



Royal Conservatoire
of Scotland



Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
100 Renfrew Street, Glasgow G2 3DB
Telephone: +44 (0) 141 332 4101
rsc.ac.uk

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LIKE NOWHERE ELSE



Morgan Heron BEd Music
From: Scotland

“The atmosphere at RCS is thrilling. It’s the thing I talk about the most when somebody asks me about the place. My favourite place to be is the café. I love people watching – seeing people go past in costumes, people going past in just anything, people just totally being themselves and nobody judging. Grab every opportunity you can. Go and meet others, because you learn a lot from being friends with people not on your programme.”



Zeo Fawcett BMus (Composition)
From: Scotland

“I did the summer school for Composition, and I just loved the atmosphere and I thought that this seems like a place that fits with me really well and the teachers seem open-minded. There’s always something going on, there’s such a buzz to RCS. There are always so many different types of people walking around doing different projects. It’s got its own little ecosystem going, which is exciting when it’s in full swing.”



Benjamin Osugo BA Acting
From: Scotland

“At RCS, it’s wonderful because there are so many different disciplines, meaning you’ll go down the hall and hear people practising something amazing. It creates such a spirit of creativity and makes you want to be more open, think more and work harder. It’s that atmosphere of being able to excel in different things and being able to mix with people who are going to be the performers of the future.”



Robbie Fisher BA Modern Ballet
From: Scotland

“I wanted to study at RCS because I loved how there were so many different disciplines in the one school and how you get the chance to interact with people from all the different art forms. I also love the partnership that the Ballet programme has with Scottish Ballet, as it can provide lots of opportunities for the future. RCS is such a positive and nurturing place to be.”

WELCOME

It’s my great pleasure to welcome you to the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.



This is a special place in many ways: a national conservatoire for Scotland with an international perspective, encompassing students and staff from more than 65 countries.

Studying at RCS means being part of a dynamic global community of students, staff and alumni where, as well as developing excellence in your own discipline, you’ll have a wealth of opportunities to collaborate with colleagues and teachers with different skills and experience.

We are a community that believes in creating your own art as well as bringing to life art from the near and distant past. Here you can realise your potential, develop your wider collaborative skills and create opportunities in one of the finest multi-disciplinary arts education environments in the world.

We are based in Glasgow, a UNESCO City of Music that is regarded as one of the world’s friendliest places and one of the UK’s most culturally vibrant. Glasgow is home to five national arts companies; theatres, concert halls and live performance venues of all shapes and sizes; great food and nightlife; as well as acres of beautiful green spaces. Beyond our city, Scotland boasts some of the most beautiful wild landscapes on the planet, is rich in history and heritage and hosts the world’s finest arts festival annually in Edinburgh.

We all live in a world that feels anxious and divided – a world that needs creative citizens more than ever. A world that needs you. Here at RCS, you’ll be encouraged to develop not just your art but your power to use it. Through performance opportunities underpinned by research and pedagogical excellence, we will give you both a megaphone and a microscope, and the opportunity to refine your art so that you can reflect, shape and transform.

RCS is a diverse centre of performance, with excellent venues and with active partnerships with all of Scotland’s national arts companies. This helps us create a learning environment that encourages you to think for yourself, produce your own ideas and find your place in the ongoing story of humanity through the arts.

This prospectus is merely a snapshot of what RCS is about. Better still, come and see us for yourself at one of our Open Days or get in touch to find out more about what matters to you. Come and be part of RCS – a place **Like Nowhere Else.**

We hope to see you soon.

Professor Jeffrey Sharkey
Principal



When you see these icons, click or tap to view extra content. Internet access required. Links open in a new window.

THE GRIT & THE GLAMOUR

BA Modern Ballet dancer Emily Sapsford on
the banks of Glasgow's famous River Clyde

There's nowhere else quite like Glasgow – a city
that blends the traditional with the cutting edge,
Scottish heritage with multi-cultural influences,
the grit with the glamour.



A TALE OF TWO CREATIVE CITIES

GLASGOW



Less than an hour apart, a world of difference. Two powerhouse Scottish cities, distinctly unique.

You're always guaranteed a warm welcome in Glasgow... it's no surprise that it's regularly named one of the world's friendliest cities.

Artists and innovators have long called Glasgow home and they've made it a cultural hotspot that bursts with energy and personality.

Named the UK's top cultural and creative city by the European Commission (2019), you won't be short of things to do in Scotland's biggest city.

Immerse yourself in art at world-class galleries and museums (most are free to enter) and discover why the city is dubbed the 'Dear Green Place'... you're never far from one of Glasgow's glorious parks.

"The largest city in Scotland has a bustling atmosphere that combines well with the enthusiastic vibe of the city's university life. It's not just the classic architecture that makes Glasgow beautiful." The New York Times

Weave your way around the oh-so-Instagrammable City Centre Mural Trail and find out why the food scene is firmly on the culinary map.

The city boasts all but one of Scotland's national performing arts organisations, so there's always plenty to see and do. And Glaswegians' love of live music? It's legendary. From hotly tipped bands in tiny bars to global artists on arena tours, Glasgow is alive (and kicking) with the sound of music. No wonder, then, that it was named UK's first-ever UNESCO City of Music (2008).

- | World's friendliest city (Rough Guides, 2021)
- | Second most affordable student city in the UK and the third best city to live in overall (QS Best Student Cities, 2022)
- | Over 90 parks and gardens to explore
- | A gateway to the Highlands to explore Scotland's awe-inspiring scenery



A castle perched high over cobbled streets in a city cloaked in history, mystery and romance... Edinburgh never fails to take the breath away.

Every year, millions of people flock to the city – a UNESCO World Heritage Site – to soak up stunning architecture and lose themselves in its fascinating past. But here nostalgia nestles alongside the contemporary in Scotland's captivating capital city.

Edinburgh is a dream destination for art, design and culture and renowned for its festivals, including the world-famous Fringe. You're sure to see many RCS students and alumni performing there each year, including fully realised productions from MA Musical Theatre students.



Enjoy its fabulous food scene and top shopping, from luxury brands to eclectic indie gems. Feeling active? Climb to the top of Arthur's Seat – an extinct volcano – for the best views over the city.

Old or new, there is so much to do and it has earned Edinburgh a string of accolades including Best UK Destination (urban) (National Geographic Reader Awards, 2021).

- | History, grandeur, and stunning views around every corner
- | Shopping, food and culture galore
- | 48 minutes by train from Glasgow
- | Seven festivals each summer, including the Edinburgh Jazz & Blues Festival, Edinburgh International Film Festival, and Edinburgh Festival Fringe

"Edinburgh is a city so beautiful it breaks the heart again and again."

Alexander McCall Smith

A COUNTRY LIKE NOWHERE ELSE

Stunning scenery to stir the soul. Rich history and vibrant cities. Internationally acclaimed arts and culture. Scotland offers students a canvas of natural beauty and cultural creativity.

No matter where you look, from the highest peaks to the biggest festivals, Scotland will take you on an unforgettable journey. That's why more than 55,000 international students from over 180 countries decide to call Scotland home each year.* Prepare to fall in love with this small country with a huge heart.

Find out what makes Scotland such a unique place to study:
scotland.org/study



*Universities Scotland & Higher Education Statistics Agency

A YEAR IN THE LIFE

Special moments, unique opportunities and a peek behind the scenes – here's a snapshot of life at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.



A performance of the opera *Flight* on stage in the New Athenaeum Theatre at RCS





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1. Actor and alumnus Sam Heughan returns to RCS to create the Sam Heughan Drama Scholarship and Write Start Creative Commission, 2. A view from the sound desk in the New Athenaeum Theatre, 3. BMus Jazz student Loic Guenneguez performs with the Jazz big band, 4. An accordion performance from BMus Keyboard students, 5. MMus student Osian Dance performs in a brass and wind concert

6. BA Modern Ballet student Grace Wilson prepares for a performance at Gleneagles, 7. The actor, author and activist Alan Cumming received an honorary doctorate from RCS, 8. PLUG festival



1. Emil de Cou conducts a symphony orchestra of young musicians from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and the Junior Conservatoire in the climate concert *Vital Signs of the Planet*. 2. BA Performance in British Sign Language and English student Emery Hunter in a production of *The Coat*. 3. World-renowned director and producer Joe Russo in conversation with Dr Andy Dougan (Lecturer, BA Filmmaking). 4. BA Production Arts and Design students creating props for the opera *Hänsel und Gretel*

5. BMus Composition student Zeo Fawcett and MMus Opera graduate Oskar McCarthy perform *Conversation and Questions on Nature and Love* in the Climate Portals Festival, part of the RCS COP26 activity. 6. Bachelor of Education student Jade Bonnar inspires the next generation. 7. Contemporary Performance Practice student Rachel McLean performs at the *Into the New* festival. 8. BMus Performance student Simone Seales performing with the newly launched Studio Collective. 9. The joy of graduation

MAKE AN IMPACT

You'll feel it from the moment you walk through the doors... a special energy, a sense of community, a place where anything is possible.

RCS truly is Like Nowhere Else and the reason? People like you.

You'll come together with artists from every discipline where you'll share stories, create and collaborate, and take your passion for performance to new heights.

At RCS, you'll develop not just your art but your power to use it.


This is your moment.

Opera student Ascelina Klee leaps across the stage during a performance of *Hänsel und Gretel*

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

Students truly are the beating heart of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. You'll fast become part of this warm, friendly and supportive community.

People come from all over the world to study with us in Glasgow, so what's life like at RCS? Who better to tell you than our students from our cover shoot!

 See behind the scenes at our photoshoot



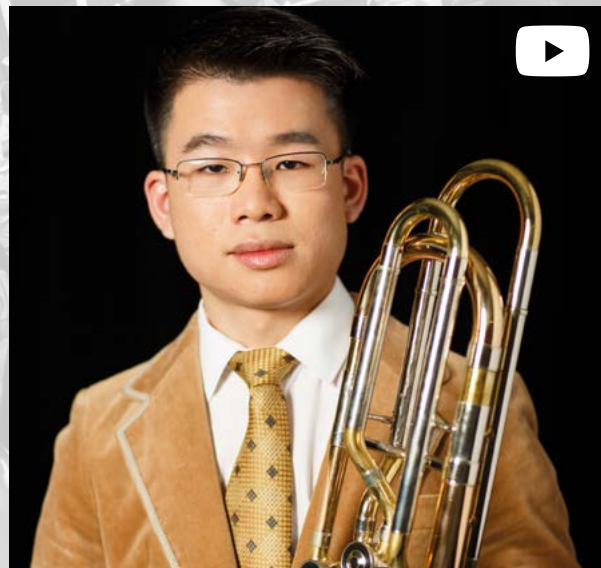
Sumika Nagai BA Modern Ballet
From: Japan

"Every teacher supports us. Whenever I've faced difficulties, they've always spoken to, supported and encouraged me. It's like my second family."



Francesca Hess BA Acting
From: England

"One of the things I like about RCS is the staff want to celebrate everything you are and your individuality. As soon as you arrive, they take you for who you are, they celebrate you. It made me think yeah... that's where I want to be. I just knew from the moment I entered the building – there was a 'crackle' in the air. You walk down the corridors and you've got opera in one room, Shakespeare in another and then you've got musical theatre blasting through and you just don't really know what you're going to get. I really wanted to be part of that buzz."



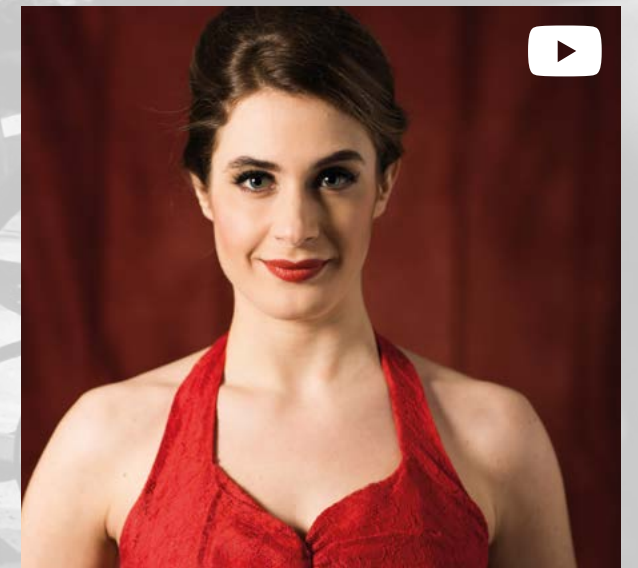
Min Khai Khoo BMus (Performance)
From: Malaysia

"The brass department and the sense of community is just amazing. I've never felt out of place. For me, what makes RCS special is all the different disciplines. There's so much going on in one campus, there are so many people to collaborate with, and so many different projects you can do."



Jamie Cutler BA Filmmaking
From: USA

"I wanted to study at RCS because the programme for filmmaking is so up and coming and very inclusive. On a practical scale, you get a very versatile and holistic education in filmmaking. You have such different disciplines working together at RCS and it's a very welcoming community. It has done a really great job of fostering a cultural experience in art – but also a collaborative one – and you're not going to get that anywhere else."



Elena Garrido Madrona MMus (Opera)
From: Spain

"I would say the best thing about RCS is the people. From day one, you get all this lovely atmosphere; everyone is so supportive, and everyone wants the best out of you. It's just great. The teachers here are also amazing. I am so happy with my singing teacher. I feel like she has made me a whole new person – I've grown so much. Across every department, you'll find wonderful teachers and their quality and standard is really high."

THE POWER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Contemporary Performance Practice student Catherine Allison presents site-specific work at Jupiter Artland near Edinburgh

Art has the power to make a difference... and our students, staff and alumni use their work to shine a light on climate and sustainability. Transforming attitudes, opening hearts and minds and influencing change, our community's commitment and curiosity create powerful connections, collaborations and conversations that explore and respond to the world around us.

Sustainability was centre stage when the UN climate summit COP26 came to Glasgow. At RCS, events included everything from a student-led arts festival, to a global climate portal on campus to connect our student artists to audiences across the world, and a spectacular concert in partnership with NASA and National Geographic.

We're committed to ensuring our productions and processes are as sustainable as possible, from following the industry handbook Theatre Green Book to recognising students' sustainable practices in our annual sustainability award.

Find out more about sustainability at RCS: rca.ac.uk/greenroom



Vital Signs of the Planet, at Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, brought together some of Scotland's most talented musicians, multi-million-selling singer-songwriter Natasha Bedingfield and acclaimed conductor Emil de Cou, who all performed to a dramatic backdrop of footage from NASA and National Geographic. Musicians and champions of the environmental movement came together in this powerful 60-minute climate concert designed to inspire and motivate audiences in Glasgow and internationally. Supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies and delivered in partnership with Global Climate Uprising Festival. rca.ac.uk/vital-signs



Scotland's portal to the world: arts collaboration **Climate Portals** created powerful global connections like this one; an a cappella performance co-written around climate change and women's perspectives. The work was created by participants in the portal, facilitated by BEd student Dorothee Nys, and performed to an international audience in Bamako, Mali.



Etch Festival was the culmination of a year-long, student-led project which used the COP26 summit as inspiration to create a collaborative arts festival around the theme of climate change. It was funded by the RCS Diversity Fund and initiated by the RCS Students' Union.

GRADUATE SPOTLIGHTS

Our alumni make their mark all over the globe.

RCS graduates can be found in concert halls and classrooms, on TV screens and film sets, on the world's most iconic stages or making magic behind the scenes.

Hollywood stars, cultural leaders, arts advocates and so much more – they're part of a dynamic community who make an extraordinary impact.



NCUTI GATWA

BA Acting, 2013

Ncuti Gatwa is the much-loved star of Netflix series *Sex Education*, in which he plays scene-stealing Eric Effiong. It's a role that's earned Ncuti a string of awards, including Outstanding Supporting Role at the National Comedy Awards (2022); Comedy Performance (Male) at the Royal Television Society Awards; Best Actor in Television, BAFTA Scotland and the Rose d'Or Performance of the Year (all 2020). He also stars in the live-action *Barbie* movie and is the fourteenth Time Lord in BBC's *Doctor Who* – following in the footsteps of fellow RCS graduate David Tennant.



FIONA FINDLATER

BA Technical and Production Arts (now BA Production Technology and Management), 2013

Fiona Findlater enjoyed a busy freelance career with companies including Scottish Opera, Scottish Ballet, Citizens Theatre and National Theatre of Scotland before joining English National Ballet as stage manager in 2017.

Based in London, ENB production credits include *Cinderella* at the Royal Albert Hall, *Raymonda* at the London Coliseum and Akram Khan's *Giselle* at various international venues.





KEENAN FLETCHER

BA Modern Ballet, 2018

Keenan Fletcher came to Glasgow from Jamaica to pursue his dance dream at RCS... and leapt straight from his studies into a position in one of the world's leading dance companies. Since joining Matthew Bourne's New Adventures in 2018, Keenan has toured the globe in the iconic *Swan Lake* and has dazzled audiences in *Nutcracker!*.



SEAN SHIBE

BMus (Performance), 2012

Sean Shibe was the first guitarist ever to be selected for BBC Radio 3's New Generation Artists scheme, to be awarded a Borletti-Buitoni Trust Fellowship and, in 2018, to receive the Royal Philharmonic Society Award for Young Artists. Additional accolades include the Leonard Bernstein Award (2022) and Royal Over-Seas League First Prize and Gold Medal (2011).



SVETLINA STOYANOVA

BMus (Performance), 2014; MMus (Performance), 2016; MMus (Opera), 2018

The award-winning mezzo-soprano Svetlina Stoyanova has graced some of the world's finest stages since winning first prize in the Neue Stimmen International Singing Competition in 2017. Svetlina has performed as a soloist with the Vienna State Opera, Bolshoi Theatre, Sofia National Opera and Teatro alla Scala.



NICOLA KILLEAN

BEd (Music), 2002

Nicola Killean OBE was the first employee of Sistema Scotland in 2007, the charity that aims to improve lives and strengthen communities through music, and has worked with the Board to create and grow the organisation. She believes passionately in the transformative effects the arts can have on individuals and communities, and in the potential of all children and young people.





RYAN BANCROFT

MMus (Conducting), 2015

Ryan Bancroft first came to international attention in 2018 when he won both First Prize and Audience Prize at the prestigious Malko Competition for Young Conductors in Copenhagen. Described as “one of the most interesting conductors of his generation” (HBL Musik), Ryan’s recent roles have included being Principal Conductor of the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Artist in Association at the Tapiola Sinfonietta, Finland, and Chief Conductor of the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra.



AMY MURRAY

BA Performance in British Sign Language and English, 2021

Amy Murray began her first professional role soon after graduating in 2021, landing a role on Netflix’s fantasy TV series *The Witcher: Blood Origin*. Amy plays the role of Fenrick in the series that also stars Michelle Yeoh and Lenny Henry.



EMMA MULLEN

BA Musical Theatre, 2017

West End star Emma Mullen plays Sophie Sheridan in global smash musical *MAMMA MIA!*, based on the songs of ABBA. Emma played Sophie on the musical’s UK tour before continuing the role – and making her debut – in London’s West End. Theatre credits include *The Afflicted* (National Theatre of Scotland), *Sunshine on Leith* (West Yorkshire Playhouse) and *August: Osage County* (Dundee Rep), while screen credits include *Shetland*, *In Plain Sight* and feature film *The Wife*.



KRYSTY WILSON-CAIRNS

BA Digital Film and Television (now BA Filmmaking), 2009

Screenwriter Krysty Wilson-Cairns co-wrote World War One epic *1917* with director Sam Mendes that scooped awards including seven BAFTAs, two Golden Globes and three Oscars – and earned Krysty her first Oscar nomination in the Original Screenplay category.

Krysty co-wrote *Last Night in Soho* with acclaimed director Edgar Wright and is taking on one of the world’s biggest movie franchises with Oscar-winning director Taika Waititi – she is co-writing the script for a new *Star Wars* feature film.





GRAHAM RORIE

BMus (Traditional Music), 2018

Orcadian fiddle and mandolin player Graham Rorie is an award-winning folk musician, who was a finalist in the 2021 BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year. Alongside being a founding member of quartet Gness, Graeme is an in-demand session musician. He has featured on fiddle and mandolin for albums by artists including Josie Duncan, Pablo Lafuente and Iona Fyfe.



AMY CONACHAN

BA Acting, 2015

Amy Conachan was a regular on TV screens in the Channel 4 soap opera *Hollyoaks*, where she played the role of Courtney Campbell from 2016 to 2021. Theatre credits include *Wendy Hoose* (Birds of Paradise Theatre Company and Random Accomplice), *Skeleton Wumman* (A Play, a Pie, and a Pint), *Blood Wedding* (Graeae), *Redefining Juliet* (Barbican), and *Oliver Twist* (Leeds Playhouse). In 2022, she played Sheila in *Orphans*, the National Theatre of Scotland's stage adaptation of the multi-award-winning film by Peter Mullan.



ISOBEL MCARTHUR

MA Classical and Contemporary Text (Acting), 2014

Isobel McArthur is an actor, director and playwright. She won an Olivier Award in 2022 for *Pride and Prejudice* (*sort of)*, which received the Noël Coward/Geoffrey Johnson Award for Best Entertainment or Comedy. Isobel wrote, co-directed and performs in the play that also features fellow RCS alumnae Tori Burgess, Christina Gordon and Meghan Tyler.



FERGUS MCCREADIE

BMus Jazz (Piano), 2018

Fergus McCreadie was a finalist in the 2018 BBC Jazz Musician of the Year, and he was awarded the Best Instrumentalist prize at the Scottish Jazz Awards in 2020. In 2021, he released his second solo album *Cairn*, inspired by the tradition and landscape of his native Scotland. Together with his trio of David Bowden (bass) and Stephen Henderson (drums), he released a new album *Forest Floor* in 2022, inspired by the changes the seasons produce on the forest floor.



THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP

As Scotland's national, and only, conservatoire, we're uniquely placed to partner with the country's leading artistic companies to offer one-of-a-kind opportunities.

We partner with more than 80 organisations to provide students with the very best learning experiences that the Scottish landscape has to offer.

From tours and professional placements, to performing with world-renowned orchestras and theatre companies, our partners enable RCS students to truly be professionals in training.



RSNO
SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL
ORCHESTRA



Thomas Søndergård conducting at Glasgow Royal Concert Hall

Royal Scottish National Orchestra

The Royal Scottish National Orchestra (RSNO) is one of Europe's leading orchestras with a variety of work that is almost unparalleled amongst its British peers.

This incredible partnership offers students a bridge between conservatoire training to professional experience. School of Music students are invited to audition for the RSNO/RCS apprenticeship scheme, where they receive specialised mentoring and individual feedback sessions. Performance work alongside RSNO musicians takes place in Scotland's Studio, the RSNO's purpose-built auditorium with world-class recording and performance facilities. The Orchestra also has a long-standing partnership with the conducting department at RCS, offering postgraduate students the opportunity to conduct a professional ensemble.

"I know from my own experiences, as both a performer and teacher, the invaluable experience that is provided by close interaction with a group of high-level professional musicians. Performing alongside the RSNO unlocks many of the skills that cannot be learned from academic study or the practice room alone."

Alistair Mackie

Chief Executive, Royal Scottish National Orchestra

BA Acting students partner up for
The Comedy of Errors



Scottish Ballet's *The Scandal at Mayerling* which featured a number of RCS students and graduates in the cast and crew

Scottish Ballet

Scottish Ballet is bold, adventurous and inspires audiences on stage and beyond. The BA Modern Ballet programme is co-designed and delivered by RCS in partnership with the company.

Throughout their programme, students work with the world-renowned company, as well as acclaimed guest teachers and choreographers. This offers a unique and invaluable insight into professional life. RCS dancers take part in the weekly company class at Scottish Ballet's home at Tramway and enjoy exclusive access to rehearsals. There is also the opportunity to join the company on tour, and recently students have performed in Scottish Ballet productions of *The Scandal at Mayerling*, *The Snow Queen*, *Cinderella*, and *Wee Hansel & Gretel*.

"The relationship between Scottish Ballet and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland is one of collaboration and respect. The ability to share our learning, anticipate future trends and challenges within the creative industries and, most importantly, to continue to inspire new generations of creative artists is vital for both organisations."

Christopher Hampson

Artistic Director and Chief Executive, Scottish Ballet



A BMus Traditional Music (Piping) student learning their craft at the National Piping Centre

The National Piping Centre

The National Piping Centre and RCS have a long-standing relationship and together have produced the BMus Traditional Music – Piping programme.

Through the partnership, pipers have a unique opportunity to work in a creative environment and take inspiration from the wider musical community in Glasgow, a UNESCO City of Music and global 'home of piping'. Students gain real-world connections and professional experience, and graduate with the requisite skills to pursue a successful career in music.

"When I look at the piping and traditional music scene, and the breadth of talent involved, I realise that the partnership between the RCS and The National Piping Centre is unique, and is at the heart of this living and ever-evolving tradition. Importantly, it allows musicians to learn and collaborate in the most positive and enriching way."

Finlay MacDonald

Director, The National Piping Centre



RCS graduates Chloe Hodgson (left) and Amy Conachan (centre) in the National Theatre of Scotland's production of *Orphans*

National Theatre of Scotland

National Theatre of Scotland showcases Scottish culture at home and around the world, telling stories that need to be told, in ways never seen before. The company takes work where audiences are to be found whilst breaking down barriers to prevent people from participating.

This partnership offers individual mentoring opportunities and work placements for students to best prepare them for entering the profession. It also allows students to gain access to the important network of directors, sound technicians, stage managers and performance makers at Scotland's national theatre.

"RCS students and graduates have proven to be one of the most important cornerstones of National Theatre of Scotland productions over the years. They make an invaluable contribution to the vibrancy of Scottish theatre, and RCS continues to provide a vital training ground for Scottish theatre talent, both on and off the stage."

Jackie Wylie

Artistic Director and Chief Executive, National Theatre of Scotland



Ryan Wigglesworth conducting the BBC SSO

BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra

Our partnership with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra offers deep and meaningful connections for our students straight to the heart of Scottish broadcasting, arts and culture.

Through this relationship, students benefit from a professional experience scheme, performing and broadcast opportunities with BBC Radio 3, as well as behind-the-scenes access. This includes the Leverhulme Conducting Programme mentored by Martyn Brabbins, Visiting Professor of Conducting.

Regular projects include side-by-side rehearsals, conducting sessions and composer workshops, and, most recently, a dedicated collaborative week, featuring public concerts and open rehearsals.

"The musicians of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra are always delighted to work with the fantastic young artists who are training at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Whether conductors, instrumentalists or singers, it is exciting to see the future of our industry emerging through our partnerships, and to watch their progress as their careers develop."

Dominic Parker

Director, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra



Scottish
Opera

RCS alumna Lea Shaw (left) in Scottish Opera's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*



scottish
ensemble

Scottish Ensemble with RCS students



SOLAR BEAR

It takes one second to realise that the girl is talking to me.

BA Performance students in *The Assumption*



SCOTTISH
CHAMBER
ORCHESTRA

Maxim Emelyanychev conducts Mozart's *Jupiter* Symphony at the Queen's Hall, Edinburgh

Scottish Opera

Scotland's national opera company is the largest performing arts organisation in the country.

With its production studios located next door to our Wallace Studios, Scottish Opera is one of our closest neighbours and partners. Collaborative opportunities include a professional experience scheme for opera students every two years, co-productions, side-by-side rehearsals with the Orchestra of Scottish Opera and also placements for production students within Scottish Opera's technical departments.

"Scottish Opera and RCS have a marvellous tradition of sharing ideas, creating performances, specialist teaching, masterclasses with our orchestra and visiting professional artists, and many strands of career pathways for singers, conductors, répétiteurs, technicians and stage management. And, best of all, we are neighbours here in Glasgow!"

Alex Reedijk
General Director, Scottish Opera

Scottish Ensemble

Scottish Ensemble is a pioneering string orchestra, exploring adventurous ways in which diverse repertoire can be presented and shared.

This partnership offers vital practical experience and inspiration through Ensemble Week, public side-by-side concerts and a Young Artists scheme. A small group of students are also selected to accompany Scottish Ensemble on tour, gaining invaluable experience of life as a professional touring musician.

"The string players at RCS have always responded to the intensive nature of our side-by-side projects with enthusiasm, dedication and curiosity. It's a real pleasure to witness these young musicians developing their individual and collaborative talents."

Jonathan Morton
Artistic Director, Scottish Ensemble

Solar Bear

RCS worked closely with Solar Bear to establish the BA Performance in British Sign Language and English programme in 2015.

This undergraduate programme is unique in the UK. It has been created for D/deaf and hard of hearing students who want to perform on stage and are interested in creating their own work. This can be through British Sign Language or English or a mixture of both.

The partnership has involved Solar Bear co-running Deaf Performance Skills and short courses for D/deaf students, co-producing student productions, and guest tutoring on the BA Performance in British Sign Language and English programme, and with production and design students.

"Our partnership with the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland is dynamic, creative and inspirational. The BA Performance in British Sign Language and English is a groundbreaking programme that is changing the cultural landscape in Scotland and the UK. We are proud to work with many talented graduates from RCS; the partnership is vital to our artistic strategy."

Jonathan Lloyd
Creative Director and Chief Executive, Solar Bear

Scottish Chamber Orchestra

We partner with the internationally celebrated Scottish Chamber Orchestra to offer unique side-by-side learning and performing opportunities, placements and residency programmes.

"We're very proud of our ongoing partnership with RCS, providing vital professional experience and unique opportunities in ensemble performance and music-making. We're pleased to play our part in helping these remarkable musicians not only to thrive in the profession, but shape the future of our cultural world."

Gavin Reid
Chief Executive, Scottish Chamber Orchestra;
RCS Fellow

PRESTIGIOUS PARTNERSHIPS



Prestigious partnerships between the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and internationally-recognised partners provide unique creative opportunities for our students.

At the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, we have a range of partnerships with organisations and institutions. These special relationships are a celebration of shared values, a commitment to excellence, and showcase and support the next generation of artists.

Through RCS's unique partnership with the **BBC**, and in particular **BBC Scotland**, we develop and foster collaboration between our students and staff. By strengthening the links between us, it enhances the education of the next generation of performing artists and creative producers. The partnership focuses on a range of areas including digital, professional development, enhancing diversity and inclusion and performance training.

RCS and the **Buccleuch Living Heritage Trust** work proactively in partnership, celebrating the world-class heritage, arts and cultural education of Scotland in a range of ways, including student masterclass retreats, performance and site-specific engagement.

The partnership is promoted through education and access to the properties and collections under its care, including Drumlanrig Castle and Bowhill House in the Scottish Borders, Dalkeith Palace near Edinburgh and Boughton House in Northamptonshire, where the Trust conserves the Montagu Music Collection.

This partnership aims to play a part in nurturing outstanding emerging artists and performers developing their skills at RCS, as well as celebrating and showcasing the historic, artistic and architectural national treasures lovingly curated, restored and conserved by the Trust.

We also work in partnership with **Gleneagles**, the famous Perthshire destination, which supports RCS students through scholarship and performance opportunities. These include an annual sell-out festive performance in the Gleneagles ballroom where RCS's modern ballet ensemble performs excerpts from classic repertoire.

Our special and groundbreaking partnership with **The Prince's Foundation** offers high-quality, free weekly lessons and training to young aspiring dancers and musicians. Established in 2016, and inspired by our Patron, His Royal Highness Prince Charles, The Duke of Rothesay, the programme at Dumfries House in Ayrshire offers progression pathways for young people.

Our partnership with The Prince's Foundation has also created wonderful performance opportunities for students, including intimate Dumfries House recitals and, in 2019, dancers and musicians performed with actor Sam Heughan and mezzo-soprano Karen Cargill – both RCS alumni – in the spectacular ballroom of Buckingham Palace.



BA Modern Ballet students performing at Gleneagles

WELCOME HOME

At the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, you'll find a friendly and welcoming environment where you will be recognised and respected as an individual. Our aim is to support you to achieve your artistic ambitions. Our students and graduates tell us that RCS feels like home.

We very much hope to welcome you to your new home soon.



Everyone who steps inside, studies or works with the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland can feel the pulse of this extraordinary place that's alive with a passion for performance, a sense that anything is possible... and its own special kind of magic.

From rehearsal rooms and recording studios, to the bustling hub of the café, and a library that has one of the world's most comprehensive collections of performance materials – there is everything that you will need to thrive as an emerging artist at RCS.

Professional performance venues

RCS is one of Scotland's busiest performing arts venues. Each year we programme hundreds of performances across our venues and online.

Our aim is for many people in the UK and across the world to see the world-leading work that our students and staff create.

Rehearsal and practice rooms

With more than 90 practice rooms, students can make the most of their learning experience at RCS. You'll also find a suite of rehearsal studios, built to accommodate large-scale sets for a true rehearsal experience. Some practice rooms are equipped with a sound system, piano, television and lighting bars. Others are acoustically separated for individual practice and one-to-one teaching lessons.

360 Tour

To explore what facilities are on offer at the Renfrew Street building (home to drama, music and film) and the Wallace Studios at Speirs Locks (home to dance and production), take a look at our virtual tour of the campus: rcs.ac.uk/virtualltour

Archives and Collections

The RCS Archives and Collections is a rich resource that provides an extraordinary insight into the heritage of RCS and the arts in Scotland. Since our foundation as the Glasgow Athenaeum in 1847, the Archives have accrued many important collections of instruments, manuscripts, artworks, photographs, performance ephemera and memorabilia which are available to our students.



Wallace Studios at Speirs Locks

A ten-minute walk from our Renfrew Street building is our award-winning Wallace Studios at Speirs Locks facility – home to aspiring dancers, scenic artists, prop-makers, stage carpenters and costume-makers.

Workshops and design studios

Here, you will find a treasure trove of production arts resources including a paintshop, three well-equipped props workshops and a full-sized paint frame. This is the place where artistic visions come to life.

Wardrobe

Get lost in wardrobe, with costumes and accessories from every era imaginable and staff on hand to help guide students to assemble the perfect costumes for performance. Here, you'll also find purpose-built costume construction workshops equipped with industrial and domestic sewing machines, Stockman dummies and a comprehensive costume reference library.

Ballet studios

Train with the professionals in our suite of ballet studios. Each studio is complete with a playback system and a piano to accompany rehearsals. Ballet students also have their own Gyrotonic studio on campus.



SUSTAINABILITY



At the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, we are committed to ensuring that we play a role in tackling the challenges of climate change on our environment.

We recognise that we have a responsibility to reduce our impact on the environment, particularly by enhancing and improving the sustainability of our estate.

A range of measures are underway, including:

- | Growing root vegetables and herbs in our roof garden, for use in our café
- | Annual reduction of our carbon footprint
- | Managing our investments responsibly. We invest up to 15% in companies specialising in renewable energy and we do not invest in fossil fuels
- | Installing energy-efficient LED lighting and solar energy on campus
- | Operating a campus energy monitoring system and motion sensor lighting
- | Committing zero waste to landfill

- | Subscribing to the Caledonian Forest scheme and planting trees to the equivalent of the paper we consume

- | Cycle Friendly Campus Award from Cycling Scotland that recognises our commitment to encouraging and promoting cycling as a healthy, sustainable mode of transport for all

The RCS Sustainability Committee actively collaborates to embed sustainability into every aspect of our operations. They welcome all suggestions from students and staff to further the sustainability of our campus and how we operate.

The committee reports to the Board of Governors through the Academic Board, with goals to increase awareness, visibility and accountability of sustainable practice across our community.

Find out more at: rcs.ac.uk/greenroom

ACCOMMODATION



Located just three minutes' walk from the Renfrew Street campus, Base Glasgow is the student accommodation designed and built with performing and production arts students in mind.

Base Glasgow offers more than 300 bedrooms and studio rooms to Royal Conservatoire of Scotland students.

Purpose built to cater for the needs of performers, the accommodation features five soundproofed practice spaces, as well as study areas, a cinema room, a gym and social spaces.

Students benefit from saving on transport costs with the city of Glasgow, and the RCS campus, on their doorstep.

As spaces at Base Glasgow are limited, there are many other private accommodation options to suit your needs and budget.

To find out more, see our website: rcs.ac.uk/accommodation

Benefit from:

- | soundproofed practice and rehearsal spaces
- | state-of-the-art gym
- | cycle store
- | cinema room and games room
- | roof garden and courtyard
- | laundry room
- | communal study rooms
- | fast Wi-Fi internet connection
- | all utility bills included

SUPPORTING YOU



RCS is a welcoming and inclusive environment – a place where you can flourish, explore and realise your full potential.



From the moment you arrive to the day you graduate, we're here to support you every step of the way.

We'll help you to make connections and to learn and grow as an artist.

Whether it's practical, emotional or learning support, we'll ensure you have access to everything you need to enable you to flourish throughout your studies.

As well as our student support services, you'll also be part of a friendly, nurturing and inclusive community. We celebrate our differences and believe that our diversity is an important contribution to creativity.



Evan Dim BMus (Performance)
From: Canada

"I came to RCS from Canada after having a lesson with lecturer Matthew McAllister and I knew I wanted to study here. While being a part of the guitar and harp department at RCS, I have found that the personal attention I receive from my teachers both in and outside of our lessons incredibly beneficial in developing my professional music career."



May-Ann Blanch BA Filmmaking
From: Vietnam and England

"I've stayed in Bangkok, Vietnam, Philippines, China and many more places, but I can honestly say that Scotland is my favourite country. The people make it a place like nowhere else in the world and being a part of the RCS family is incredible."

International support and opportunities

As a world-leading conservatoire and specialist institution with many international links, we encourage students to take part in overseas study.

We have global connections with professional partners, conservatoires and universities in Asia, North America, Australia and across Europe to offer you opportunities to grow personally and professionally whilst realising your artistic ambitions within a new setting.

We also welcome students from our partner institutions to join us in Glasgow, allowing our community to further grow and be enriched by diverse experiences and perspectives.

We have a dedicated International and Student Experience Team who are happy to chat through any questions you may have about studying at RCS or at one of our overseas partners. Get in touch: international@rcs.ac.uk





Learning support

All students can benefit from help with developing their study skills. Our Effective Learning Service is tailored to meet individual needs, whether that be in the form of one-to-one appointments and workshops to online support.

The service is free, confidential and inclusive. We are committed to meeting the specific learning and teaching needs of all students, including neurodivergent, disabled and D/deaf students.

Find out more: rcs.ac.uk/effectivlearning

Knowledge Exchange

The Knowledge Exchange team offers support for students to reach out and make connections beyond the Conservatoire.

We offer a space for our community to develop their skills as freelance artists through bespoke training opportunities, seed funds, workshops, and an expansive network of support and expertise which extends throughout your time at RCS, including the years following graduation.



Some of our Knowledge Exchange activities include:

1: Make It Happen Events: Workshops supporting your freelancing skills, tailored to students working in an arts context.

2: Make It Happen Fund: Annual seed funding competition for recent UK-based alumni to develop projects after graduation.

3: Bruce Millar Graduate Fellowship: A major annual fellowship of £10,000 for final year students and recent graduates from the School of Drama, Dance, Production and Film.

4: SHIFT: An inspiring, week-long programme of talks and workshops for all budding creative entrepreneurs, freelancers, artists, musicians, producers and performers, in collaboration with Glasgow School of Art and Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh.

Sharpen your freelance skills, hone your ideas and prepare for life as a practicing professional.

5. Innovation Studio: an exciting new addition to life at the Conservatoire, this project offers workshops, one-to-one advice sessions and a range of seed funding for your innovative ideas.

6. Exchange Talks: A weekly programme of inspirational talks from invited artists and researchers from both across the RCS community and beyond.

Find out more: rcs.ac.uk/exchange

Support with funding

We offer a range of funding support opportunities to students, amounting anywhere from a few hundred pounds to several thousand pounds. During the student loan application process, some of these may be awarded automatically based on circumstance.

Our scholarships, which are awarded for a mixture of financial need and merit, are available to students applying to any of our undergraduate programmes, and to some postgraduate programmes.

We are proud to be the first arts institution to partner with the Cowrie Scholarship Foundation, which aims to fund up to 100 disadvantaged Black British students through higher education in the next decade.

Discover more out about our scholarships:

rcs.ac.uk/financescholarship

Wellbeing

It's as important to look after our mental health as it is our physical health.

We offer students, at any time during your studies, access to our professional counselling service. Our highly trained and experienced counsellors can help you to explore a range of personal issues in a confidential manner, so you can reach your own decisions on the way forward.

RCS is also part of Togetherall (togetherall.com), an online mental health support service that students can access 24/7.

Find out more: rcs.ac.uk/counselling

Care Experienced, Estranged and Student Carers

We're committed to ensuring that those from all backgrounds feel able to apply to study with us.

Care Experienced applicants who have been looked after at home, in residential care, foster care or kinship care can access extra support including:

- | Assistance with your application to RCS
- | Consideration for inclusion in our contextualised admission process
- | Priority consideration for extra financial assistance, such as a bursary
- | Support with accommodation costs during the summer vacation
- | Advice on external financial support
- | Help with employment opportunities

Our Welfare Team is also available to support students with caring responsibilities, and estranged students (young people studying without the support and approval of a family network). Contact: welfare@rcs.ac.uk

Disability support

We welcome applications from all people with disability support needs, including medical conditions, specific learning difficulties and unseen disabilities.

Our staff are proficient in teaching people with a range of learning styles and are committed to promoting the development of independent learning skills.

If you would like to discuss support for your studies, contact: disabilityservice@rcs.ac.uk

For more information on all support available to you, please visit: rcs.ac.uk/studentssupport





Equality, diversity and inclusion

Equality, diversity and inclusion is central to our working ethos. We value the unique identity of every student and staff member. Art and performance need diversity in the classrooms, on the stage and behind the scenes. We celebrate our differences and believe that our diversity is an important contribution to our learning, teaching and creativity.

We aim to create an environment that is equitable, safe and inspiring for all; where everyone in our community treats each other fairly and with mutual respect, free from discrimination and intimidation. We have pledged to take action against any discriminatory behaviour in our community.

Students and staff meet regularly to discuss important issues around diversity and inclusion, where the student voice is listened to and valued. For example, a group of students and staff developed our **Anti-Racism Action Plan**, a dynamic and evolving document designed to make meaningful change for our community, now and in the future.

Find out more about our approach to equality, diversity and inclusion at RCS: rcs.ac.uk/equality

British Sign Language

We are the only institution in Europe offering a performance programme tailored for D/deaf or hard of hearing students. The **BA Performance in British Sign Language and English** is a groundbreaking programme that pushes the boundaries of the artistic sector, creating a new language of performance. It brings unique collaboration opportunities for students across RCS.

We frequently run short courses in British Sign Language to help introduce students, staff and members of the public to the joys of signing.



RCS Students' Union

The lively, colourful heart of the student experience at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland is the RCS Students' Union (RCSSU).

Whether it's helping you find your feet in the first weeks of your student life, hosting events to bring you together with your peers, or making your voice heard – the Students' Union is there for you from the moment you arrive, as you take a leap into this new and exciting chapter.

RCSSU welcomes international students at the airport and can help you to move into your student accommodation, making sure you don't feel lost or lonely in your first days in Scotland. They are there to be an informal listening ear if you're experiencing things like homesickness and financial challenges.

The Union is a platform to set up societies, so you can meet others who care about what you do. Union groups include the Black Union, Asian Union, LGBT Union and Trans Students' Union.

Find out more about the work of the RCSSU and how you can get involved:

-  RCSSU
-  @rcsunion
-  @rcsunion

“RCS Students' Union is central to the student experience at the Conservatoire and the great thing is that every student is automatically a member. Our Union is all about benefiting you as a student. We look forward to the new ideas and energy brought by our new students each year, and can't wait for you to join us.”

Ken Haga Fairbrother
President, RCS Students' Union

LEARN FROM THE BEST

Award-winning teaching staff and performers and industry experts who are leaders in their field... students learn from the best at RCS, where world-class training comes as standard.

Study here and you'll learn from, and work with, some of the best educators and performers in the world.

RCS staff and visiting artists are united in their commitment to nurturing the next generation of performing and production artists.

Whether it's taking part in Creative Conversations and Q&As or leading masterclasses, workshops or lessons, you'll benefit from their insight, experience and outstanding industry connections.

Nicola Benedetti, Junior Conservatoire of Music Patron and Honorary President of RCS, leads a masterclass at RCS





Martyn Brabbins



Jenn Butterworth



Karen Cargill



Dr Stuart MacRae



Daniel Piore



Tommy Smith OBE



Errollyn Wallen CBE

Martyn Brabbins Visiting Professor of Conducting

For more than thirty years, conductor Martyn Brabbins has been at the forefront of British music in a career that has taken him from the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and the Royal Flemish Philharmonic to the Kirov, La Scala and his current position as music director at English National Opera. Martyn imparts his expertise and insight with students on the postgraduate conducting programme. He also conducts the RCS Symphony Orchestra once a year, working with young instrumentalists and sharing his knowledge of orchestral life. Martyn mentors the institution's Leverhulme Conducting Fellows, a two-year programme that's delivered in association with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and new music ensemble Red Note.

Jenn Butterworth Lecturer, Traditional Music

Award-winning musician Jenn Butterworth is one of the UK's top folk guitarists. Jenn is Creative Producer on the Traditional Music programme, producing all the department's ensemble performance output, including Celtic Connections showcases and Celtic Colours. Jenn is also a key player in The BIT Collective that aims to tackle inequalities in Scottish folk and traditional music and is a leading light in the #TradStandsWithHer campaign.

Karen Cargill Mezzo-soprano and Associate Artist

As an internationally renowned mezzo-soprano, Karen Cargill has performed on the world's most prestigious stages with Metropolitan Opera, Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, Boston and Chicago Symphony Orchestras, and Concertgebouw Orchestra. Karen offers an unrivalled insight into the contemporary demands and opportunities that vocal students will require to understand to be responsive in their professional lives.

Dr Stuart MacRae Lecturer in Composition and Senior Research Fellow

One of the most exciting composers in the country, Stuart writes prolifically across many forms including opera, chamber music, orchestral music and music for choirs. Notable performers of Stuart's music include Scottish Opera, the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, the London Sinfonietta and the Salzburg State Theatre. Stuart's opera, *Anthropocene*, a collaboration with writer Louise Welsh, was nominated for a 2020 International Opera Award for Best New Work.

Daniel Piore Associate Artist in Contemporary String Performance

Recognised as one of the most groundbreaking violinists of his generation, Daniel works intensively with Studio Collective, which he formed at RCS in early 2021 with the goal of introducing students to new music, new ways of exploring old and familiar repertoire, and new ways of collaborating across different art-forms.

"Studio Collective is a group that exists to see how far we can push music, to explore how the music we make can be a work of art in its truest sense, treated with the same awe and preciousness as art in a gallery."

Tommy Smith OBE Head of Jazz

Award-winning educator, composer and recording artist, Tommy Smith OBE founded the Jazz department at RCS. He is also the founder and director of the Scottish National Jazz Orchestra and the Tommy Smith Youth Jazz Orchestra. As Head of Jazz, Tommy continues to forge new opportunities and pathways for our students, most recently creating a European Jazz Workshop which tours jazz musicians across conservatoires and festivals in Germany, Italy, Norway and Scotland.

Errollyn Wallen CBE Visiting Professor of Composition

Described as "a renaissance woman of contemporary British music" (*The Observer*), internationally celebrated composer, singer-songwriter and educator Errollyn Wallen CBE is inspiring the next generation of musicians in her role as Visiting Professor of Composition. The role includes one-to-one teaching, seminars and workshops.

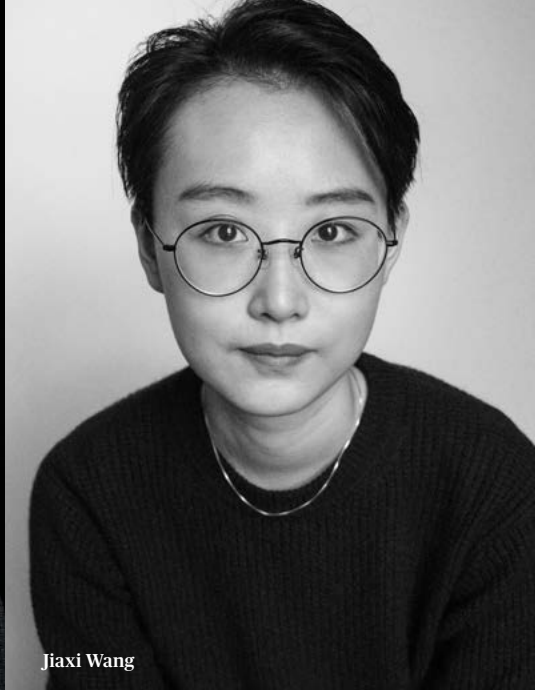
"I take this role with a great sense of responsibility because when I was a student, I would have liked to have gone up to a professional composer to ask them all kinds of questions. I like to think my role is to be approachable, helpful, share insights and give back."



Dr Andy Dougan



Nadine George



Jiaxi Wang



Steve Macluskie



Vanessa Coffey



Gary Fry



28 Paul Liburd MBE



Bethany Kingsley-Garner

Dr Andy Dougan Lecturer, Filmmaking

Dr Andy Dougan joined RCS after a long career as an award-winning journalist and broadcaster and bestselling author. He's responsible for delivering the Film and Television Studies module in first year, Film Studies in year two, the final year research project and script development.

He is also an active member of the RCS Research and Knowledge Exchange team where his areas of interest include early Glasgow cinema and British film in the 1950s. Andy has written 12 books on film, sport, and history, which include acclaimed biographies of Richard Attenborough, Robin Williams and Robert De Niro. He has also written the Sunday Times bestseller *Dynamo*, which is currently in development as a major motion picture.

Nadine George International Fellow and Founder of Voice International

Nadine is one of our International Fellows and we regularly welcome her to the Royal Conservatoire's Centre for Voice in Performance to deliver masterclasses and workshops with students. RCS is the only institution in the UK to offer the Nadine George Voice Work – a transformational technique that School of Drama graduates continue to practice in their professional careers.

Jiaxi Wang Lecturer, Contemporary Performance Practice

Jiaxi Wang mentors Honours-level students on modules such as Into the New, Artist in Development and Secondment. Jiaxi is the level co-ordinator as well as placement supervisor for third year students on the programme. As a producer, Jiaxi is experienced in London fringe theatre producing and international touring with a China focus. They also write identity-led performances and do queer activism work.

Vanessa Coffey Visiting Lecturer

Vanessa is a UK-based Intimacy Co-ordinator for screen and stage, with a background in corporate law. Originally from Sydney, Australia, she moved to Glasgow to retrain as an actor before working as a lecturer on the BA Acting programme.

As an Intimacy Co-ordinator, Vanessa has worked across a wide range of theatre and screen productions, held courses and presentations in the UK and internationally, contributed to the Directors UK guidelines *Directing Nudity and Simulated Sex*, and founded the Intimacy Practitioners' Guild alongside fellow industry professionals.

Steve Macluskie Lecturer, Stage Technology

Steve has been teaching Technical Management at RCS for over a decade. He continues to work in the professional theatre industry as a qualified rigger and automation programmer. He is one of the team of trainers and assessors for the Association of British Theatre Technicians and has trained working professionals all over the world, from Manchester to Malaysia. Steve won a JISC iTech award for his work using online technologies for teaching and assessment.

Gary Fry Lecturer, Scenic Art

Before joining RCS in 2009, Gary had an illustrious career as a scenic artist where he worked for the National Theatre, Opera North, the Royal Lyceum, the Glasgow Commonwealth Games and many more.

Gary was also a Field Art Director for Walt Disney Imagineering in Hong Kong and led the painting for Sleeping Beauty's Castle and the Jungle River Cruise.

Paul Liburd MBE Dancer and choreographer

A globally respected dancer, choreographer and educator, Paul Liburd is a regular guest teacher on the BA Modern Ballet programme.

In his award-winning career, Paul has performed works by some of the world's most prominent contemporary-modern choreographers. He has danced with companies including Scottish Ballet (where he was a soloist), Rambert and London Contemporary Dance Theatre.

Since retiring from performing, Paul moved into teaching and is currently contemporary dance tutor at Rambert School. He was awarded an MBE in 2009 for services to dance.

Bethany Kingsley-Garner Principal Dancer – Scottish Ballet

Bethany trained at the Royal Ballet School. She joined Scottish Ballet in 2007, was promoted to Soloist in 2013, and to Principal in 2016. At RCS, she has become increasingly involved with teaching and coaching repertoire to the Modern Ballet students, who benefit from her professional input and support to their training.

OUR PROGRAMMES

A Contemporary Performance Practice
collaboration project



The wide variety of artistic disciplines at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland provides unparalleled opportunities for you to be a part of a collaborative community of leading professional practitioners, tutors and makers. It's our focus to support students to discover their strengths and courage as socially-engaged artists.

Here at RCS, we prioritise supporting you to develop your artistic practice in a context that connects you to industry and with a range of skills that enable creative portfolio careers.

Our programmes offer the resources to help you build meaningful career paths, create entrepreneurial opportunities and to be persuasive advocates for your artforms.

We are proud of our graduates and their successes motivate our commitment to a relevant, exciting and inspiring curriculum.

Dr Lois Fitch
Deputy Principal

MUSIC



Welcome to the School of Music. Choose to study music at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and you'll be immersed in one of the most dynamic, creative and collaborative institutions in the UK.

From day one, we'll treat you as a professional-in-training. You can benefit from our partnerships with all of the national companies, perform on stage with your peers and internationally renowned artists and, of course, learn from our expert teaching staff to enable you to fulfil your true potential.

Visit our conservatoire and see for yourself how it's a place like nowhere else. I look forward to welcoming you.

Dr Gordon Munro
Director of Music

 @gordonmunro

Music students have regular performance opportunities

Important dates

Make sure you apply on time to guarantee an audition.

UK/international applicant deadline: 3 October

UNDERGRADUATE

Bachelor of Music (Honours)

Four years, full-time

The Bachelor of Music with Honours (BMus) undergraduate programme has been designed to be inspiring, flexible and tailored to meet your individual musical needs. There are six pathways for you to choose from – each created for you to specialise in your chosen field through a range of practical experiences and creative challenges.

The six pathways are:

1 Performance

brass, guitar and harp, keyboard, strings, timpani and percussion, woodwind and vocal performance

2 Composition

3 Jazz

4 Joint Principal Study

5 Traditional Music

6 Traditional Music – Piping

in partnership with the National Piping Centre



Find out more: rcs.ac.uk/bmus

Bachelor of Education (Music) with Honours

Four years, full-time

Accredited by the General Teaching Council for Scotland

This vocational programme is for aspiring music teachers and will qualify you for working in both primary and secondary school teaching.

Find out more on page 37 or visit rcs.ac.uk/bed



POSTGRADUATE

Each year, students from across the world come to RCS to undertake a Masters with us to fulfil their ambitions of making music their life's work. Our postgraduate studies are versatile, challenging programmes which help you to refine and extend your musicianship, preparing you for a professional career.

Master of Music (MMus)

Two years, full-time

Master of Arts in Music (MA)

One year, full-time

Advanced Postgraduate Diploma in Performance (AdvPGDip)

One year, full-time

Artist Diploma

One year, full-time

MA Historically Informed Performance Practice

in partnership with the University of Glasgow



Professional Graduate Diploma in Education (Music)

One year, full-time

Accredited by the General Teaching Council for Scotland

MA Psychology in the Arts (Music)

Two years, part-time

There are 11 postgraduate pathways for you to choose from:

1 Performance

2 Chamber Music

3 Composition

4 Conducting

5 Jazz

6 Opera

7 Performance and Pedagogy

8 Piano for Dance

in partnership with Scottish Ballet

**SCOTTISH
BALLET**

9 Piano Accompaniment

10 Repetiteurship

11 Traditional Music

These pathways apply to most MMus, MA, AdvPGDip and Artist Diploma programmes.

For full details on our music programmes, including performance opportunities, teaching staff and audition information, please see our website: rcs.ac.uk/music

DRAMA, DANCE, PRODUCTION AND FILM



Scene from RCS production of
The Bacchae

Welcome to the School of Drama, Dance, Production and Film.

We're a dynamic group of actors, dancers, film and performance makers, production artists and performance technicians; committed to inclusive and progressive creative practice.

Students are empowered to develop the necessary skills for their particular focus of study so that they can confidently enter the professional world as forward-thinking, courageous and compassionate artists.

Collaboration is at the heart of Drama, Dance, Production and Film. With the wealth of disciplines across RCS, students are offered a wide variety of opportunities to develop their artistry, find their own voice and relate to others through co-creation and knowledge sharing.

We move with the times and the industries that we represent.

We're committed to supporting the widest range of passionate students, and sharing your vision of the world.

It's an exciting time to join us. We can't wait to meet you.

Gemma Bodinetz

Director of Drama, Dance, Production and Film

DRAMA

A scene from *The Dutch Courtesan* performed by MA/MFA Acting Classical and Contemporary Text students Amber Frances and Michael Morrow



Here at the School of Drama, we are committed to creating an inclusive, supportive and progressive environment to help nurture the next generation of performance artists, directors and actors.

Creating and sharing stories that reflect the wide range of human experience has never felt more urgent.

Students here develop the skills, rigour and artistry to become collaborative and creatively courageous performance makers. This is central to every programme that we offer.

With five professional venues at RCS, and a wide range of national and international partnerships, our students are offered many varied opportunities to perform.

Uniquely placed as they are within the School of Drama, Dance, Production and Film, and the wider context of RCS, drama students will also have ample opportunity for interdisciplinary co-creation and knowledge sharing.

We can't wait to get to know you and help you on this exciting journey.

UNDERGRADUATE

BA Acting Three years, full-time

An intensive actor-training programme, the BA Acting focuses on the individual, allowing you to explore your creativity in preparation for a career in theatre, screen and radio.

BA (Hons) Contemporary Performance Practice Four years, full-time

This programme aims to develop socially-engaged artists who can make a contribution in the world as performance makers, educators, advocates and active citizens. The programme is committed to exploring the ecological and social function of performance and how performance can be an 'act of community'. Students will be encouraged to connect theory and practice and be introduced to different ways of making your own work, outside of traditional theatre models.

BA Musical Theatre Three years, full-time

Offering an extraordinary combination of world-class education and professional contexts for performance and collaboration, this programme will support you to become a multi-disciplinary artist with outstanding abilities in acting, singing, dance and music, able to adapt to a rapidly changing art form and industry.

BA Performance in British Sign Language and English Three years, full-time

in partnership with Solar Bear **SOLAR BEAR**

This is the only programme of its kind in the UK. We work with D/deaf and hard of hearing students to create work on stage and screen. Our students use BSL, other sign languages and/or spoken English. Whichever language you choose to work in, we train you as actors and makers of original work, and as artists who are changing the face of performance.

POSTGRADUATE

MA Musical Theatre (Performance) or (Musical Directing) One year, full-time

There are two distinctive pathways through this Masters programme – Performance or Musical Directing – bringing students together from across the world to create a truly distinctive cohort of artists.

We also offer a one year Graduate Diploma (Musical Direction). Please see our website for more details on this programme.

MA/MFA Acting Classical and Contemporary Text or MA/MFA Directing Classical and Contemporary Text One year, full-time

These vocational programmes are for artists, providing the opportunity and support to develop as individuals, as members of an ensemble prepared to encounter text in whatever form it takes. You matter as much as our curriculum, and the heart of the programme is the encounter of your creative individuality with others – no one does it alone.

MFA students will complete the MA programme as well as an additional four-month module to create a substantial piece of original work.

Important dates

Make sure you apply on time to guarantee an audition.

BA Acting and BA Musical Theatre: 26 January

All other UK undergraduate applications: 31 January

**All other international undergraduate applications:
31 March**

Postgraduate applications: 31 March

For full details on our drama programmes, including performance opportunities, teaching staff and audition information, please see our website: [rcs.ac.uk/drama](https://www.rcs.ac.uk/drama)

DANCE





Welcome to dance at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Choose to study here, and from day one you will learn from and work alongside professionals.

Our close partnership with Scottish Ballet gives you insight into life within a professional company, as well as performance opportunities, and access to rehearsals and workshops with choreographers and dancers from around the world.

We want to work with students who are committed to training for a career in dance. Please visit our website to find out more about the programme or to organise a visit to our studios. We look forward to welcoming you to the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

Kerry Livingstone
Head of Modern Ballet

 @rcsmodernballet
 @rcsmodernballet
 @BAmodernballet

For full details our ballet programmes, including performance opportunities, teaching staff and audition information, please see our website: [rcs.ac.uk/dance](https://www.rcs.ac.uk/dance)

in partnership with
**SCOTTISH
BALLET**

BA Modern Ballet **Three years, full-time**

This undergraduate programme is designed to help you develop classical and contemporary dance technique and prepare you for the profession as a confident, versatile and technically strong dancer. Over the three years you will have numerous performing opportunities including collaborative projects with departments across RCS. Recent projects include performing *The Nutcracker* alongside brass students at Gleneagles, and Christopher Hampson's *Cinderella* at Buckingham Palace.

Professional Graduate Diploma in Modern Ballet **One year, full-time**

This graduate qualification offers performing opportunities and a chance to enhance employability. The programme is suitable for dancers who wish to further develop their training and 'bridge the gap' to the profession. It runs from September to June and has been structured to closely reflect a company environment, with performance and choreographic opportunities in all terms.

Important dates

Make sure you apply on time to guarantee an audition.

UK deadline: 31 January

International deadline: 31 March



BA Modern Ballet student Finlay Watson

PRODUCTION



Welcome to Production at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland – a learning and teaching environment where we deliver practical, hands-on programmes for the curious, the creative and the committed.

Our professional partnerships mean your studies will reflect the skill sets the industry is looking for now. We want you to become a confident professional with a wide range of transferable skills, ready to energise the production arts and find your place within the profession.

We are proud of our diverse and inclusive curriculum, and of the drive, energy and creativity of our students and graduates. We very much hope to be working with you in the future.

Ros Maddison
Head of Production

🐦 @rcs_pad
🐦 @rcs_ptm 📷 @rcsptm

BA Production Arts and Design **Three years, full-time**

A programme designed for aspiring scenic artists, prop-makers, stage carpenters, costume-makers, and set and costume designers to learn your craft within a diverse conservatoire training environment. You can expect to work on numerous productions every year and we value your creativity and individuality as much as your technical knowledge.

BA Production Technology and Management **Three years, full-time**

On this programme, you can learn to be a production technician, stage manager, sound designer or lighting designer who can turn your hands to any related role, making you employable in a range of contexts. We'll help you to create your own pathway, focusing on your areas of interest. You will learn to work creatively, as an individual artist, as part of a production team and in collaboration with other students of all disciplines.

Important dates

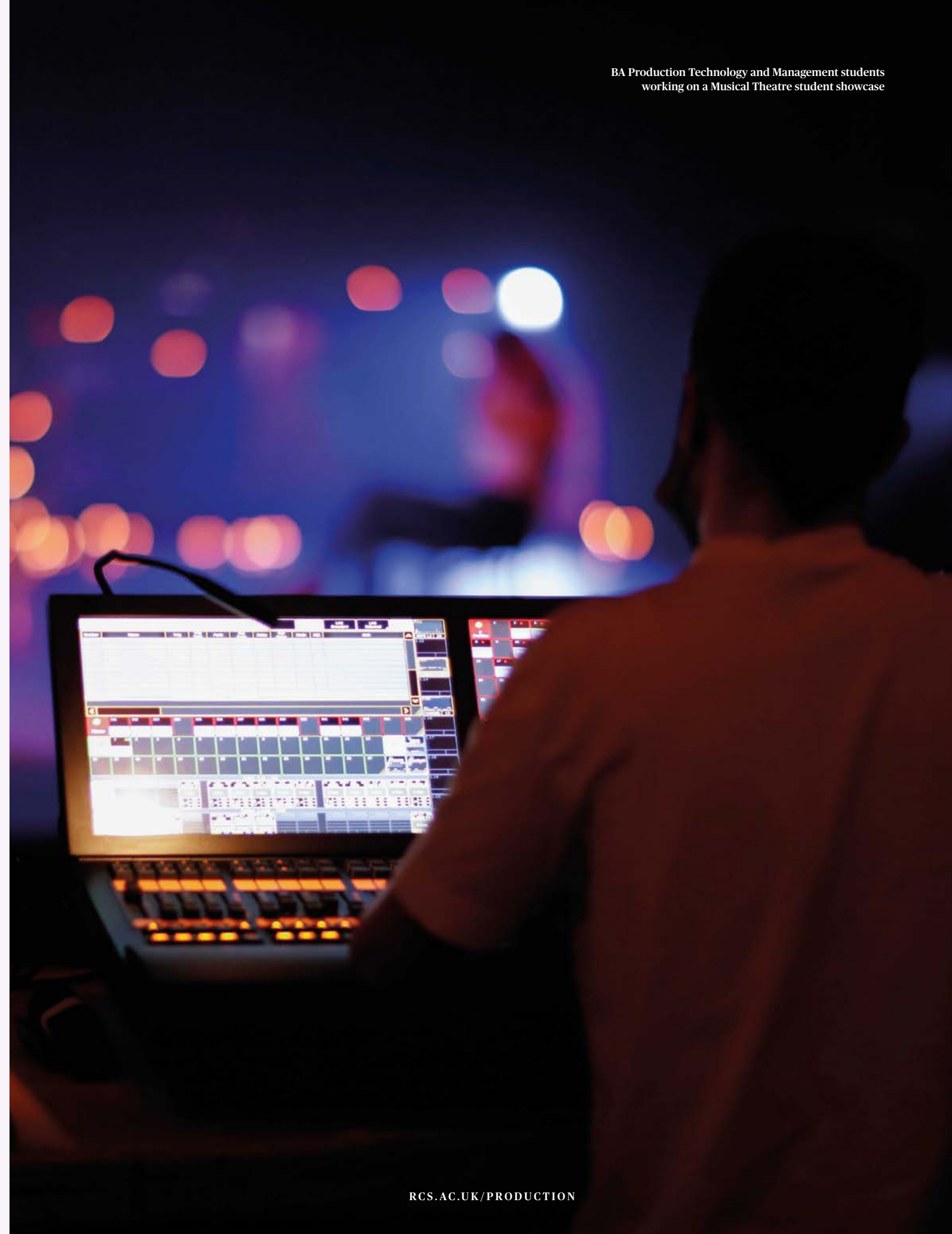
Make sure you apply on time to guarantee an interview.

UK deadline: 31 January

International deadline: 31 March

For full details on our production programmes, including student opportunities, teaching staff and admissions information, please see our website:
rcs.ac.uk/production

BA Production Technology and Management students
working on a Musical Theatre student showcase



FILM



Welcome to the Film department at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. We offer an undergraduate programme that is current, relevant and produces graduates with the knowledge and experience required by the industry.

Our focus is to get your ideas on screen. We will work with you as an individual, developing your strengths and filmmaking craft to support you to achieve your career aspirations. Go online and watch our graduate films and please do get in touch if you would like to discuss the programme further.

Ray Tallan
Head of Filmmaking

🐦 @RCSFilm

BA Filmmaking **Three years, full-time**

BA Filmmaking is a drama-based, practical filmmaking programme aimed at those who are passionate about storytelling in cinema or television. The programme is designed so that you have the opportunity to experience various disciplines in a foundation year – directing, production management, location sound, scriptwriting and post-production (editing and sound) – allowing you to grow your understanding of each part of the filmmaking process and find your strengths. In Year 2, you will write and direct a short piece of work before selecting a specialist path of core options. Your final year will give you the chance to learn and practice in your specialist choices.

Learning within our distinctive conservatoire environment allows you to work directly with performers, musicians and production artists. This interdisciplinary environment is the perfect place to create new work and expand your skillset.

Important dates

Make sure you apply on time to guarantee an interview.

UK deadline: 31 January

International deadline: 31 March

For full details on the BA Filmmaking programme, including student opportunities, teaching staff and admissions information, please see our website: [rcs.ac.uk/film](https://www.rcs.ac.uk/film)

BA Filmmaking students on location at Mugdock Country Park near Glasgow



EDUCATION

As Scotland's national conservatoire, we offer learning and teaching opportunities to students who are passionate about performing arts education.

We want to ensure the very best teachers are available to inspire performing arts students across the world. Our undergraduate and postgraduate education programmes aim to equip you with the skills to recognise the spark of potential within your learning environments and understand how to motivate and nurture your students to be the best performing or production artists possible.

If you want to make an impact and shape the future of the next generation of creative artists, start your application today.

BEd student Heather Graham leading a music class at a Glasgow primary school

FULL-TIME

Bachelor of Education (Music) with Honours

Four years, full-time

Accredited by the General Teaching Council for Scotland

This vocational programme is for aspiring music teachers and will qualify you for working in both primary and secondary school music teaching.

The programme has been designed to give you as much time and variety on placement as possible, with integrated school placements on all four years of study.

More details about the programme, including the guaranteed probationary year of employment after graduation (for eligible graduates), are available on our website: rcs.ac.uk/bed

Professional Graduate Diploma in Education (Music)

One year, full-time

Accredited by the General Teaching Council for Scotland

An intensive, one-year programme of teacher training for graduates who aspire to teach music in secondary schools. On this programme, you will engage with vocational studies in education (professional studies) and up to 90 days of school placement.



For full details on our education programmes, including placement opportunities, teaching staff and admissions information, please see our website: rcs.ac.uk/education

PART-TIME

Our part-time learning and teaching programmes are designed for practising artists and teachers who wish to advance their skills to Masters level or to retrain for a new career in education.

Postgraduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching

Two years, part-time

Accredited by AdvanceHE

This part-time, blended learning programme provides a unique opportunity for practising arts educators to upgrade their teaching qualifications by integrating their studies into their existing teaching contexts.

The programme includes a mix of face-to-face and online sessions, one-to-one tutorials and independent study, although distance learning students can study the programme fully online.

Master of Education Learning and Teaching in the Arts

Three years, part-time

Accredited by AdvanceHE and the General Teaching Council for Scotland

The part time, blended learning MEd programme is specifically designed for people teaching in the arts who want to upskill or formalise their teaching experience.

It is open to anyone in an arts teaching scenario – both formal educators (such as primary, secondary, FE and HE teachers) and informal educators (such as freelance workshop facilitators or community arts leaders) and can be studied fully online if necessary.

Important dates

Make sure you apply on time to guarantee an interview/audition.

Bachelor of Education (Music) programme: 1 December

Professional Graduate Diploma in Education (Music): 31 January

Part-time Learning and Teaching programmes: 31 March

RESEARCH



Choose to undertake your research within one of the most inspiring and innovative environments in the country. We are driven by the desire to ensure the art created within our walls makes a significant and positive impact on the world.

In partnership with the University of St Andrews, we offer DPerf, PhD and MPhil programmes of study. As a student here, you will work within a vibrant community of researchers and artists. Our department is growing – we have one of the largest number of doctoral students within any UK conservatoire – and we are continually developing new partners, connections and opportunities around the world.

If you want to work in a supportive, creative environment and see your research make a difference, start your application today.

Professor Stephen Broad

 @RCS_TheExchange

Musical Theatre students in a production of *City of Angels*

DOCTORAL DEGREES

in partnership with



University of
St Andrews

Doctor of Philosophy
Three years, full-time
Six years, part-time

Master of Philosophy
Two years, full-time
Four years, part-time

You will be encouraged to work with your supervisor, staff and students from across RCS to drive and develop your research to its fullest potential. Working within our distinctive environment, we expect students to embrace the many training and performance opportunities that are available.

Specific areas for research degrees include:

- | the processes and methodologies of developing new performance work (music/dance/drama/musical theatre), including collaborative and devised performance
- | performance
- | musical composition, in all genres, for live, electroacoustic and mixed media
- | Scottish music
- | methodologies of specialist performance training, including the use of IT
- | socio-cultural studies of performance
- | performance education and pedagogy.



For full details on our doctoral programmes, including student opportunities, supervisors and application information, please see our website:
rcs.ac.uk/doctoral-degrees

Doctor of Performing Arts
Three years, full-time
Six years, part-time

This innovative professional doctorate supports you to develop your practice at the highest level and provide a structure within which you can make a significant and original contribution to your chosen artistic field. It is a doctoral programme comparable in scope, level and ambition to the PhD, but focused on making a significant and original contribution to the artistic field within which your work resides.

Research funding

Outstanding applicants applying for Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) study at RCS may be eligible to be nominated for Arts & Humanities Research Council funding through the Scottish Graduate School of Arts and Humanities Doctoral Training Partnership and/or for funding from The Carnegie Trust. International and UK applicants who are interested in being nominated should apply at an earlier deadline of 11 November.

Important dates

Application deadlines to start your doctoral degree the following September:

All doctoral degrees: 27 January

To be considered for research funding, apply early: 11 November

HOW TO APPLY

How to apply

All applications to the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland must be made through the UCAS Conservatoires online admissions service.

You can find their website at www.ucas.com/conservatoires and our institution code is **R58**.

We encourage you to submit your application before the closing date. If you submit your application after the closing date, there is no guarantee you will be given an audition/interview. For further information on how to apply and the audition process, please see our website: rcs.ac.uk/apply

The Admissions team will be able to help you with any questions you have throughout the application process.

You can contact us at admissions@rcs.ac.uk

Application closing dates

We look forward to receiving your application to study with us. For programmes starting the following September, the application closing dates are outlined below, with dates being correct at the time of going to print.

Application closing dates for each programme are published on our website: rcs.ac.uk/apply

Music programmes:

3 October.

Bachelor of Education (Music) programme:

1 December.

Professional Graduate Diploma in Education (Music):

31 January.

Undergraduate Drama, Dance, Production and Film programmes:

26 January for BA Acting and BA Musical Theatre.

31 January for all other UK applications.

31 March for all other international applications.

Postgraduate Dance, Drama and Education programmes:

31 March for all applicants.

Research programmes:

11 November for PhD applicants who wish to be nominated for funding.

27 January for all other applicants.

Entry requirements

Through our recruitment and admissions processes, as well as our commitment to pre-Higher Education courses, we actively seek to develop and maintain a diverse learning community. It is our strong belief that the professions we serve will be more effective and of greater benefit to society and culture if their members are representative of a diverse society. Therefore, we recognise that we need an admissions process that is flexible, and pays specific attention to the background, needs and potential of every individual applicant.

Entrance to Royal Conservatoire of Scotland programmes is based on talent, potential and ability. We are looking for students who display outstanding potential, dedication and ambition for the performing and production arts.

Academic entry requirements

General academic entry requirements are published on each individual programme page on our website. We will consider all relevant experience that may compensate for the lack of traditional education.

We also accept a wide range of qualifications, including international qualifications. If you would like to check the suitability of your qualifications or experience, please get in touch with us at admissions@rcs.ac.uk

We welcome applications from individuals whose academic qualifications or English language qualifications do not match (in terms of equivalence) or fall short of the normal entrance requirements, where specified*.

Having satisfied the audition panel that you meet the selection criteria and demonstrated that you have the capacity to pursue the proposed programme of study, such applicants will be considered through examination of contextualised data provided in accordance with the Non-Standard Entry Policy.

**Note that UK Visa and Immigration (UKVI) imposes minimum English Language qualifications in respect of international applicants who require a Student Visa to study in the UK.*

Language requirements

If your first language is not English, you will be required to provide evidence of proficiency in English. Our required scores in International English Language Testing System (IELTS) can be found on each programme page, under Entry Requirements, on our website: rcs.ac.uk

Other equivalent English language qualifications may be considered – please contact admissions@rcs.ac.uk for further information.

Contemporary Performance Practice student Maria Monteiro performing *As Real as Reality* at *Into the New* festival



Auditions and interviews

The audition/interview process is different for each programme and we recommend that you read the full audition/interview process for your chosen programme online: [rcs.ac.uk/apply](https://www.rcs.ac.uk/apply)

Our admissions processes are designed to be fair, transparent and efficient. The audition/interview approach serves the dual purpose of allowing the panel to assess your suitability for your chosen programme, whilst also giving you the opportunity to gain a deeper insight into the programme and the opportunities that RCS offers.

All applications made before the programme's specific closing date are guaranteed an audition assessment (except Research). Details on the audition/interview process are available online at [rcs.ac.uk/apply](https://www.rcs.ac.uk/apply). This includes information on any deadlines, audition information, repertoire/requirements and what to expect following your audition/interview.

Tuition fees

Please see [rcs.ac.uk/feesandfunding](https://www.rcs.ac.uk/feesandfunding) for the most up-to-date tuition fees, as well as further information on financial support.

Government funding

Students from Scotland

All funding enquiries for Scottish students should be directed to the Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS): www.saas.gov.uk

Students from England, Wales and Northern Ireland

You may be eligible for the same funding or loan package you would benefit from if you attended an institution in your home nation. For more information please visit the relevant website:

England: www.gov.uk/student-finance

Wales: www.studentfinancewales.co.uk

Northern Ireland: www.studentfinancenir.co.uk

International students

Most international students will need to fund their studies through a variety of means. The most common sources of funding for international students are: own country funding, personal, and national and international organisations. Please see our website for more information.

External funding

For more information about alternative funding sources, including external scholarships and bursaries, please visit [rcs.ac.uk/external-funding](https://www.rcs.ac.uk/external-funding)

Our International and Student Experience team is available to advise and assist applicants and current students about funding your studies at RCS. Please email studentfinance@rcs.ac.uk

Scholarships

Each year the RCS Trust disburses scholarships to the value of approximately £1.5 million to incoming and continuing RCS undergraduate, postgraduate and research students from Scotland, the rest of the UK, and all over the world on the basis of merit and/or financial need.

All applicants are considered for scholarship as part of the audition/interview process. A scholarship award can vary in amount, and as a contribution towards tuition fees or could be in the form of a maintenance grant depending on each individual's circumstances.

For more details on scholarships please visit: [rcs.ac.uk/financescholarship](https://www.rcs.ac.uk/financescholarship)

Curriculum review

Along with all other Higher Education institutions in the UK, we undertake regular reviews of our curriculum. As we are in a review cycle for our undergraduate curriculum at the time of publication, all undergraduate programmes starting in 2023 are currently designated 'subject to revalidation'. This is standard practice during curriculum review periods. The most up-to-date information will be found on our website.

The outcome of this process may mean that there will be some changes to how your programme is delivered. Our intent remains the same: to deliver high quality teaching and student experiences for your development as a performing artist and entrepreneur.



The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland is one of the four UK Royal Conservatoires. We join the Royal Academy of Music, the Royal College of Music and the Royal Northern College of Music as proud partners in the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM). ABRSM is the UK's largest music education body and seeks to inspire musical achievement throughout the world. [abrsm.org](https://www.abrsm.org)

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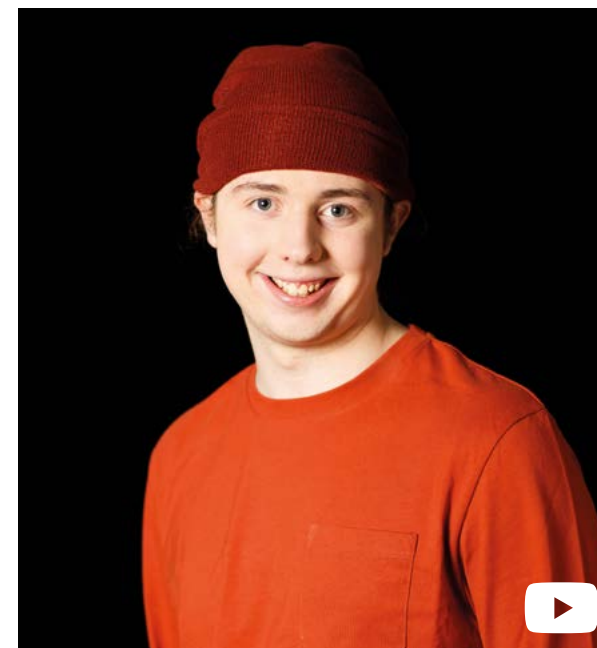
Kaylyn McKeown MMus (Performance)
From: Scotland

"You'll get plenty of opportunities, you'll know everyone, and everyone will know you which is great. We've always had great teachers and people are up for anything here, nobody says 'no'. Everyone is very open minded and friendly. It's lovely, it's like coming into a home – you'll always see people you know."



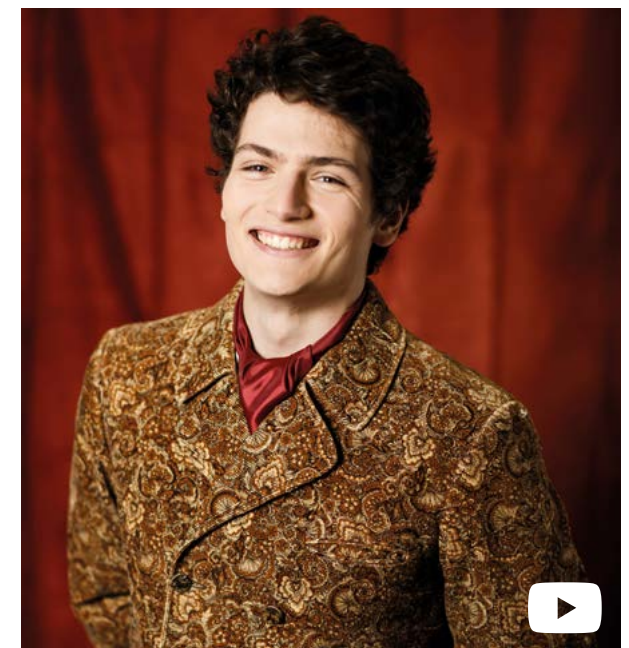
Kaylah Copeland BA Acting
From: USA

"To other people thinking about coming here to study, I would say, come! It has been an amazing opportunity and I've got to meet people from all around the world. RCS is a special place because it takes not only great artists, but great people, and makes sure that they really care for the artist and the art that they create."



Kyle Jessiman BA Production
Technology and Management
From: Scotland

"I would totally recommend studying Production. There might be at times some long hours but it really does prepare you for the industry. The smaller numbers on the programme mean that the amount of time you get to spend with your lecturers and tutors is amazing. Also, RCS often bring in industry professionals, so you're always learning."



Brendan Norris BMus (Performance)
From: Scotland

"For those considering studying at RCS, I think you should absolutely go for it. It is one of the most welcoming and open environments I've ever been part of. I feel like I've learned how to really become myself a lot more since starting at RCS. RCS is a community for so many artists in Scotland. When I walk around Glasgow, I see so many people passionate about being expressive and creative."