

To help you prepare for your interview, please read the following guidance notes carefully.

Applicants will be selected for interview on the basis of the information provided on the UCAS Conservatoires application form, CV and supporting statement. We recommend that applicants pay particular attention to the information they provide in their personal statement (on the UCAS Conservatoires form). Use the form to demonstrate a proven interest in the field of opera and directing.

Once you submit your UCAS Conservatoires application you should submit your supporting documentation via Acceptd [<https://app.getacceptd.com/rwcmd>].

Your Submission

Applicants to the Opera Directing programme are initially required to submit a CV detailing **all** theatre and music experience. Please include both professional and amateur experiences, as well as experiences not directly related to directing.

Please also submit a short statement (600 words) acknowledging the following questions:

1. Why are you interested in opera?
2. How do you see the opera director's role?
3. What can you bring to the role of an opera director?

Your Online Interview

The audition panel will shortlist following consideration of the submission. Shortlisted candidates will be required to attend an interview conducted online.

You will be notified of the interview date and time via email. Please note the College is only obliged to offer one interview date per application. Alternative dates will only be provided (subject to availability) in exceptional circumstances. If you are unable to make your allocated interview date, you should email us immediately stating the reason.

Interviews for submissions submitted by the deadline will take place in late October/early November.

During the interview, you will be asked to complete two tasks:

1. Please explain how you would approach directing Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* scene in English No.20: the duet "The Breezes" ("Sull'aria") and the little section of recitative leading into this duet between Susannah and the Countess beginning "That's amazing" ("Cosa mi narri!").

If you require a copy of this, please contact the College. The full English translation of *The Marriage*

of Figaro by Jeremy Sams can be found here:

www.chandos.net/products/catalogue/CHAN%203113

You will have 10 minutes to present during the interview.

2. A short proposal for a full production of **one** of the following three operas:

- *The Coronation of Poppea* – Monteverdi
- *Così fan tutte* – Mozart
- *Peter Grimes* – Britten

You should consider which production and why, how you would approach directing the production and who would be your ideal creative team and why. You will have 5 minutes to make this presentation during the interview.

You will also be encouraged to talk about your creative interests, activities and professional aspirations. Please also take this opportunity to ask questions relating to the College and the course.

What Happens Next?

We aim to communicate decisions within 3 weeks of an interview. All decisions following interviews will be communicated via UCAS Conservatoires Track.

Candidates who are offered places will have the opportunity to visit RWCMD in person prior to the acceptance deadline.