

The Northern Film School  
MA Filmmaking

**“The Filmmakers’ MA”**

# It's all in the apostrophe...

- **The NORTHERN FILM SCHOOL is doing something new...**
- **The Filmmakers' MA is new because unlike most courses out there it mirrors real independent film production and embraces the changes that are happening in our industry:** it focuses on development of ideas and collaboration between the creative skills and unlike all other courses it puts the creative producer at the heart of the process.

- **On The Filmmakers' MA there is a lot of filmmaking and we encourage radical, truly independent 'stories' and ideas. The course is two years long and uniquely for a film school we give your filmed masters project up to £10,000 toward its budget.**
- **The Filmmakers' MA has attached godparents to the course to inspire and engage with our filmmakers. Our first godfather is the legendary filmmaker Nicolas Roeg**
- **We're looking for Creative Producers, Screenwriters, Directors, Cinematographers, Production Designers, Sound Recordist/Designers, Editors and Screen Performers to make Narrative Film, Documentary, Experimental Film, Music Videos, Commercials, and Dance for Film**

# Creative Producing

- The Filmmakers' MA offers a unique opportunity for those interested in Creative Producing to develop their creative skills and to benefit from close collaboration with all the key elements that go into developing and making films. In film education the producer is usually nothing more than a glorified production manager – not here.
- The creative producer on the Filmmakers' MA is put at the centre of the filmmaking process seeing a project through from inception, to the premier and beyond.

As well as your collaborative work you will attend specific workshops led by your producing tutors and visiting practising producers. Subjects covered will include:

- Script and documentary project analysis and development
- Financing strategies for development and production, co-production and co-financing
- Legal issues related to producing and co-producing
- Pitching, Budgeting and Financial Management
- Negotiating Skills
- Marketing, Sales and Distribution
- Project Packaging
- Business Planning

- You will develop a number of projects (including a ‘walk-away’ feature or television project) with writers and directors and creative specialists on the course.
- You will have decent budget from the film school for your masters project and you will be expected to raise more.
- We are looking for different kinds of people – we need a blend of those with industry experience and those with a related knowledge.

# Directing

- The Filmmakers' MA offers a unique opportunity for talented and committed directors to develop their creativity and to benefit from close collaboration with all the key elements that go into developing and making films. You will build strong relationships with Creative Producers, Screenwriters and other creative specialists.
- As well as your collaborative work you will get individual and joint tuition with your director colleagues in workshops with tutors and visiting practicing filmmakers.
- There are four possible directing pathways...

- **Narrative Film:** The Northern Film School has a strong tradition of turning out successful drama directors. You will collaborate closely with creative producers and writers and uniquely in a film school, you will work with actors - giving you ample opportunity to learn the language of directing actors.
- **Documentary Film:** We encourage applications from filmmakers and non-filmmaking backgrounds alike. If you have an important story to tell, we can provide you with a creative producer and strong professional crew to realise your idea.
- **Experimental Film:** Unlike many film schools we celebrate experimental filmmaking. This is an opportunity to collaborate with creative specialists (crew) and to explore and experiment with the moving image. Anything goes.
- **Dance for Camera:** Building on the likes of DV8, De Keersmaeker, Decoufle and Earthfall we are looking for filmmakers and dancers who want to collaborate and experiment beyond the confines of the traditional dance space.

# Screenwriting

- The Northern Film School takes screenwriting seriously, and we have an excellent track record: this year alone saw writer Jennifer Norridge's 'Son of Babylon' in competition at Sundance and Eriikka Rahikainen at the Talent Campus in Berlin with the script 'Inessa'.
- The Filmmakers' MA offers a unique opportunity for screenwriters to develop their writing skills and to collaborate with all the key elements that go into developing and making films. The big thing for a screenwriter on this course is to be part of the filmmaking process and to see your work get made. And there will be a lot of writing and a lot of filmmaking.

- You will work collaboratively with creative producers, directors and, unusually in a film school, performers. You will also attend specific workshops led by your writing tutors and visiting practising screenwriters. Subjects covered will include:
  - Script language and layout,
  - The treatment, the step-outline and the synopsis.
  - Adaptation and the art of story telling – word stories into picture stories.
  - The business and legal side of writing.
- For your masters project you will develop and write a feature script (or TV series). You will attend round table sessions, workshops and tutorials and write up to three drafts of your script.

# Cinematography

- The Filmmakers' MA is a unique opportunity for cinematographers to develop creatively and collaboratively. Talented and committed cinematographers and photographers are invited to build strong working relationships with creative producers, directors, production designers and other creative specialists. Films are given significant budgets by the Film School enabling you to make high quality work.
- You will benefit by creating close collaborative relationships, and create life long contacts, as well as industry standard work that will provide you with a fantastic showreel.

- The prime mover of the course for cinematographers is the opportunity to continually shoot films and exercises, thus progressing your art and skill. There will also be master classes by industry professionals from both within the film school and the outside professional world in subjects such as:
  - Super 16mm Film and Video Production
  - Lighting Design
  - Colour and Image Manipulation
  - Camera movement, operation and blocking
  - Working with Directors, Production Designers, Actors and Crew
  - Visual Script Interpretation
- Modules will provide experience in different scales of production, shooting on location, in the studio.

# Production Design

- The Filmmakers' MA offers a unique opportunity for Production Designers to develop creatively and to benefit from close collaboration with all the key elements that go into developing and making films and to initiate projects with producers, writers, directors and cinematographers.
- As well as collaborative work you will get individual and joint tuition with your Designer colleagues in workshop sessions with tutors and visiting professionals in your field to develop your creative and technical skills.

## Study areas will include...

- Interpreting a script through set and location design;
- Set design within a studio space;
- Costume design considering character analysis;
- Producing set and costume design visuals;
- Technical drawings/models, both traditional methods and digital;
- Practical set building and prop making skills;
- Aesthetics of set and costume design for film, TV, and performance.

- All modules will provide experience in different scales of production, and with different directors and crews.
- This course will equip you, whether you choose to be an art director or production designer, or as an individual creative practitioner incorporating moving image into your design work. Your designs will be finished to high standard; the course will provide you with an inspiring creative experience and a fantastic showreel and portfolio.

# Sound Recording and Design

- The Filmmakers' MA offers a unique opportunity for Sound Designers to develop creatively and to benefit from close collaboration with all the key creative elements that go into developing and making films - and there's a lot of filmmaking on the course!
- As well as your collaborative work you will get individual and joint tuition with your sound colleagues in workshop sessions with tutors and visiting professional filmmakers in your field to develop your creative and technical sound recording and design skills.

- Study areas will include:
  - Best Cutting Room Practice
  - Sound Design and narrative structure in fiction and documentary
  - Creation and control of emotion through Sound Design
  - Studying the Masters of Sound Design
  - Sound Department management of a wide range of projects from short experimental films to the full-blown feature
  - Constructing your aural autobiography – AKA: your Showreel
- All modules will provide experience in different scales of production, and with different directors and crews.

# Editing

- The Filmmakers' MA offers a unique opportunity for Editors to develop creatively and to benefit from close collaboration with all the key elements that go into developing and making films.
- As well as collaborative work you will get individual and joint tuition with your Editing colleagues in workshop sessions with tutors and visiting professionals in your field to develop your creative and technical skills to a high standard.
- All modules will provide experience in different scales of production, and with different directors and crews.

## Study areas include:

- Best Cutting Room Practice
- Editing and narrative structure in fiction and documentary
- Creation and control of emotion through editing
- Studying the Masters of Editing
- Editing management of a wide range of projects from short experimental films to the full-blown feature
- Constructing your visual autobiography –  
AKA: your Edit Showreel
  
- This course offers the opportunity to implement your editing skills in wide variety of filmmaking styles; your work will be finished to high standard and will provide you with an inspiring creative experience and a fantastic showreel and portfolio.

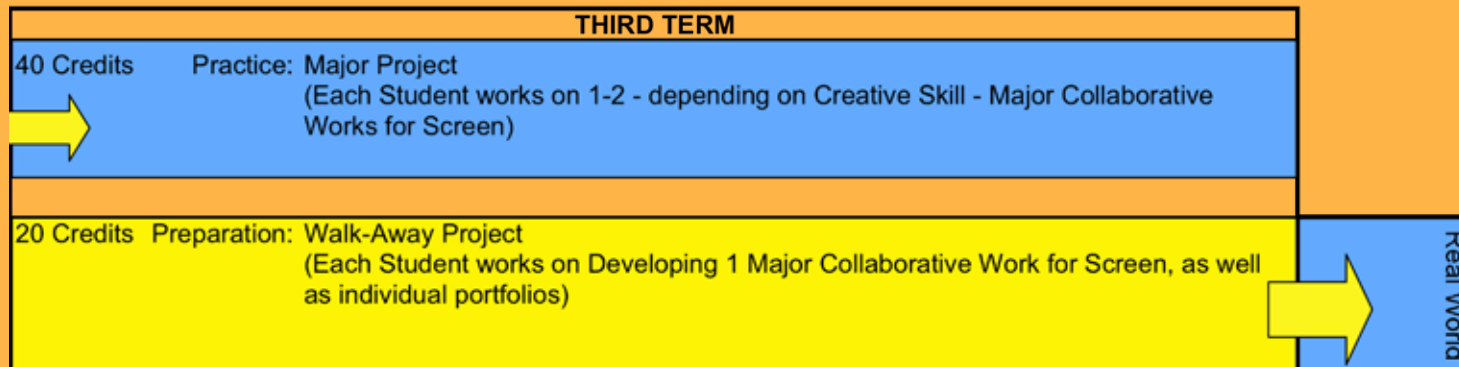
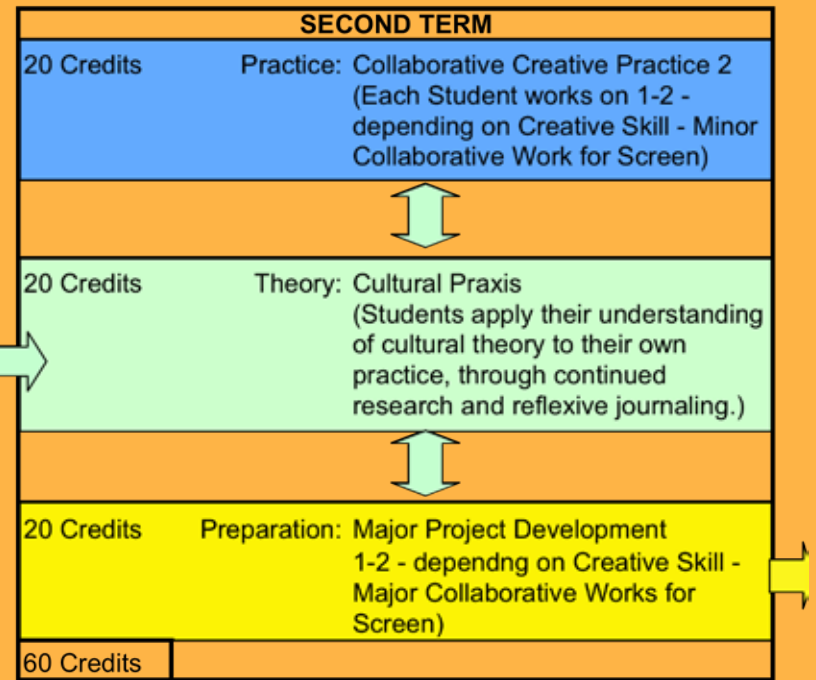
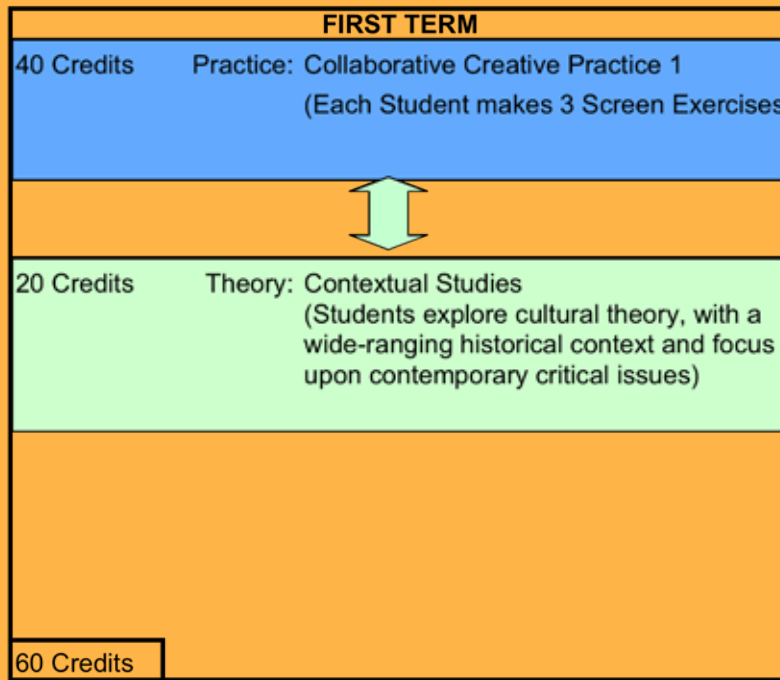
# Screen Performance

- Actors are filmmakers too, that is the philosophy of the course – you are an essential part of the whole. The Filmmakers' MA offers a unique opportunity for actors to work in front of a camera and to benefit from close collaboration with all the key creative elements that go into developing and making films.
- Unlike live performance training, screen performance requires producers, directors, cinematographers, dollies, booms, continuity, lights, sets, broken days, out of sequence emotion and a totally different focus.

- The Filmmakers' MA at the Northern Film School is a unique opportunity for actors to become part of an established Film School, to benefit from close collaboration with all the key creative elements that go into making films, to initiate projects with producers, writers and directors and to develop the skills needed to perform in film and television.
- All modules will provide experience in different scales of production, and with different directors and crews and will provide you with an amazing experience and a fantastic showreel.

Workshops will be led by industry professionals in areas such as:

- Understanding lenses, framing
- Reaction instead of action
- Hitting your mark
- Sustaining an emotion from one week to the next
- Making one line count
- Knowing when to ask for another take
- What is ADR and how do you do it
- Casting agents and sessions
- The list goes on...



# Fees:

- Leeds Met Alumni UK/EU Students: £6639 for 18 months, full-time.
- Other UK /EU Students: £7,373 for 18 months, full-time.
- Leeds Met Alumni Overseas Students: £11,250 for 18 months full-time. (£8,850 if applied before May 15 2010).
- Other Overseas Students: £12,500 for 18 months, full-time. (£9,500 if applied before May 15 2010).

# Applications and Information:

- For an application, please email Chris Pugh, Course Administrator at [c.j.pugh@leedsmet.ac.uk](mailto:c.j.pugh@leedsmet.ac.uk)
- For more information and updates go to:
  - Our website:
    - [www.northernfilmschool.co.uk](http://www.northernfilmschool.co.uk)
  - Our Facebook page:
    - [The Northern Film School - NEW Filmmakers' MA](#)
  - And/or email one of the Joint Course Leaders:
    - Dan Weldon: [d.weldon@leedsmet.ac.uk](mailto:d.weldon@leedsmet.ac.uk)
    - Larra Anderson: [l.l.anderson@leedsmet.ac.uk](mailto:l.l.anderson@leedsmet.ac.uk)
    - Martin Harris: [m.j.harris@leedsmet.ac.uk](mailto:m.j.harris@leedsmet.ac.uk)