

BA (Hons) Theatre and Production Technology

Virtual Interview Guidelines - 2024 Entry

Congratulations on getting through to the interview stage.

If you live outside of the UK, we have automatically invited you to a virtual 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 your ease throughout. A top tip is to read these guidelines through straight away and then a few times more before your interview and to not leave anything until the last minute. This should help you feel much calmer on the day.

The BA (Honours) Theatre and Production Technology degree is unique in that you work alongside LIPA's acting, applied theatre and community drama, 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.

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

- Designing lighting, sound or video projection for a live performance
- Stage managing a musical theatre production, play or dance show
- Managing a scenic construction project or creating detailed CAD drawings
- Mixing live sound for a music gig or theatre show
- Operating under pressure on a corporate event or large scale festival

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

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.

1. Portfolio

Your portfolio could include, for example, photographs, plans, designs, technical specifications, prompt copies, schedules, etc. Photographs of an empty theatre or space can be very useful to show the technical challenges of the venue you worked at. National Records of Achievement or show programmes 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 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.

2. Written review

Included in your portfolio, please include a written 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.

Don't worry if you are unable to provide a portfolio in advance, we can still interview you without this.

Interview format

Our virtual 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. You will receive the joining link approximately 24 hours prior to the interview.

Our virtual 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 is a short, informal presentation about our course.

Your interview will be led by one of our Production Lecturers 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 Theatre and Production Technology here.

We'll 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.

During your individual interview, we will ask you questions about any experience you have had in theatre and production technology to date. This could be in stage/production management, sound, lighting, set and prop construction, scenic arts or AV. If you have submitted a portfolio, we will use this as a starting point for this discussion. If you want to refer to materials included in your portfolio or other artefacts you will be able to screen share via Microsoft Teams or you can simply show us via your web camera. If your experiences have been limited, don't let that put you off. You may have experiences that are not directly theatre related that are still highly relevant to the course.

In addition to getting to know more about your relevant experience, skills and attributes, we want to understand what aspects of theatre production and technology interest and inspire you and why. Similarly, what attracts you to working in the sector and what attracts you to our course. We will, therefore, explore your career aspirations with you and how you think our course can help you achieve these.

At the end of the interview, you'll have ample time to ask any questions for 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.
- Your device 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 contact admissions@lipa.ac.uk
- 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 virtual interview.
- Test your camera and microphone before your virtual interview.
- Make sure your device is fully charged and/or is plugged into a power source.
- Try to relax and be yourself on the day.
- Make sure you ask us anything you want to know about what it's like to study here.

- Make sure you've read these guidelines thoroughly and don't leave anything to the last minute – this should help you feel much calmer on the day

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 for your audition, please contact our Student Disability Officer, at student.support@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 three working weeks.

Unfortunately, due to the high volume of applications we receive, if you are not successful we are unable to offer feedback.

Any questions?

If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of the interview, please get in touch using the contact details below.

Contact us

For applicants from within the UK please email our Admissions Team:
admissions@lipa.ac.uk

For applicants from outside of the UK, please email our International Team,
international@lipa.ac.uk

You can also reach us by phone by calling +44 (0)151 330 3000 and asking for either the Admissions or International Teams as appropriate.

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

Sheryl-Lynne Valensky

Head of Theatre Production, Design and Technology