

Online Interview Guidelines: 2027 Entry BA (Hons) Theatre & Production Technology

Congratulations on getting through to the interview stage.

If you live outside of the UK, we have automatically invited you to an online interview rather than attend one of our in-person interview days. If you would prefer to travel here to attend an in-person interview day, please email international@lipa.ac.uk.

We understand how nerve-wracking attending interviews can be, and we will do all we can to help you feel at ease throughout. A top tip is to read these guidelines thoroughly and to not leave anything until the last minute. This should help you feel calmer on the day.

The BA (Honours) Theatre & Production Technology degree is unique in that you work alongside LIPA's Acting, Musical Theatre, Dance, Music, Management and Sound Technology students, creating the high production values for which we have become renowned across the widest possible range of performance projects.

The degree is also integrated in part with the Theatre & Performance Design degree, within the Theatre & Performance Design & Production Technology Department, to share knowledge and skills across the disciplines.

We aim to produce confident, resourceful, creative and multi-skilled technicians and stage managers who are skilled at:

- Designing lighting, production electrics and control programming for live performance
- Stage managing musical theatre, plays, devised performances, live events and dance productions
- Managing, building and rigging scenic construction projects and productions from concept to completion
- Designing sound, systems and mixing sound for live performance

Our interview event is designed as a two-way process. We are aiming to offer you the opportunity to discover if our course is right for you, while we try to determine whether you have the qualities to benefit from what we have to offer.

What to prepare for the interview

Please submit the following at least **five working days** before your interview. This must be in pdf format and should be uploaded to the applicant portal, using your personal log in details provided to you previously via email. If you wish to provide links to a portfolio or website, please provide the link in a pdf document.

Portfolio

Your portfolio could include, for example, photographs, plans, designs, technical specifications, prompt copies, schedules, etc. Even photographs of an empty theatre or space can be very useful to show the technical challenges of the venue you worked at. Show programmes and tickets are not usually as informative for discussion as other types of specific evidence that demonstrate the nature and scale of work you have been involved in. Please try to show documentary evidence of the development of your work, and the finished products, such as design and show paperwork, wherever possible. We recognise that some geographic areas do not offer many possibilities to develop a substantial portfolio of work experience, so signs of commitment and enterprise in seeking work and experience will also support you during your interview.

Written review

Included in your portfolio, please provide a written technical review about a performance you have seen recently. In your review, please concentrate on reviewing the visual elements and style of the production. The review should be no longer than 500 words.

Interview format

Our online interviews will take place on Microsoft Teams. You will be allocated an interview time and date, typically with a minimum of two weeks' notice. Times are GMT or BST as appropriate.

Our online interviews will usually be one to one. They typically last 30-40 minutes. This is longer than an in-person interview in recognition that you are not able to tour our buildings as part of your interview and that you may have more questions to ask. As part of our interview process, there is a short informal presentation about our course.

Your interview will be led by one of our Production Technology staff and is very much a two-way process, so as well as us finding out more about you, you can also learn more about us and how we teach Performance Design & Theatre Production Technology here.

We ask you to present a portfolio of work, which you have created or worked on and to discuss any projects you have been involved in. We may also ask you further questions to help you and us to assess your suitability for our degree programme.

Just as we would at an in-person event, we will be encouraging you to talk about

what attracts you to our course and to share your long-term career aspirations.

At the end of the interview, you'll have ample time to ask any questions you have. You may also wish to chat with a current student to hear about their experiences of studying here and of Liverpool. If you'd like to do this, please get in touch using the contact details listed at the end of these guidelines.

Tips for taking part

- You will need a good internet connection and access to Microsoft Teams, which is the video conferencing platform we will be using.
- You should ideally use a PC or Mac running Microsoft Teams. The device you use will need to have a screen, microphone and a webcam. If you have any concerns about your equipment for taking part in the online interview, please get in touch using the contact details at the end of these guidelines.
- On the day, please ensure you are in a quiet room, where you will not be disturbed during the interview event.
- Please ensure you are in a well-lit space so you can be clearly seen and heard during your online interview.
- Test your camera and microphone before your online interview and clean the camera lens.
- Make sure your device is fully charged and/or is plugged into a power source.

Useful information

Do you have an access need related to a disability that may require specialist arrangements?

If you think you will require any type of support or reasonable adjustment for your audition, please contact our Student Disability Officer, at wellbeing.disability@lipa.ac.uk

When will you hear from us after the interview?

We need time to reflect on the candidates we've seen, so we do not tell you the outcome of your interview on the day itself. We don't like to keep you waiting though, so we always aim to communicate our decision to you within 10 working days of attending an interview.

Any questions?

If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of the interview, please email

UK applicants: admissions@lipa.ac.uk

Applicants from outside the UK: international@lipa.ac.uk

We wish you the best of luck and look forward to meeting you.

Sheryl-Lynne Valensky

Head of Theatre Performance Design & Production Technology