

Educational Workshops

Imaginarium Dance Theatre



Imaginarium Dance Theatre

Our mission statement:

Our mission is to provide professional tuition of performing arts and fashion that is highly unique. We aim to increase the experience, skills, knowledge and attitudes of students of all ages and abilities from inspirational teachers who will give a breath of creative fresh air into any student aiming to give individual learning experience that will never be forgotten. Our mission is to give students a brighter future where they can thrive through education and training giving achievement which can help build future careers and employment.

Specialising in arts therapy for youngsters with SEN, mental health and social barriers.



THE LAUNCH

In 2006 the Director of Imaginarium Dance Theatre Mrs Helen Weekley became the founder of the Backstage Academy of Performing Arts with the help and support from the Princes Trust Enterprise Programme . Since 2006 the Backstage Academy flourished into an amazing home for education of the arts delivering highly unique learning opportunities to children and adults across Lincolnshire, Norfolk and Cambridgeshire fully accredited with Pearson EDEXCEL levels 1 -3. With 100% success rate the Academy students have gained full distinctions in BTEC courses and LCM qualifications, progressing onto higher education including Stage School, Dance School and top Universities leading into the profession for outstanding careers.

In July 2015 the Backstage Academy was closed and Helen relocated back home to the North East with her family where she has now launched the Imaginarium Dance Theatre and Trash Dollies Boutique at the peak of her career offering top quality professional tuition in dancing, singing, acting, musical theatre, drama, music, music production, fashion, hair, make-up, physical theatre, modelling and creative practice just to name a few.

Imaginarium Dance Theatre is now the hub of creativity where Mrs Helen Weekley writes, produces and delivers bespoke specialist courses in performing arts and also fashion courses through Trash Dollies Boutique after many years of creating highly successful BTEC courses. All courses are project based for all to enjoy according to the student's / organisations

individual educational needs. From one off dance classes to full courses written for a qualification Helen will work tirelessly to bring an outstanding educational service to you from her years of professional experience within the industry.

Imaginarium Dance Theatre has set aims and objectives that we pride ourselves in within our educational workshops.

We aim:-

- To teach educational themes in a modern and funky way for high motivation to build confidence, teamwork and self-esteem.
- To teach a range musical tastes to include classical, pop, rock and more all fused into a modern context to connect musical legacies with the modern world of music today.
- To include all styles of dancing (Urban street, hip hop, jazz, contemporary, ballet, Latin American and more) with a fusion of styles to create a full celebration of dance which can be seen as a universal language of the arts.
- To create captivating acting and drama with dramatic truth applying the techniques of practitioners e.g. Stanislavski and Brecht.
- To create soulful singing to wow any audience with expression and musicality.
- To deliver tuition in fashion through Trash Dollies Boutique teaching textiles in a way that will be exciting and thought provoking.
- To deliver tuition that is designed to hit key training elements so that students progress in their learning on an individual level by challenging strengths and working through targets to eliminate weaknesses to create top quality all round performers of any age.
- To promote a unique creativity element within our tuition to give the student a fantastic motivation, confidence and connection with their own work giving them a sense of independent ownership and also teamwork to create a performance which includes everybody's ideas giving a sense of full achievement and high self-esteem.

Step 2: Choose a theme

Themes can be chosen from the examples of you can tell us a theme we can design a workshop around especially for you

EXAMPLES OF THEMES

Mirror Mirror on the Wall

A musical based on Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs with an animal and underground club twist.

Learning elements of dancing, singing and acting though a loved childhood story where the evil Queen Kitty and her Tigers are defeated by the beautiful Electra and her Icebites with the help of the comical street dancers and the mystical reflectors. Mirror, mirror on the wall who's the best dancer of them all?



I Love Thee, I Loathe Thee

A musical of three Acts based on Shakespeare's 'Taming of the Shrew' influenced by the film '10 Things I Hate About You'. Learning dance styles into dramatic text within a stunning and exciting storyline with mesmerising vocals of rock and pop. Set at Backstagia High, 2056, this futuristic performing arts school is the home to the beautiful BB and her shrew of a sister Kat. Will the unlovable Shrew find love within Patrick Verona who dates her as a bet or will Patrick have met his match and true love will shine through in an unexpected place?



Spirit of the 7 Deadly Sins

This is the ultimate dance show that explores an explosion of dance fusion through the life of a young girl who represents the human race. But will the girl follow her life down the path of the heavenly virtues or will the spirit of the 7 Deadly sins sway her. Based on issues of true life, this storytelling through the medium of dance will throw you into the debate of right and wrong but which path would you take?



Once Upon a Fairytale

The child's imagination is a wonderful place of no limits. This dance based musical brings all our favourite fairytale Princesses to life in one fairytale with Cinders, R'Zel, Snowy and Beauty who find themselves all married to the one and only Prince Charming who must choose one Princess to be his one true love in order to save the fairytale Kingdom from the spell of the Wicked Ice Queen who is slowly turning everyone to ice, but will he find his one true love? This comical musical was loved by all from teeny tots to groovy grannies.

Pandora's Hope

Storytelling was born in Greek Mythology in a time before science explanation so the Greeks created amazing stories of a hierarchy of Gods and Goddesses to give explanations for things in the world around them. Pandora's Hope is based on the theme of Greek Mythology where a beautiful girl called Morpheus gets taken back in time with a comical shooting star in search of Pandora's Box but she ends up stuck in a battle between the Goddess of Love and Medusa. However, beauty is found within the eye of the beholder and Medusa is not as evil as it first seems. A fantastic show with an incredible theme!



World of Make Believe

The world of make believe can come to life when you least expect it! Twin sisters Anna and Cindy are now 16 and hate each other but they wake up in a magical world of make believe in their old dolls house where Cindy must replace Prima Ballerina in a battle against Robotica to become the new Queen of the House of Dance. With comical Action Man, Barbie, Ken, Tiny Tears and Voodoo dolls there to help Robotica won't stand a chance in the dance battle of the toys....or will she?



Dreamcatcher



Living in a world of different cultures 'Dreamcatcher' embraces the world to live harmoniously together as two childrens worlds collide into a frenzy of dancing, singing and acting where Somnium and her street Gang are taken back in time to Turtle Island by Aranea the spirit of the dreamcatcher where the Native American Indians need to explore Somniums dreams to find the answers to destroying the nightmares of the Sandman to protect the future of the world of dreams. Magical and mystical this uplifting story will unite all children around the world- for they are our future.



Sword of Destiny

With legends and mythology come exciting stories that have captivated the world for hundreds of years. Sword of Destiny embraces the legend of King Arthur where a young Arthur must prove himself to be the worthy King of England with his Knightesses by his side. Merlin helps Arthur see his destiny and gives him the magical sword Excalibur from the Lady of the Lake but Arthur is not the only person wishing to take the throne of England as his half-sister Morgana plots to take Excalibur and the throne for herself. With an explosion of magic spells this show will push dancing to the limit with a gripping storyline and an amazing ending that will keep the legends alive forever.





Pharaoh's Whisper

Travelling through the sands of time, the ancient Pharaoh's Nefertiti and Cleopatra come together to save Egypt from the Goddess of War, Setesh. They set out on a magical quest to seek help from Osiris, Queen of the Underworld, but the only way to reach her is to join Tutankhamen on her journey to the afterlife from her cursed tomb via the 7 steps to paradise where on judgement day they will face Osiris. From comical drama to extreme dance fusion with captivating singing this musical will bring the whole audience together with Egyptian mystery.

From Dust To Trust

As I look into the mirror I see the dust of the worlds fallen dark angel but I also see an angel of love, protection and belief.

That angel slowly put me back together again and gave me some wings that I created myself. They taught me how to fly, how to swerve around obstacles and how to learn from them. The angel gave me a chance that nobody could ever see, the angel saw the best that was in me - this angel was a Prince and he gave me his Trust - my angel was The Princes Trust. Exploring life through explosive dance, physical theatre, emotional singing and an abstract delivery. Looking at life issues such as growing up, school, bullying, mental health, parenting and relationships. Ideal for arts therapy.



Luna's Eclipse

Thrown into a world of Superheros and Supervillians the world is about to be destroyed by the ever growing powerful Luna as she draws her powers from the moon. With all superheros defeated the world turns to the last trainee Superhero Galaxia to unleash her powers to defeat Luna, her mini me and sidekick Flamin' Nora. With Astro, Honest Lee and Majestic side kicks by her side will Galaxia step up and save the world from the evil Lunas machine which is set to destroy planet earth or will it be Luna's Eclipse?

With comedy and magic this musical is for the ultimate comic book enthusiast as it explores the special powers of our heros and villians. What will your special power be?



EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

Step 1: Choose a workshop by discipline

1.
DANCE

Workshop Disciplines

- **Urban Street Dance**

Street dance, break dance, freestyle, hip hop, gym, street jazz, capoeira, waacking, crumping, robotics, popping, locking.....ALL = URBAN DANCE!

- **Jazz Dance (Traditional and commercial)**

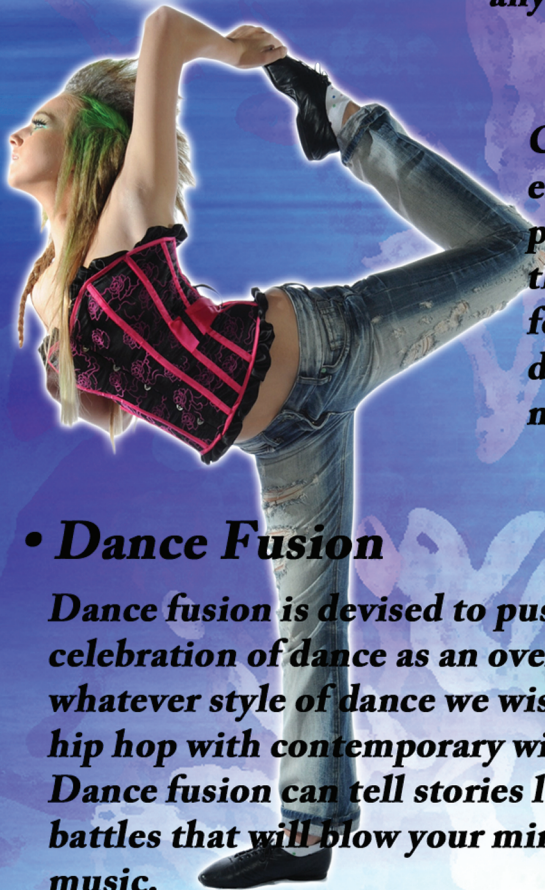
Jazz dance is fun, moody, energetic and dynamic using high flicks, kicks, jazz walks, ripples, angles and curves to create mesmerising performances which are great for anyone at any age at any ability

- **Contemporary Dance**

Contemporary dance is sensational, stunning, energetic, passionate and the ultimate dance style for any performer who wants to engage their emotions through their dance work. The contemporary dance technique focuses on developing technical ability which makes any dancer stand out from the crowd resulting in fantastic musicality.

- **Dance Fusion**

Dance fusion is devised to push creativity to the max in a celebration of dance as an overall art form by fusing together whatever style of dance we wish such as fusing together urban hip hop with contemporary with a Bollywood influence. Dance fusion can tell stories leading to explosive dance battles that will blow your mind adding in the exploration of music.



2. MUSICAL THEATRE



• Musical Theatre

Musical Theatre combines singing, dancing, acting and movement taking roots from Broadway to West End productions. Recreating some of the most famous musicals can be fun and the learning process hits all the key areas of the disciplines of performing arts making this workshop a fantastic all rounder.



• Acting & Drama

Focusing on principles of acting which develops students as an actor/actress by connecting the mastery of techniques with an imaginative and creative approach to performance work giving students time and space to explore the process and skills needed to develop the craft of acting and drama to characterise a performance physically, vocally and emotionally.

• Singing

Vocal training can take many forms but our tuition all develops confidence, vocal quality, strength, tone, pitch, breath control and performance preparation and presentation. In Musical Theatre vocal training is tailored to bring characters to life through vocal performance and presentation adding acting, vocal accents, props and costume.

Popular singing vocal training is tailored to work on technical abilities to become a well rounded singer of popular music from various decades.



4. SINGING



3. ACTING & DRAMA



Educational Creativity

Step 3: Choose a creative practise

Once you have chosen 1) performing arts discipline and 2) a theme you can then choose a method of creativity.

Workshops can be completely practitioner led with students learning set pieces of performance or your practitioner can deliver in a collaboration where the students learn not only practitioner led works but can also work with the practitioner within the creation process. By doing this the students learn methods to generate a performance using techniques to create the ultimate original performance.

This collaboration generates a building of confidence, self esteem, teamwork and pride.



CREATIVITY



• Choreographic Creation

A specifically designed workshop to create a dance piece in any given style from scratch where the students work alongside a practitioner from the Academy learning choreographic techniques to create their own dance work which will then be put together through artistic direction given by the practitioner to give a finished dance piece ready for stage performance which can be based



• Making Musicals

Students will work alongside the practitioner to create their own juke box musical studying storylines, characterisations, music, songs, dance and all other elements of creating a musical. By the end of the workshop a mini musical will be created which can be based on any theme, topic or mood.





• *Physical Theatre*

Physical theatre linking in storytelling and contemporary movement can create fantastic performances which suddenly appear through exploration of the history and techniques of physical theatre. Various practitioner led exercises can be explored around a given theme which can then be linked by artistic direction to create a piece of physical theatre which can be dramatic, comical or just sensational leaving the audience thinking in typical Brechtian style.

• *Storytelling with a Twist*

This workshop will take you on a journey of storytelling techniques that will push the boundaries of presentation. Students will study traditional storytelling techniques around a set theme but then apply a modern twist by using storytelling techniques based on the five senses including sound, taste, touch, smell and sight.



• *Creative Drama*

Creative drama includes studying principles of acting which then leads onto a devising project where students work alongside a practitioner from the Academy to create a piece of drama.



• *Songwriting*

Creating music is a magical thing and writing songs can be taught from beginners to advanced levels. Starting with exploring a theme or emotion students can work alongside a practitioner to write songs which teach music theory, lyrical skills and application of instrumentation from solo to ensemble work. Styles of music can also be explored linking in historical context of music history.

Imaginarium Dance Theatre Educational Workshops

Workshops are available to schools, colleges and any other organisation. The workshops are delivered by company director Mrs Helen Weekley and her team of artists to whom she collaborates.

Before looking at the workshops you must first decide what you wish to be produced at the end e.g. staged live performance, filmed performance, interactive performance, street theatre, a performance for assembly etc

Once your overall aim is clear there are three simple steps to follow to book your workshop:

- 1) Choosing a workshop performing arts discipline
- 2) Choosing a theme from the examples or give us a theme you wish for us to create around for you
- 3) Choosing a level of creativity i.e. tutor led, tutor and student collaboration

From this basic information Helen will then start to design a workshop specifically for you.

TAILORED LEARNING

We can tailor a workshop to any qualification needs that each establishment may have. Including BTEC levels 1 – 3, A levels, GCSE's and Key Stages. We can also tailor a workshop to a given theme or specific subject which is perfect for all key stages of all subjects and any organisations or youth work.

We can even create a unique workshop using performing arts to study science, maths, English, history etc. Subjects which incorporate Performing Arts include, drama, music, PE for dance, english for plays and creative writing, textiles for costume creations, ICT for promotional material generation using Photo-shop.

BESPOKE WORKSHOPS

A bespoke workshop is a mixture of the four previous options where you can choose a style, an area of creative practice and technical theatre which links in a tailored learning element to give the ultimate learning experience of the arts!

Specialist requirements can also be met such as special needs, behavioural issues and gender specific. Please ask and we can tailor education to your requirements.

WORKSHOP DESIGN – PLANNING AND PREPARATION

Each workshop is tailored to timescale and the desired learning outcomes and assessments if required. Once a workshop is looked they are individually designed with full lesson plans and for longer projects a scheme of work is also put in place. All workshops are inclusive of all equipment and resources unless otherwise specified beforehand.



LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT

When booking a workshop is it extremely important to first consider the desired learning outcome and / or assessment.

For example, do you just wish to book a one off dance class where the outcome is purely for the students to participate and fulfil the objectives of the class or do you want a longer workshop and for students to produce a performance at the end along with some form of written coursework?

Learning outcomes can include:

- Fulfilling learning aims and objectives.
- Creating a portfolio of evidence (Coursework) including research, development diary and photographic or filmed evidence of the process and achievements.
- A show, performance or piece filmed or for a live audience.
- Assessed qualification or continuous assessment achieving set targets according to a criteria.

When booking please choose from the following set learning outcomes:-

- Bronze – To participate in a one off workshop to fulfil the learning objectives
- Silver – To participate in a workshop to fulfil the learning objectives including a final performance or presentation of work
- Gold – To participate in a workshop to fulfil the learning objectives, including a final performance or presentation of work and written coursework
- Platinum - To participate in a workshop to fulfil the learning objectives, including a final performance or presentation of work, written coursework and assessed according to a qualification.

If you require any specialist outcomes please contact the Helen direct to discuss your requirements. Assessment can take many forms including continuous assessment reaching set targets, formal assessment including internal verification and / or external verification

All assessments can be formally recorded included written, filmed or photographed. Assignments can be written for any qualification by Helen at an additional cost.

When booking please choose from the following set assessments:-

- Bronze – No assessment available due to limited workshop time or none required.
- Silver – Filmed Performance / photographic evidence or if technical theatre the finished product only with verbal teacher feedback according to achieving set targets, aims and objectives.
- Gold - Filmed Performance / photographic evidence or if technical theatre the finished product and coursework with written teacher feedback according to achieving set targets, aims and objectives according to a set assessment criteria.
- Platinum - Filmed Performance / photographic evidence or if technical theatre the finished product and coursework with written teacher feedback according to achieving set targets, aims and objectives from an assignment brief set by Helen. All formally assessed according to set criteria to gain a qualification.

If you require any specialist assessments please contact Helen direct to discuss your requirements.



Trash Dollies Boutique



Contact Imaginarium Dance Theatre
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