighting design, theatre in the community and drama therapy. From second year onwards students can take a free-choice module in each semester, accessing subjects from the BMus and BA in Popular Music, or indeed any suitable CIT module. All students undergo STAGEPASS training and certification in first year and in their final semester they produce a personal showreel and CV and take part in a professional showcase in front of agents, producers and directors. All 3rd years undertake a module of work experience in an external professional theatre setting. The focal point of both years 3 and 4 is the ten-credit production which is performed publicly over the course of a week. 2016 saw brilliant productions of 'Our Town', directed by Ben Barnes, and 'Animal Farm', directed by Donal Gallagher; 2017 sees Lorca's 'Blood Wedding', directed by Regina Crowley, and a devised work, 'GREECE', loosely based on the work of Aristophanes and directed by Johnny Hanrahan.

Career Pathways

Theatre practice is a notoriously difficult profession in terms of consistent employment, and a degree is no guarantee of financial stability or reward. That being said, being an actor, scriptwriter, producer, director, designer, technician, therapist, drama teacher - or indeed working in any theatre-related role - can be incredibly rewarding and stimulating. The norm in the modern profession is to have a 'portfolio career' where you exploit your versatility and talents in two or more areas, one supporting the other. If you are not sure where you fit with this, visit our website and make contact with any of the BATDS team who will happily advise you.





Learning Environment

Situated at the heart of Cork City Centre, CSM has over 2,000 students of which 400 are full-time degree students on the BAPM, BMus, BATDS and Masters programmes. This makes for outstanding collaborative opportunities across artistic disciplines, as theatre, classical, pop, jazz and traditional performers meet, mix and explore their creativity. Students access free-choice module electives from other programmes and engage with active student societies, including the award-winning Musical Theatre Society, who mount a full-scale annual production. Students also perform in public venues across the City and provide the backbone of many of the local semi-professional and amateur theatre companies, drama groups, musical and operatic societies.



CIT Cork School of Music Facilities

In Sept 2007 we opened our new 12,000 sq m purpose-built conservatory building. This is now considered one of best facilities for performing arts education in Europe, if not the World...

Curtis Auditorium 380-seat Concert/Rehearsal Hall

Stack Theatre 120-seat Black-Box Theatre

Doolan Recital Room 40-seat recital room

Lecture Theatres (2) Music Classrooms (5) Drama Classrooms (3)

Dance and Movement Studio 60 Steinway Grand Pianos

Music Technology Labs (2) Piano Labs (2) Over 100 Apple Computers

Electroacoustic Music Centre Professional Recording Studio

Teaching and Practice Studios (55) WSIWYG Lighting Design Laboratory

Public Restaurant Large Student Common Room Library

Drama Staff

The most valuable resource available to students on the BATDS is the dedicated and professional staff. Highly qualified academically, they are all active theatre practitioners at the top of their fields. The core staff: Ann Barry, Regina Crowley, Dr Trina Scott, Hilda Leader-Galvin, Amy Prendergast, Mary Mulcahy, Dr Peadar Donohoe, Irene O'Mara, Johnny Hanrahan, Aisling Byrne-Gaughan, Peter Foott, Hilary Rose, Lisa Zagone, Keith Clancy, Maria Young, Michael Joyce and Kieran Prendergast are supplemented with visiting artists and specialists for workshops and masterclasses.

Application and Assessment

You must apply for all CIT CORK SCHOOL OF MUSIC Bachelor degree programmes through the CAO system before 1 Feb each year, including FETAC and mature applicants. These are all restricted access courses so there is NO LATE APPLICATION. We will contact all applicants individually and ask you to fill in a form with background information about yourself and any performing experience or training you might have. You will then be called to an assessment day in April on which you will have an individual performance audition, a written paper, and, for drama applicants, a group workshop. Full details and sample papers are available at csm.cit.ie

From this assessment day we will award you a points score out of 600. This will be automatically added to your Leaving Certificate points total to produce the ranked list from which the CAO will make the course offers in August. We will inform you of your CSM assessment result during May so that you can make any appropriate CAO change-of-mind decisions.



Find out about all our undergraduate and postgraduate courses on our website:

csm.cit.ie



More than 120 lecturers

(Most of whom are professional performers) 60 STEINWAYS

Symphony Orchestra and five training orchestras

Symphonic Wind Ensemble and three training bands

WORKSHOPS Jazz Big Band and training band

Five award-winning choirs Baroque Ensembles

Traditional Irish Music Dance Rock Bands

THEATRE COMPANIES Showcase

Sound Design Jazz Groups CueLab VIDEO

Music Technology WSYIWYG

Musical Theatre Society Opera Group
Work Experience Costume Design







