

# AUDITION GUIDELINES:

## You need to:

- prepare 2 audition monologues\* each lasting ***no longer than 2 minutes***:

one from a contemporary play (*after 1990, but not any play by Stephen Berkoff, Sarah Kane or John Godber*)

one from Shakespeare (*but not non-human characters like 'Puck' from A Midsummer Night's Dream or 'Ariel' from The Tempest, or any 'Chorus'*)

\* Monologues – please make sure you have read the plays your monologues come from. Be sure your monologue works as a stand alone speech and does not require input from another character. Your speech must be taken from an existing play, and not a book of solo speeches. (Speeches found in monologue anthologies are acceptable provided you have read the play from which they are taken.)

## We want you to:

- choose pieces that match your age & gender and do not require a change of accent.
- choose pieces that demonstrate communication with another character(s).
- choose pieces that have an emotional journey.
- choose pieces that have a significant moment of change.
- work without props or special costume.
- avoid using chairs. Although it is acceptable to sit down, to remain seated throughout the speech gives us less opportunity to assess your physical characterisation.
- learn your pieces.
- wear suitable clothes which enable you to move freely and to allow tutors to assess posture and movement. Female applicants should avoid skirts. All applicants should avoid low cut/hipster trousers cropped and low cut tops. For the movement session we advise you to bring movement clothes (leotard and tights). The movement session requires you to be bare footed and to work without any jewellery.

## We are looking for these qualities:

- thorough preparation
- ability to create and sustain a character within an imagined world
- evidence of thought and feeling behind the actions and words
- ability to take direction (to hear an instruction and adapt own performance accordingly)
- ability to communicate text
- ability to express thought and feeling through movement and voice
- self-confidence
- focus and concentration
- spontaneity and immediacy
- openness and responsiveness to others
- imagination and creativity
- evidence of stamina, rhythm and co-ordination
- an interest in the craft of acting and in the professional world of acting

We aim to ensure that you will enjoy all aspects of the auditioning process and feel stretched by it. You will be auditioned in depth and will have every opportunity to show your skills.

**We advise you to arrive at 9:00am to register as the audition process begins at 9:15am.**

# AUDITION FORMAT

9:15am	<b>Welcome</b>	You will be welcomed by a senior member of staff and introduced to student helpers. The day's events are explained.
9:30am <b>STAGE 1</b>	<b>Warm-up</b>  <b>Games</b>  <b>Modern speech</b>	After a group warm-up which is designed to put you at your ease whilst warming up your voice and body, you will be put into a group of between 10-15 applicants to work with a senior member of staff and current ALRA students. You will present your modern speech to with the rest of your group present.
11:00am	Break	
11:15am	<b>Shakespeare speech</b>	You will present your Shakespeare speech solo to a second member of staff.
12:15pm	Break Panel review applicants' work. Successful candidates will go to Stage 2	You will have a break and can view the college with the student helpers. You will be told whether you have progressed to Stage 2.
12:45pm <b>STAGE 2</b>	<b>Movement &amp; Improvisation</b>	If you reach Stage 2 you will take part in a movement workshop and an improvisation workshop.
2:15pm	Break Panel review applicants work. Successful candidates will go to Stage 3	After a break, you will be told whether you have progressed to Stage 3.
2:30pm <b>STAGE 3</b>	<b>Vocal Assessment &amp; Interview</b>	If you reach stage 3 you will have a vocal assessment (see below) and be interviewed by the audition panel. The interview lasts between 5–10 minutes.
3:45pm	<b>Funding and Admin Talk</b>	You will receive a 15 minute talk from the Registrar on funding, and the offer process.
4:00pm	Finish	You will be notified of the outcome in writing within 7-10 days.

## Vocal Assessment

Candidates will be given a short passage (around 10 lines) to read to the panel.

**N.B. You are not required to have RP to join the course;** this exercise is for ALRA to assess your clarity of speech (i.e. *can you be understood by someone from a different region?*) and vocal ability; advice may be given to the candidate. You will be given sufficient time to study the passage and be offered relevant help where required, e.g. in case of disability. If you require a large-print copy, or the text to be printed on coloured paper, please let us know if and when you reach Stage 3.

ALRA operates an Equal Opportunities Policy: all candidates will be assessed on their potential to meet the demands of the course and considered entirely on the basis of merit. Those showing the most aptitude at audition will be considered for Dance and Drama Awards, taking into account their financial circumstances.

The audition panel makes the final decision regarding entry to ALRA and we aim to notify you in writing within one week. Successful applicants will have demonstrated a significant degree of talent, ability, preparation, aptitude and commitment as well as the ability to make a positive contribution to, and benefit from, the Acting Course.

**N.B.** *Due to the volume of applicants, we are not able to provide feedback on unsuccessful auditions*

# INFORMATION FOR VISITORS TO THE MILL AT THE PIER

The Mill at the Pier is in Trencherfield Mill, just outside the town centre.

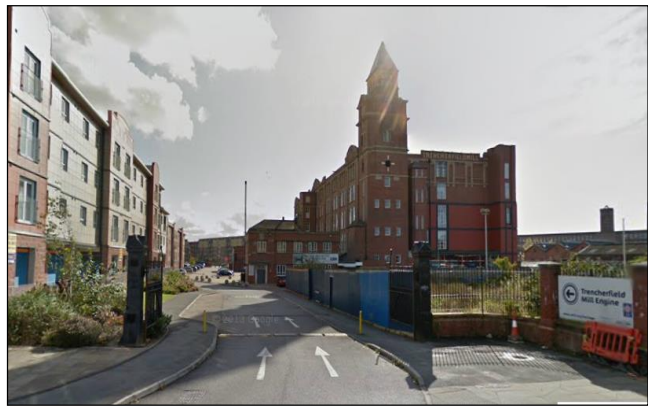
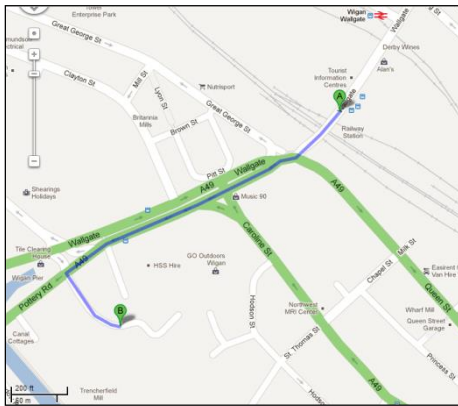
## **To get to The Mill at the Pier From Wigan stations**

### **WALLGATE**

Turn right until you reach Wigan North Western and then follow the directions below.

### **NORTH WESTERN**

Turn left along Wallgate and continue until you reach Pottery Road, forking left. Continue on this left fork until you reach Trencherfield Mill. The entrance is signposted "Trencherfield Mill Engine", just past a branch of Dominos Pizza. Head towards the Mill buildings, and ALRA's entrance is at the very end, on the right.



### **By car**

M6 Junctions 25/26/27 - head to Wigan centre.

[Google Map](#) (click to follow link)

The postcode for Sat Nav is **WN3 4EF**.

### **ACCOMMODATION**

The Oak Hotel [www.wigan-oak-hotel-wigan.com](http://www.wigan-oak-hotel-wigan.com) is just across the road from the Turner Street site of ALRA North, and is a 20 minute walk from the Mill at the Pier. If you mention ALRA at the time of booking they will offer you a preferential rate.

We are also linked with the Bellingham Hotel, Wigan for all B&B requirements. For more details please view their website : [www.bellingham-hotel.co.uk](http://www.bellingham-hotel.co.uk). The address is 141 - 149 Wigan Lane, Wigan, Lancashire WN1 2NB