

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION MA DANCE PERFORMANCE

<b>Programme</b>	MA Dance Performance
<b>Awarding Institution</b>	Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance
<b>Location of study</b>	Laban Building
<b>Mode and duration</b>	1 year full time
<b>UK Credits</b>	200
<b>ECTS</b>	100

### SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The MA Dance Performance is a full-time programme taught over 13 months onsite at Trinity Laban. Students on the MA Dance Performance form the membership of Trinity Laban Dance Collective (TLDC), working together on a range of different creative encounters with professional guidance from faculty and guest artists. These may range in terms of scale, duration and output, and will culminate in a portfolio of different performance opportunities throughout the year.

The MA Dance Performance seeks to interrogate questions around the shifting identity and qualitative challenges inherent in the portfolio career of next generation performance artists. TDLC suggests collectivity as a framework for exploring this alongside themes of power, value, relevancy, ethics, sustainability and presence in performance amid others. The programme centres the lived experience of the dancer as active agent in terms of both navigating their own learning and, ultimately, in navigating and shaping the professional field.

Practice-based work is underpinned by regular engagement with embodied movement alongside a strong commitment to reflective practice, research and critical dialogue. Students will be guided in the interrogation of their own relationship to the role of the performer, whilst deepening their understanding and skills in relation to the artistic, technical and ethical complexities inherent in dance performance and performance making.

Students on the MA Dance Performance are immersed within the wider Graduate School at Trinity Laban and have the benefit of shared delivery and collaborative exchange across postgraduate dance programmes.

#### The programme seeks to:

- Provide opportunities for developing the range of skills and meeting the challenges of working as a performing artist in today's professional arts environment.
- Support the development of advanced-level performers through access to professional dance makers, performers, collaborative environments and performance opportunities.
- Provide a means whereby students can engage critically with their studio practice.
- Provide extensive opportunities for reflection on, and critical examination of, performance practice.
- Provide a comprehensive professional-level environment in which students can refine their knowledge, skills and understanding of creative and performance processes within dance.
- Foster innovative and quality practice-based research in the field of dance performance.

- Foster a culture of collectivity and collaboration as dominant working practices

**Particular emphasis is given to:**

- developing advanced technical skills alongside embodied knowledge and understanding that enables their transfer to new and challenging creative contexts
- developing a deeper understanding of the artistic and technical complexities of the performance process
- developing an awareness of social, political, artistic and philosophical challenges in relationship to the development of a creative performance practice
- providing intensive creative engagement with a range of visiting artists utilising diverse creative practices
- developing a deeper understanding of the creative potential of the dance artist in collaborative processes

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this programme, a student will be expected to be able to demonstrate:

### Knowledge and understanding

- Apply technical knowledge and understanding to new and unfamiliar contexts
- Demonstrate a knowledge of creative processes, and of newly devised works in the act of performance
- Demonstrate a knowledge of the interconnection between theory and practice as it relates to dance performance
- Reflect on, and give an intelligent and critical account of devising and performance processes
- Reflect on, and give an intelligent and critical account of one's own development and role as a performer

### Skills

- Undertake independent research in the field of dance performance, and disseminate this to a wider professional public
- Demonstrate an advanced level of technical skill in a wide variety of performance contexts
- Demonstrate a high level of artistry in the creative and performance processes in a variety of environments and in different modes of working
- Contribute intelligently and constructively to the creative process and adapt to changing demands

### Values and attitudes

- Work independently, take initiative, and exercise personal responsibility for one's own performance practice
- Demonstrate a professional approach within the company context
- Exercise a professional and responsible attitude to one's own performance practice, including an understanding of the relationship between personal endeavour and collaborative enterprise
- Make individual choices and decisions in relation to performance practice
- Respond critically to issues in artistic and creative environments, especially those concerning the performer and performance practice

## GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES

Trinity Laban Graduate programmes prepare artists and practitioners to contribute to the leadership and future development of the global creative ecology in a sustainable and responsible way. Those who have participated in a graduate programme should be able to:

1. Investigate and interrogate their practices in relation to existing bodies of knowledge and associated theoretical, critical and creative contexts to understand how their practice is situated
2. Design systematic and creative research processes and practices, transferring these into a variety of practical and performance contexts
3. Adopt play and openness within research processes to compliment frameworks that enable purposeful engagement in practice
4. Demonstrate emergent original thinking, and understand how this relates to practice and the conceptualisation of work in their discipline
5. Develop significantly refined practice skills in order to produce socially and ethically aware processes and products, enabling the individual to participate as creative and artistic leaders and as global citizens

## **CURRICULUM**

### **Structure**

The programme commences at the beginning of September each academic year and continues until the end of September of the following year (13 months). Study is only available full time.

Module Title	Module Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Performance Making	D70021	30	Core	Yes	7
Performer in the Creative Process	D70018	40	Core	Yes	7
Dance Performance	D70019	40	Core	Yes	7
Res Lab	D70002	30	Core	No	7

#### Project/Dissertation Module

Project	D70008	60	Core	No	7
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#### Key Progression Points (if applicable)

The programme consists of a single part, however there is a progression point at the end of the taught programme (summer term). Students who have yet to complete the taught modules due to failure or deferral may be required to complete any outstanding assessments before embarking on the Project.

Where an assessment component is failed, one resit may be permitted at the discretion of the Assessment Board (or the Interim Assessment Panel, subject to confirmation by the Assessment Board). The mark will be capped at the minimum pass mark of 50%. The date and mode of reassessment will be set by the Interim Assessment Panel or by the Assessment Board (depending on the timing of the assessment).

## LEARNING AND TEACHING

#### **Total contact hours: approximately 680 hours**

(Based on 20-25 hours per week for the first 9 months of the programme depending on activity, followed by independent study with supervision)

#### **Total self-directed study hours: 1320**

#### **Total learning and teaching hours: 2000**

#### Learning and teaching methods

The majority of the learning for this programme takes place in the context of group studio practice led by faculty and guest artists. A range of performance encounters will also provide different learning opportunities. Seminars and lectures will also have an important role in the course alongside group discussion and reflective practice. Students will have regular individual tutorials throughout the year. In the final module, Project, students will engage in independent study to pursue a particular research idea with mentoring support.

## ASSESSMENT

## Overview

Assessment is through a variety of modes, including practice-based formats, presentation, reflective documentation and portfolio submissions. Usually, following a practical assessment task, there will be an opportunity to discuss the work presented with tutors, often via Q&A. This is normally led by tutors but also includes opportunities for peer involvement.

In Research Lab, the assessment task is wholly written in the form of a project proposal and does not include a practical component. For all assessment tasks students will be assessed according to their ability to meet the learning outcomes for the module, and against any specific assessment criteria provided.

## What do I have to do to pass?

You must achieve a pass mark of at least 50% in each module in order to pass the programme. The mark awarded will reflect the extent to which you have met the descriptors set out in the level 7 marking criteria.

Compensation (the award of credit for a failed module) may be awarded for no more than one module

Rules applying to compensation can be found in the Assessment Regulations for Taught Programmes. Compensation is agreed at point of award

## AWARDS

Award	Level	Credits
Master of Arts	7	200
Postgraduate Diploma	7	140
Postgraduate Certificate	7	60

Classification	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	60
Pass	50

All modules contribute to the overall aggregate mark and are weighted according to credit.

## ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

In addition to acceptance into TLDC (through audition), students will normally have successfully completed a UK undergraduate degree in an appropriate or related subject; or hold an overseas award of equivalent standard (e.g. USA degree - GPA 3.00 or above).

Applicants who do not meet the standard entry requirements are invited to complete a recognition of prior learning (RPL) process to establish their suitability for level 7 study. This might include appropriate levels of professional experience

Applicants for whom English is not their first language should demonstrate proficiency in English equivalent to IELTS 6.5 overall with a minimum of 5.5 in all four areas. Trinity Laban web site provides guidance on the standard expected by reference to acceptable English Language qualifications.

In addition, meeting external requirements of UK Visas and Immigration is essential.