

MOUNTVIEW

MA / MFA

**PERFORMANCE
ACTING**

IN PERSON AUDITION HANDBOOK

What to prepare for your audition

First Round and Recall Audition

- 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 to be any gender in either of your selections.

Please note that the 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 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 Places and Things*
Lady Macbeth from *Macbeth*
Edmund 'Thou, nature, art my goddess' from *King Lear*

Schedule of the audition day

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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 arrive 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:

Improvisation Workshop

You will participate in an improvisation workshop.

Movement Workshop

You will participate in a movement workshop. 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).

Speeches

You will be asked to perform one or both of your prepared speeches in front of two panel members; one Acting specialist and one Voice specialist within your allocated 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

Workshop

You will participate in a one-hour workshop exploring ensemble work and storytelling. The workshop will be conducted in bare feet or soft soled shoes that have not been worn outside. There is nothing to prepare in advance.

Speeches/Interview

You will undertake a short interview with a member of the MA Performance teaching team. You may also be asked to work on one of your prepared speeches. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions.

Results

We aim to confirm the result of your recall audition within 2 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 2 weeks to respond and if accepting, **pay a £1,135 deposit.**

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.

