

## Higher National Unit Specification

### General information for centres

**Unit Title:** Site Specific Theatre and/or Street Theatre

**Unit Code:** DM2N 34

**Unit purpose:** This unit is designed to enable the candidate to develop an understanding and appreciation of Site Specific or Street Theatre. It enables the candidate to employ the knowledge gained in a practical setting in the making of theatre related to a specific location or locations or in the creation of Street Theatre. The unit is intended for candidates who are aiming to further extend and develop their acting potential and build a deeper understanding of different styles of theatrical production. Opportunities may exist for the students to further develop knowledge and understanding in employment in this specialist area of work.

On completion of the unit, the candidate should be able to:

1. Research and examine performance requirements particular to Site Specific and/or Street Theatre.
2. Create and develop Site Specific and/or Street Theatre.
3. Perform Site Specific and/or Street Theatre.

**Credit points and level:** 1 HN Credit at SCQF Level 7 (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7\*)

*\*SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates*

**Recommended prior knowledge and skills:** Access will be at the discretion of the centre and the following recommendations are for guidance only.

Where a candidate has achieved the course entry criteria for HNC/D Acting and Performance, they will have shown sufficient knowledge and skills for access to this unit. For this unit, it would be beneficial, although not essential, if candidates had some experience of theatre performance or had participated in an NQ Theatre Arts or equivalent performance – related programme. Candidates will find added value if they have completed, or are in the midst of undergoing, the HNC Acting Skills Unit.

**Core Skills:** There may be opportunities to gather evidence towards core skills in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of core skills or core skills components.

## General information for centres (cont)

**Context for delivery:** This is an optional unit included in the framework of HNC/D Acting and Performance. If this Unit is delivered as part of a group award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the group award to which it contributes.

**Assessment** The unit will be assessed by two instruments of assessment which requires the candidate to produce evidence of knowledge, understanding and practical application of the process undertaken in the research and development of a Site Specific and/or Street Theatre performance.

Outcome 1 requires the candidate to undertake a research project with a small group and present their findings in a practical presentation supported by a folio of evidence, of approximately 1,000 words. The group should consist of three to five candidates (or as appropriate to the remit set by the centre/ tutor) and the presentation should last around ten minutes. The presentation will be assessed through observation checklists and the tutor should be satisfied that the group's research fully responds to the remit.

Outcome 2 and 3 will be assessed through observation checklists that indicate that the candidate has demonstrated full participation in the design, planning, rehearsal process and performance of a piece of Site Specific and/or Street Theatre. A video of the performance piece, which may be a dress rehearsal, is required to provide supporting evidence.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards**

**Unit Title:** Site Specific Theatre and/or Street Theatre

**Unit code:** DM2N 34

The sections of the unit stating the Outcomes, knowledge and/or skills, and evidence requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the knowledge and/or skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

### **Outcome 1**

Research and examine performance requirements particular to Site Specific and/or Street Theatre.

#### **Knowledge and/or skills**

- ◆ Identifying locations/s for site specific and/or street theatre
- ◆ Considering the physical suitability of selected site/s for staging a performance
- ◆ Determining the targeted audience
- ◆ Considering the site from the perspective of an audience
- ◆ Proposing a performance medium best suited to explore the characteristics of the site

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Evidence for the knowledge and/or skills in this outcome will be provided by a practical presentation of research and planning in relation to all the areas in the knowledge and skills list. The presentation should demonstrate that the candidate is able to identify factors that relate to an identified site for a performance and propose a performance medium best suited to that site. The presentation should be supported by a folio of evidence, of approximately 1,000 words.

The presentation should last around ten minutes and time should be allowed for discussion and questions in response to the presentation. Candidates must demonstrate an effective understanding of the particular demands of Site Specific and/or Street Theatre. Those candidates who are exploring Street Theatre should be aware that their 'target audience' cannot be pre-determined, since, by its nature, the audience is made up of those individuals that 'pass by' the performance. However, it is possible to create a piece of Street Theatre that is particularly aimed at young children, even although others may observe the performance. Under the heading 'considering the physical suitability of the selected site for staging a performance' and 'identifying location/s for site specific and/or street theatre' candidates creating Street Theatre should pay particular attention to considering issues concerning health and safety and performance in a public place.

An observation checklist should be used to record the practical presentation. The tutor should be satisfied that the candidate's research fully responds to the remit.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit Title:** Site Specific Theatre and/or Street Theatre

### **Assessment Guidelines**

The Centre/tutor should determine whether the whole class group will perform in one site or if there will be performances in a number of locations. The candidate will work with a small group and consider all the areas in the knowledge and/or skills list. Each group will prepare a proposal for performance and make a presentation to the cohort group which should last no more than ten minutes. If the student group are performing in one site, the cohort group should reach a decision, after all the presentations have taken place, as to which proposal the group should develop for performance. Where there are small groups performing in a number of locations, the cohort group should consider the best means of moving an audience between the sites. The Centre/tutor should outline, in advance of the research and planning, the text, issues, themes, myths or legends that the cohort group will explore. It may be necessary to assign particular topics to groups where a number of sites are under consideration.

### **Outcome 2**

Create and develop Site Specific and/or Street Theatre

#### **Knowledge and/or skills**

- ◆ Selecting or creating material appropriate to specific performance location/s
- ◆ Exploring means of delivering and performing the material
- ◆ Creating or developing character
- ◆ Exploring relationships with other characters and audience
- ◆ Rehearsing

#### **Evidence requirements**

Evidence for the knowledge and/or skills in this outcome is required to demonstrate that the candidate has developed a thorough understanding and effective application of all the components within the headings in the knowledge and skills list. This will be achieved through participation in practical exercises, workshops and rehearsal that enables the creation and development of Site Specific and/or Street Theatre. The candidate should demonstrate that s/he can participate fully in the design, planning and rehearsal process of Site Specific or Street Theatre.

An observation checklist should be used to record candidates' participation at each stage of the process of creating and developing.

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

This outcome should be assessed through observation checklists that indicate that the candidate has actively participated in discussion that relates to the creation of the performance, developed character and relationships and engaged fully in the development or selection of relevant material.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit Title:** Site Specific Theatre and/or Street Theatre

### **Outcome 3**

Perform Site Specific and/or Street Theatre

#### **Knowledge and/or skills**

- ◆ Performing according to agreed perimeters
- ◆ Sustaining character
- ◆ Sustaining relationships with other characters
- ◆ Developing appropriate relationship with audience

#### **Evidence requirements**

Evidence for the knowledge and/or skills in this outcome will demonstrate that the candidate has effectively taken part in a performance of Site Specific and/or Street Theatre. The candidate's performance should fully reflect the areas listed in the knowledge and skills list. A video of a performance will provide supporting evidence. The nature of this project may require filming to take place during a dress rehearsal.

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

This outcome should be assessed through observation checklists that indicate that the candidate has demonstrated an effective and appropriate performance in Site Specific and/or Street Theatre.

## **Administrative Information**

<b>Unit Code:</b>	DM2N 34
<b>Unit title:</b>	Site Specific Theatre and/or Street Theatre
<b>Superclass category:</b>	LC
<b>Date of publication:</b>	August 2004
<b>Version:</b>	01
<b>Source:</b>	SQA

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2005

This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged.

SQA acknowledges the valuable contribution that Scotland's colleges have made to the development of Higher National qualifications.

Additional copies of this Unit specification can be purchased from the Scottish Qualifications Authority. Please contact the Customer Contact Centre for further details, telephone 0845 279 1000.

## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes**

### **Unit title:** Site Specific Theatre and/or Street Theatre

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

### **Guidance on content and context for this Unit**

This unit is designed to foster a variety of skills and knowledge which the candidate can utilise in a wide range of settings. The unit should encourage the candidate to explore areas and aspects of theatre and entertainment outwith the traditional realm. Upon completion the candidate should feel primed to undertake further exploration of Site Specific and/or Street Theatre. Although it is a stand-alone unit there are opportunities for it to operate in conjunction with other related units such as Creating Devised Theatre, Creating Drama Scripts, Physical Theatre: Skills for Devising and Performance and/or Live Performance Administration. It would be hugely beneficial if the candidate was undergoing, or had completed, an Acting Skills unit.

When the unit is delivered as part of a course which is primarily geared towards the training of actors seeking to work in traditional settings, the candidate should be encouraged to recognise the skills and knowledge gained as an enhancement of their repertoire. It is highly recommended that the candidate receives feedback and guidance on his/her progress throughout the unit and that the tutor offers the candidate recommendations for development work in a practical way, together, perhaps, with recommendations for further reading on the subject.

Although not compulsory, the tutor might like to consider the following additional topics for exploration:

- ◆ History and origins of organisations involved in the making of Site Specific or Street Theatre.
- ◆ Public and private sector funding supporting professional organisation.
- ◆ An analysis of a project implemented by these organisation.
- ◆ Current and future plans from related parties for the proposed site for performance.
- ◆ The various bodies with a vested interest in the selected site for performance.
- ◆ Recorded history and facts relating to the site.
- ◆ Common history and beliefs relating to the site.
- ◆ Characters, myths and legends, relating to the site.
- ◆ The people, history and cultural aspects attached to the site.

### **Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit**

This unit is designed to enable candidates to recognise the key components of Site Specific or Street Theatre. It should give candidates an insight into alternative forms of theatre and performing arts and introduce them to methods of employing new found skills in a variety of professional and community settings.

## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)**

### **Unit title:** Site Specific Theatre and/or Street Theatre

The tutor may like to recommend the following organisations for further investigation into the practices of Site Specific Theatre: N.V.A., Gridiron, Welfare State. Information on each of these organisations is readily available through internet access. Useful reading might include: “The Politics of Performance Radical Theatre As Cultural Intervention”, Baz Kershaw, published by Routledge 1992. “Performance Art from Futurism to the Present”, RoseLee Goldberg, published by World of Art 1988/1996.

#### **Outcome 1:**

A suggested format for presentation might include small groups of participants carrying out a team investigation and delivering a group presentation which might be supported by a handout. Teams of 3 – 5 (or as appropriate) may determine that each member of the group investigate a particular item (or items) from those listed with the results married to those of the team as a whole. The group would be expected to talk for ten minutes on their research and proposal for performance. The report of the team’s findings may include photographs and sketches. The recommended medium of performance, for example – movement, mime, physical theatre, chorus work, song, text or circus skills should reflect the site selected. If, for example, a site is on a staircase, which is a relatively intimate setting, naturalistic text may be the most appropriate medium. Alternatively, if the site is in a busy shopping centre, chorus work or circus skills may be more appropriate. The presentation should clearly demonstrate that the candidate is fully aware of all factors which can influence the undertaking of a site specific or street theatre performance.

Outcomes 2 and 3 should enable the candidate to develop the work at an appropriate pace with the tutor encouraging active involvement in the process of planning and rehearsal. It may be necessary for the tutor to initiate group workshops and exercises to explore possible mediums of performance. Ideas that may have been proposed for outcome 1 do not necessarily have to be the definitive decision for performance. Ideally the student group or groups should be responsible for developing the work with the tutor overseeing the process. Where necessary the tutor may step into a directing role. The performance should not be limited to any specific discipline of performance and may incorporate any recognised method of delivery as suggested above. The length of performance should be at the discretion of the centre/tutor, but it is recommended that a minimum total performance length should be not less than fifteen minutes.

### **Open learning**

The outcomes in this unit rely on developing skills through interaction with a lecturer and/or fellow candidates, and so the opportunities for distance learning are very limited. Centres may, however, find it possible to develop solutions, provided all unit and moderation requirements are met in full. Technological advances may make the possibility of such creative solutions more widespread in the future.

Because of the intensive nature of the training and rehearsal requirements for this unit when taken as part of a course, part-time provision would be most unusual and difficult to achieve.

## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)**

**Unit title:** Site Specific Theatre and/or Street Theatre

For information on normal open learning arrangements, please refer to the SQA guide *Assessment and Quality Assurance and Distance Learning (SQA 2000)*.

### **Candidates with additional support needs**

This Unit specification is intended to ensure that there are no artificial barriers to learning or assessment. The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Special Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Additional Support Needs* ([www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)).

## General information for candidates

### Unit Title: Site Specific Theatre and/or Street Theatre

This unit is designed to enable you to develop an understanding and appreciation of Site Specific Theatre and/or Street Theatre through research and practical application.

It will:

- ◆ Enable research into the staging of a proposed Site Specific and/or Street Theatre performance.
- ◆ Develop an understanding of the knowledge required for the staging of a Site Specific and/or Street Theatre performance.
- ◆ Develop an understanding of a site from an audience perspective
- ◆ Enable opportunities to explore performance mediums
- ◆ Enable the selection or creation of material appropriate to specific location/s.
- ◆ Enable opportunities to create character, develop relationships and rehearse and perform in Site Specific and/or Street Theatre.
- ◆ Raise confidence in performance technique.

Assessment will be on-going and recorded through observation checklists based on the practical work and performance undertaken in Outcomes 1, 2 and 3.

There are two main assessments:

**Outcome 1** requires you to undertake a research project with a small group and present your findings in a practical presentation supported by a folio of evidence, of approximately 1,000 words. The folio may include sketches and photographs. The group should consist of three to five candidates and the presentation should last around ten minutes. The presentation will be assessed through observation checklists and your tutor should be satisfied that the group's research fully responds to the remit.

**Outcomes 2 and 3** will be assessed through observation checklists that indicate that you have demonstrated full participation in the design, planning, rehearsal process and performance of a piece of Site Specific and/or Street Theatre. A video of the performance piece, which may be a dress rehearsal, is required to provide supporting evidence.