



ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

JOB DESCRIPTION

Title: Associate Pianist, The Royal Ballet

Reports to: Head of Music

Main purpose of the job

To undertake a nine-month traineeship as a ballet pianist, working as part of a team with the music staff of The Royal Ballet

To fulfil the brief set by the Head of Music, and complete all scheduled work playing for rehearsals and class and other learning assignments, working to the highest possible standards of pianism, musicianship and study

To make a positive contribution as a team player

Main Responsibilities

Study and Preparation

- Undertake study and preparation as required for the repertoire
- Undertake coaching sessions and related study as advised by the Head of Music
- Respond in a positive way to direction or feedback as required
- Attend and observe any rehearsals or other sessions as scheduled
- Mark, correct and maintain music scores

Playing

- Play for classes and rehearsals as scheduled for the Royal Ballet and the Learning and Participation department
- Play for occasional auditions for the work of the Royal Ballet (dancers and singers)
- In collaboration with the teacher, to provide musical energy and inspiration in ballet class
- Be sufficiently prepared to play to the highest possible standard

Teamwork and Networking

- Build relationships and networks relevant to the role and the profession, with guidance from the Head of Music

- Maintain the highest standards of attendance, reliability, teamwork and professionalism in all aspects of the work
- Make a positive contribution as an ambassador for the Traineeship

Schedule Requirements

- Undertake sufficient planning to be able to fulfil scheduled work requirements, having prepared to the required standard

Continuous Improvement

- Keep in touch with developments in music for ballet and contemporary dance, as relevant to the role
- Manage own learning and continuous professional development
- Contribute to a culture of information sharing, collaborative working and team working
- Contribute to a culture of innovation and continuous improvement

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential Knowledge/Skills and Experience

Ballet

- A high level of pianism and general musicianship, and a good understanding of the dance-music relationship
- Some experience of playing for professional ballet class and rehearsal or ability to demonstrate in audition the skills required to achieve this in a short space of time
- Ability to develop a broad knowledge of the classical ballet repertoire
- Ability to gain an understanding of the working practices of a major theatre
- Demonstrated capacity for effective teamwork and harmonious working relationships at all levels
- Ability to respond in a positive way to feedback and direction

Continuous Improvement

- Ability to work to and support a culture of continuous improvement
- Ability to support a high-performance culture and team ethic
- Commitment to managing own learning and continuous professional development relevant to the role

Job Requirements

- Flexibility to be available for scheduled classes and rehearsals, including Saturday half days as required, and up to two or three Sunday classes per season
- The highest standards of attendance, reliability and professionalism across all aspects of the work

This Job Description reflects the current situation. It does not preclude change or development that might be required in the future.

