

The Institute of Contemporary Music Performance

# **Audition Guidance** MA Creative Music Production

icmp.ac.uk



### MA Creative Music Production Auditions

Auditions can often be nerve-racking and make you think of standing in front of a panel of tough judges, but that's not us!

At ICMP, your audition is just you and a tutor of your discipline, oneon-one. Our tutors are highly experienced in what they do and well equipped to help you get through.

### On the Day...

Please ensure that you are on time for your arranged audition, we recommend setting up your room/webcam at least fifteen minutes before your scheduled appointment. Please test your connection and set-up prior to your audition – further info on page 3.

**Please be aware,** if you have not already, you will need to complete your application before we can make you any formal offers, regardless of your audition outcome.



Complete your Application Form

If you are using any MP3s, USBs, or any Soundcloud/YouTube links, we recommend you test them prior to arriving to ensure they work.

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#### What to prepare...

#### Before the interview

Please submit a portfolio (10-15 minutes) of your original music.

This should contain contrasting pieces that demonstrate creative approaches to music production.

- Files should be compressed into a Zip file of 320k MP3/ Wav files
- Please make sure all files are clearly titled and include your name

#### During the interview

As part of the interview, we also ask you to prepare a short presentation outlining a proposal for your major production project.

ICMP's MA Creative Music Production programme culminates in a major production project. This could typically take the form of an 'artist album', but could also take other, more experimental forms, with an emphasis on both documenting and reflecting upon one's own creative process, synthesised within a wider research context. This short presentation is a chance for you to explain what inspires you and, importantly, demonstrate your willingness to engage with research.

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- This should be no longer than 5 minutes
- You should critically evaluate other artists' work, concepts, and/or production techniques

#### The interview

Your presentation will be followed by an interview, of up to 45 minutes, where we will delve further into your knowledge of production/music, motivations and aspirations.

Please come prepared to highlight your strengths and share your creative aspirations. Please also ensure you've fully read the <u>course</u> <u>information and programme</u> specification.

#### Supplying your Portfolio

Your Portfolio should be emailed to **enquiries@icmp.ac.uk** no later than 24 hours before your audition.



## Skype Auditions: Preparation

We've been auditioning students remotely for many years and can ensure you get the most from your experience.

## Please ensure you have provided us with your Skype Username prior to your audition.

On the day of your audition, you will receive a Skype video call at the arranged time from one of our expert tutors using ICMP's Skype account: **icmpadmissions** 

All audition booking times are quoted in GMT – please ensure that you have taken international time zones into account. A good website for working this out is: https://www.timeanddate.com

Please be aware that we may record the audition and by accepting to undergo the audition you are accepting that we may distribute your video internally to staff that will need to assess your performance. Please be assured, your audition will not be made public.

Please ensure that you have an internet connection that is as reliable and as fast as possible to allow the best quality of audio and video to be captured.

**Performances:** If you choose to use a backing track, the backing track must be played from a source other than your computer. If it is currently in an MP3 format, for example, you should use a mobile device to play through a bluetooth speaker or alternatively burn to a CD and play through a stereo. The computer running Skype, must be used solely for the audition. Again, please check that both you, and the backing track, are audible. ICMP



## Skype Auditions: On the day

#### You will need to be aware of the following:

- Set up the camera so that you are clearly in shot and your instrument is in full view; we must be able to see both your face and your instrument clearly.
- Please check in advance that your instrument level is set so that your microphone records clearly without distortion we suggest you try a Skype call to a friend in advance of your audition.
- Please set up the camera to avoid any glare or screen flare again the quality of the video captured is important.
- If you are presenting recorded music to us, please ensure your tracks have been uploaded to an online platform (SoundCloud, YouTube, Spotify, Google Drive, Dropbox, etc) and that you have emailed us links to your tracks prior to your audition.

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If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact our friendly Admissions team



+44 (0)20 7328 0222 enquiries@icmp.ac.uk

We look forward to meeting you at your audition.