

ROSE BRUFORD COLLEGE – MA/MFA Queer Performance

Programme Director: Phoebe Patey-Ferguson

Administrative Support: Maxine Ward

Welcome

Dear Queer Performance Students,

Firstly, a huge welcome to Rose Bruford College and the MA/MFA Queer Performance. We are very excited to have you with us and look forward to starting our work together. This document provides some key information which we hope you will find useful. If you have any further questions, please contact our Programme Administrator, Maxine Ward, at maxine.ward@bruford.ac.uk.

Location of Training

Google maps: [Rose Bruford - Google Maps](#)

Location	Nearest Station
Rose Bruford College, Burnt Oak Lane, Sidcup, Kent DA15 9DF	Sidcup (0.2 miles, 12 min walk)

Contact Hours

Our intensive working hours will generally be Monday to Friday, 11:00am – 6:00pm, although some evening activity may be required. During regular teaching weeks, there will be a Monday evening seminar (2 hours) and Friday afternoon in-person studio teaching. When not in timetabled sessions, you are expected to use your time for further study, coursework, and reflection. Paid work during term must be discussed in advance with the Programme Director and Administrator.

Attendance and punctuality are compulsory.

Registration & Induction

Initial registration will take place on **Monday 29th September** at the Sidcup campus, where right-to-study checks will be carried out and ID cards issued. The induction day for all MA/MFA students is scheduled for **Thursday 2nd October**, where you will meet peers from other programmes.

You can view the Welcome Pack [here](#)

You must bring the following documents to registration:

For British/settled students:

- Valid passport (or UK Birth Certificate if no passport)
- Proof of EU settled/pre-settled status (if applicable)

For international students:

- Passport
- Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) or visa vignette if BRP not collected
- Proof of UK entry (arrival stamp, boarding pass or flight ticket)
- Proof of EU settled/pre-settled status (if applicable)
- Original qualification documents.

Modules & Structure

A full student introduction to the first module is included with this communication, and the full course documentation is also available on the Rose Bruford website.

The MA Queer Performance begins with the First Intensive, based at the Rose Bruford Sidcup campus. This includes taught sessions, studio time, workshops, site visits, and opportunities for sharing and discussion. You will attend introductory day-long sessions with a range of practitioners working in queer performance across the various forms explored throughout the course (theatre, cabaret, writing, sound, video, dance, digital, and design). There will be an emphasis on establishing the cohort and its dynamics, as well as setting expectations. You will also meet the second-year cohort and engage with their works-in-progress for their Independent Research Project. Module 1: Thinking Queerly (MAQP 701) and Module 2: Creatures of the Night (MAQP 702) will be introduced.

Module 1: Thinking Queerly (MAQP 701)

This taught module runs through the autumn and spring terms. We will meet weekly online for seminar sessions to discuss key foundational texts and recent developments in queer theory and activist thinking. We will examine how performance art, drag, theatre, street performance, and cabaret have played central roles in the development of trans, lesbian, bisexual, and gay lives in diverse global cultures. In turn, we will explore how major historical moments for LGBTQI+ communities, along with queer critical theory, have shaped performance strategies. *Thinking Queerly* uses interdisciplinary perspectives to draw connections between artists, historical events, queer social life, and theory. You will be encouraged to question dominant narratives and methodologies in theatre and performance, and to consider who has been absent or forgotten in established archives, histories, and stages.

Module 2: Creatures of the Night (MAQP 702)

This practice-focused module explores popular and experimental contemporary modes of queer performance designed for queer social spaces. While these forms have historically developed in queer nightlife, they also extend beyond nightclubs and cabaret venues into daytime events, festivals, streets, and other public spaces. In weekly studio sessions, you will receive performance prompts to create short works to share with your peers. Guided by a tutor, the group critique format will encourage you to respond to, reflect on, and develop each other's work, as well as share knowledge of practitioners you may wish to see live, research further, or view online for inspiration. Practical training sessions and workshops will complement these classes. You will develop two final works to be presented at a public event in February. Alongside this, you will co-conceive and co-design a cabaret event, with sessions dedicated to producing nightlife and cabaret experiences. For the Second Intensive, based in London, the focus will be on producing a live event to showcase the work created in *Creatures of the Night*, with support from an event producer. In a suitable performance venue, you will finalise, rehearse, and stage a public event for nightlife contexts. Time will also be allocated for shared reflection and evaluation of the event, as well as sessions that continue your development in *Thinking Queerly* (MAQP 701) and introduce Module 3: Queer Dramaturgies (MAQP 703).

Module 3: Queer Dramaturgies (MAQP 703)

This module encourages collaboration, artistic risk, and the practice of “the queer art of failure.” You will work in pairs or larger groups to develop a research question and explore it through practice-based approaches. Each group will be assigned a professional practitioner as a mentor. Weekly meetings with your mentor will guide your process, and sharing your progress with the cohort will continue the peer-mentorship practices established in Module 2. You will share and reflect on this process during the third intensive residency. The International Residency will be led by the professional practitioners who mentored you in *Queer Dramaturgies*. You will spend several days consolidating your work from Module 3 and creating a piece that responds to your research question. These works will be shared only within the cohort to encourage risk-taking and embrace the possibility of “failure.” You will also participate in in-depth workshops with all mentor-practitioners, who will share their approaches to making and provide additional material for exploration.

Module 4: Independent Research Project (MAQP 704)

For this module, you will create a substantial piece of work—such as a performance, creative text or play, video or digital project, sound work, written dissertation, or curatorial/produced project—developed between July and November within negotiated guidelines. You will be assigned a dedicated supervisor and receive at least eight hours of online tutorials tailored to your proposed project. The fourth and final intensive overlaps with the first intensive of the incoming cohort. You will have the opportunity to share your practice from Module 4 by giving workshops, presentations, or classes, further expanding your confidence and capabilities as a facilitator. You will share, reflect on, and critically engage with each other’s work, offering work-in-progress performances or drafts of written work as discussion papers. Together, you will co-conceive and co-design your final showcase event, which will include workshops and sessions on producing, production, and marketing. Your final showcase will serve as the public presentation of your Independent Research Project and may include live performances, research posters or written extracts, talks or presentations, installations, and recorded or digital work. You will also create a website or digital version of the showcase for wider online sharing.

Module Overview

Code	Module Title	Credits	ECTS	Study Hours
MAQP701	Thinking Queerly	60	30	600
MAQP702	Creatures of the Night	30	15	300
MAQP703	Queer Dramaturgies	30	15	300
MAQP704	Independent Research Project	60	30	600

Provisional Schedule (Year 1)

Dates	Activity
29 Sept – 10 Oct	First Intensive (not including the weekend)

13 Oct- 17 Oct	Reflection Week (no teaching)
20 Oct – 12 Dec	Weekly Teaching (Thinking Queerly Mon Eve, Creatures of the Night Friday Afternoon)
15 Dec – 2 Jan	Christmas Break
5 Jan – 30 Jan	Weekly Teaching (Thinking Queerly Mon Eve, Creatures of the Night Friday Afternoon)
2 Feb – 6 Feb	Second Intensive (including Creatures of the Night Cabaret)
16 Feb – 20 Mar	Weekly Teaching (Thinking Queerly Mon Eve and Queer Dramaturgies Fri Afternoon)
23 Mar – 10 Apr	Easter Break
13 Apr – 12 June	Residency (exact dates in April TBC) and Weekly Teaching (including Thinking Queerly Mon Eve, Queer Dramaturgies/Introduction to IRP on Friday Afternoons)
June – November	Independent Research Project (independent work with arranged tutorials)

The Fourth Intensive which will be in October 2026.

We look forward to working with you on this exciting journey.

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