



MOUNTVIEW

MA / MFA PERFORMANCE ACTING

**DIGITAL AUDITION HANDBOOK
(FOR OVERSEAS CANDIDATES ONLY)**

What to prepare for your Mountview digital audition

First Stage Audition - Digital

- One monologue in prose from a play written after 2000.
- One speech in verse (not prose).

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 a speech from any gender.

Please note that the speeches must:

- Last no longer than two minutes each - the panel will stop watching if monologues 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 own accent.

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*
Any characters from David Ives' *Venus in Fur*
Any characters from Duncan Macmillan's *People Place and Things*
Lady Macbeth from *Macbeth*
Edmund 'Thou, nature, art my goddess' from *King Lear*

Physical Story Telling

Please film the following:

You are working as a waiter at a fast-paced restaurant, taking note of customers' orders.

As you turn to make your way back to the kitchen, you notice a mouse running across the floor towards you.

It runs between your legs, then suddenly runs up the back of your legs, up your back and on to your head.

Very carefully you pick the mouse up from the top of your head. You try to hide it from the customers, but it gently bites you and escapes.

Suddenly, ten more mice appear in front you and begin to chase you.

You escape as fast as you can.

Eventually you realise that you have left your pursuers behind. You also realise you have escaped into a cave.

Unsure of the way out, you make your way forwards. As you do so, the cave becomes smaller and smaller until you can barely squeeze through the rocks. You become stuck.

You hear the sound of dripping water. It builds into the sound of running water. The water starts to run under your feet, then comes up to your knees, then your waist. It becomes forceful enough to dislodge you and sweeps you forward through the cave system.

You are taken on a twisting, turning, sloshing journey through the caves. Somehow the water both carries and protects you from harm.

With a surge, the water washes you up on a little ledge.

As you find your balance, you notice light coming from far above you, up some sort of shaft.

You start to work your way up towards the light. As you make your way to the top, you emerge to find yourself back in the restaurant.

You deliver the orders to the kitchen.

- Please be aware that there is not a right or wrong way to perform this task. We are interested in how you use **your** body to tell a story. Please go with your imagination and see what happens.
- The piece should be no more than two minutes long. It should be filmed in one long wide shot (with no editing, no close ups, no special effects). This piece can be performed on the spot. It can be indoors or outside. Please place the camera so we can see as much of your body as possible (ideally head to toe - if not just show as much as you can).
- Please do not use music.
- Please do not use props.
- Please make sure you are wearing appropriate clothing (comfy and loose clothes like sports/ dance/ lounge wear e.g. track suit bottoms and t shirt)

Recalls

If you are successful in your first-round audition, you will be required to attend a Zoom recall with the Course Leader MA Performance. This will consist of an interview, and you may be asked to perform your speeches again.

Results

We aim to confirm the result of your recall audition within two weeks from the date of your recall. 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 to your offer and if accepting, **pay a £1,135 deposit**.

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How to record and submit your digital audition

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Here is a video on how to record and submit your audition filmed by our alumni students.

[Subtitled submission video - MA Acting](#)

Recording

Please note, you will only be able to submit **one video** for your application. Please ensure that you edit your video in the following order:

- both monologues
- physical storytelling

For monologues, please introduce yourself, the play, your character, and the author clearly before starting your pieces.

Please allow a gap of a few seconds after finishing your first monologue and before starting your second monologue. You are welcome to film each requirement separately and edit them together to create one video.

- Ensure the camera is framed in a medium close up, (head and shoulder in the frame - landscape).
- When recording your speeches do not perform directly to camera, instead set an eyeline off-camera, slightly to one side.
- Aim for a plain background.
- Ensure your face is not in shadow where possible and there is sufficient lighting on your face.
- Ensure your volume is not too quiet, or too loud and distorting.
- Please make use of whatever room is available to you. There is no expectation to perform in a large open space. The panel will be concentrating solely on you and your performance. A smaller space will not be discriminated against.
- If recording is a difficulty, or you have any concerns about the recording process please contact admissions@mountview.org.uk directly for help. We will respond to assist you with any support needed.

Submitting

Full details on how to submit your video can be found within your Mountview application portal.

Additional information

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

We look forward to receiving your audition.