



## DRAMA



- **National Theatre In Focus: Theatre Making Workshop**  
This is a free workshop offered by the National Theatre for youth from 13-25 years of age. Each workshop will focus on a play currently being staged at the National Theatre. Content will vary from focus on performance, to design and backstage elements. All workshops provide an opportunity to work and network with theatre professionals as well as likeminded youths.
- **Dance Classes**  
This is a great way to build on your movement skills as a performer, additionally the ability to learn and perform choreography is an important skill for those considering pursuing careers in theatre/film. It is good to study a broad range of styles, if possible, but contemporary dance would be a good starting point. Two options in North London: (Footworks Dance Academy, Ohana Academy).
- **Singing Classes**  
Practicing singing is a good way to build vocal control, and to learn how to support your voice to engage in long performances without injury. It is additionally useful in broadening your appeal as a performance candidate. There are many private music teachers who specialize in singing, have a look on sites like: [musicteachers.co.uk](http://musicteachers.co.uk)
- **Stage Combat Classes**  
Formal training in stage combat can be rare even amongst experienced performers. Taking courses in it is an asset to a performance program and may be a way to stand out from the crowd. Most programs will require you to start with basics and hand to hand combat, from there you can build up to work with more complex props and weapons. This type of training is an asset as an actor in addition to offering potential opportunities to pursue fight choreography. Some options in London: (British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat, Hunters Stage Combat).
- **Watch a Comedy Performance**  
Comedy is a broad category and as such there are many ways you can see comedy performances. It is worth seeking out opportunities to see plays by comedy playwrights such as: Oscar Wilde, Tom Stoppard, Noel Coward, George Bernard Shaw, George F. Walker. Additionally it is worth keeping an eye out for new plays being presented at Fringe festivals and smaller theatres to see how current playwrights are continuing to push comedic boundaries. To find out what comedies are on in London, visit the Time Out website
- **Watch a performance of Physical theatre**  
Physical theatre is a form of performance in which physical movement is the primary method of storytelling. Companies to look out for include Theatre De Complicite, DV8, Frantic Assembly and Gecko. The Barbican Theatre often shows physical theatre performances. Bigger shows sometimes play at The National Theatre.
- **Watch a performance of Contemporary dance**  
Contemporary dance is a dance performance style that developed during the mid-twentieth century and has since grown to become one of the dominant genres for formally trained dancers throughout the world. Famous practitioners include Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham, Pina Bausch and Akram Khan. Saddler's Wells frequently shows a wide variety of contemporary dance shows.
- **Watch a performance at the London International Mime Festival**  
The London International Mime Festival organises contemporary dance performances, physical theatre performances, mime performances, puppetry performances, clown shows, and circus performances of all kinds. The festival takes place in the months of January and February, with many of the performances taking place at The Barbican Theatre
- **Watch a musical**  
The West End is one of the best locations in the world to see a show. There are many Disney musicals to watch, such as The Lion King and Aladdin; there are musicals by Andrew Lloyd Webber, such as The Phantom of the Opera and Sunset Boulevard; there are musical comedies, such as The Book of Mormon and Mamma Mia and biographical musicals, such as Hamilton and Tina. For all the latest musicals and theatre, visit the Time Out Website.
- **Watch a Shakespeare performance.** Home to The Globe Theatre, where Shakespeare's company performed many of his plays in the 16th and 17th century, London is a great place to go and watch a Shakespearean tragedy, comedy or history play. Don't just look to The Globe Theatre for Shakespearean performances though. More innovative and serious performances of his plays can often be found elsewhere, in particular at The National Theatre.
- **Watch a performance of promenade theatre.** Audiences view most performances from the comfort of a static seat in a theatre. In promenade theatre, audiences follow performers around a space or the move independently through a space and discover scenes taking place. The masters of this form of theatre are Punchdrunk, who are now permanently housed near Woolwich Arsenal's DLR station. There are also frequently promenade performances of Alice in Wonderland. However, a variant of promenade theatre, immersive theatre, is growing in popularity in London. For instance, you can go to The War of the Worlds Immersive Experience or go to a performance by The Secret Cinema.
- **Take a Globe theatre tour**  
The original venue where Shakespeare performed his plays in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, The Globe is an amazing location. Taking a tour around The Globe can help you to develop a better understanding of the original performance conditions that actors and directors had to deal with.
- **Contact a theatre about shadowing or work experience in a back stage role:** Disney have expressed an interest in students volunteering to help. Why not contact one of the many theatres in London and ask if they are interested in voluntary backstage help?
- **Explore the back catalogue of famous film directors:** Some film directors follow set formulas; others are so innovative that they create their own styles. Exploring the back catalogue of these film auteurs can give you a better idea of the broad potential of film. Great filmic auteurs include Alfred Hitchcock, Roman Polanski, Fritz Lang, Jean-Luc Godard, Lars Von Trier, Terry Gilliam, David Lynch, Martin Scorsese, Wong Kar-Wai, Stanley Kubrick, Ethan Coen, Wes Anderson, Luis Brunel, Akira Kurosawa and Darren Aranovsky. Check out their back catalogue of work on IMDB
- **Seek opportunities to participate in school and community theatre productions**
- **BBC 'Only artists'** - two artists talk about their creative work - the conversation is free-flowing.