



MOUNTVIEW

MA PERFORMANCE MUSICAL THEATRE

IN PERSON AUDITION HANDBOOK

What to prepare for your Mountview audition

First Round and Recall Audition

- One monologue in prose from a play written after 2000
- One speech in verse (not prose)
- **EITHER** two contrasting songs, both from musicals
- **OR** two contrasting songs, one from a musical and one from a genre of your own choice

For the verse piece, you may select from writers including Shakespeare and his contemporaries or choose from Jacobean, ancient Greek, Roman, Restoration or any international or contemporary plays written in a poetic form. Please note the speech must be from a published play, intended for performance. We are interested in seeing you perform a dramatic speech with complex language that is character led.

If you are selecting a play that is in translation, please ensure that the language is written in verse and remains poetic rather than choosing a modern adaptation that may simplify the form and content. You may choose to be any gender in either of your speeches.

Please note that speeches must:

- Last no longer than two minutes each – the panel will stop you if you exceed this time limit
- Be from published plays and should not be extracts from poems, novels, films or television scripts
- Involve a character close to your own age
- Be performed in your native accent

Please note that songs:

- Must demonstrate two contrasting vocal approaches: a lyrical approach (associated with the term 'legit' in musical theatre singing) and a contemporary one. At least one song must be from a musical and one from either a musical or a genre of your own choice.
- Be performed in the key in which the music is written (the accompanist will not transpose into a different key).
- Give you the opportunity to act through them.
- The seven volumes of *The Singer's Musical Theatre Anthology* (seven for each voice type: Soprano, Mezzo-Soprano, Tenor, Baritone and Bass) represent an excellent source of material. Songs can be selected from those volumes or chosen freely from the musical theatre repertoire, provided that the contrast in vocal approaches is displayed.

Note: Although we fully respect the work of the following playwrights, we find that choosing speeches from their plays is not helpful within the context of our auditions:

- Stephen Berkoff
- Christopher Durang
- Sarah Kane
- John Godber
- Dario Fo
- Claire Dowie

Please also refrain from the following:

Puck from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
Ariel and Trinculo from *The Tempest*
Any characters from Alan Bennett's *Talking Heads*
Any characters from *The Vagina Monologues*
Presley and Haley from Philip Ridley's *The Pitchfork Disney*
Any characters from Tom Stoppard's *Artist Descending a Staircase*
Any characters from *Amadeus*
Any characters from Lucy Gannon's *Keeping Tom Nice*
Any characters from Caryl Churchill's *Top Girls*
Any characters from *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*
Fleabag from Phoebe Waller-Bridge's *Fleabag*
Any characters from Gabriel Davis' *Goodbye Charles*
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Any characters from David Ives' *Venus in Fur*
Any characters from Duncan Macmillan's *People Places and Things*
Lady Macbeth from *Macbeth*
Edmund 'Thou, nature, art my goddess' from *King Lear*

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Schedule of the audition day

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MA auditions are a full day at Mountview. The first round takes place in the morning and successful candidates are invited to stay for their recall that afternoon. Therefore, please be prepared to stay for the whole day.

Registration

Please report to the main entrance where you will be given an identity badge which must be worn throughout the day. At this stage you will be allocated a group which will determine the order in which you do the following:

Singing

You will perform your songs in front of one or more panel members and your group. There will be an accompanist available but please bring sheet music with you.

Speeches

You will perform your speeches in front of a panel, within your group.

Meet with a Current Student or Recent Graduate

This is an opportunity to find out information about the course from a student perspective.

The panel will then meet to discuss who they would like to see in that afternoons recall. We will then inform you of this decision. You will be required to stay on site at all times. Please bring lunch with you, as there may not be time to leave the building between the morning and afternoon sessions.

Recall Audition

Dance

You will participate in a musical theatre dance technique workshop. Please bring appropriate clothing (no baggy clothing) to move in and wear only soft jazz shoes or bare feet.

An example of appropriate clothing would be:

- Black unitard or biketard
- Recommended safety wear: dance support/sports bra, if needed

Acting Through Song

You will take part in an Acting through Song workshop as a group in front of two panel members

Results

We aim to confirm the result of your recall audition within two weeks from the date of your audition. All results are communicated via email to the applicant by the Admissions Team. Results cannot be confirmed over the phone. You will then receive your official offer letter by email following which you will have two weeks to respond and if accepting, **pay a £1,135 deposit**.

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Additional information

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Mountview is committed to providing a supportive environment for applicants during their time with us. We understand that auditions can be a source of stress and anxiety for many people and we aim to support our applicants through this process. Our Student Welfare Manager works with the Admissions Office to ensure that any applicant who discloses a need for support or adjustments can participate fully with the audition experience.

If you require any access support or have any further questions, please contact:
Admissions | admissions@mountview.org.uk | 020 3146 0204

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Be prepared...

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Please ensure that:

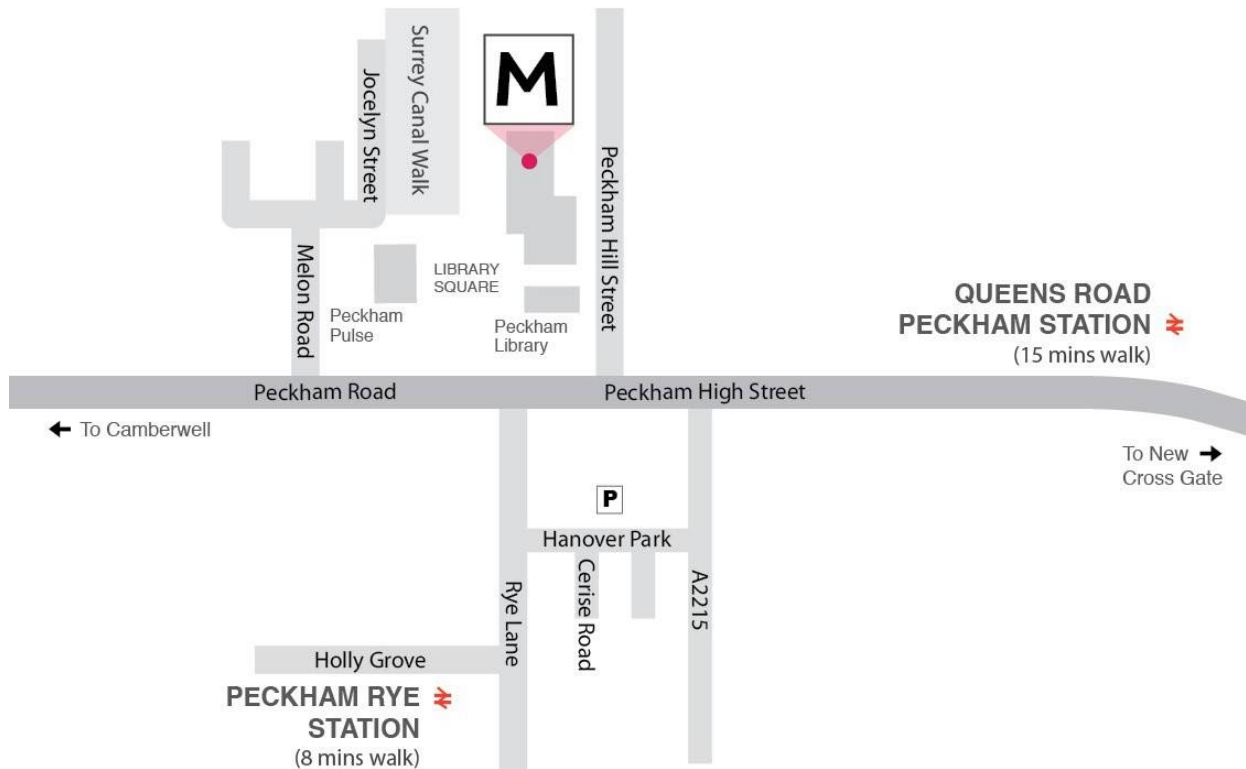
1. You allow plenty of time to get to the site (the auditions will start promptly at the time stated on your audition offer letter). If using public transport in London, it is advised that you check the Transport for London website (tfl.gov.uk) for any travel updates that may affect your journey.
2. You are sufficiently prepared and warmed up.
3. You wear appropriate comfortable clothing, and bring suitable clothing (not jeans) and footwear for the movement and improvisation session.
4. You avoid wearing excessive jewelry, accessories and make-up.

Applicants should be prepared to be at Mountview until **7pm**. If you need to leave before this time, you must notify the Admissions team a minimum of one week prior to your audition. Please note that due to the number of applicants, we may not always be able to accommodate requests to leave the audition early.

Getting to Mountview

Mountview
120 Peckham Hill Street
London SE15 5JT

Note: Mountview's entrance is on Library Square



Transport links

Mountview is well served by the Transport for London (TFL) Overground train and bus networks. Further information about travel by bus, train or tube can be found on the TFL website:

[Transport for London - plan your journey](#)

By train

Peckham Rye station has four services per hour to London Bridge (12 minutes) and two services per hour to Victoria (15 minutes). In addition, the Thameslink service serves major central stations including Blackfriars and St Pancras International. National Rail services link up to TFL's networks from Gatwick, Heathrow, Luton, Stansted and London City airports.

Parking

Mountview has very limited parking for disabled patrons only which is booked on a first come, first serve basis. This must be booked in advance by emailing admissions@mountview.org.uk. A public pay-and-display car park can be found behind the Aylesham Shopping Centre.