ROYAL CENTRAL
SCHOOL OF SPEECH & DRAMA
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

DEBORAH GARVEY, MA, B.MUS, LTCL, PGCERT TLHE, FHEA

Job title
Lecturer, Voice

PROFILE

I am a voice practitioner who teaches both spoken voice, accent work and singing. This multi-faceted approach is informed by my early training as an actor and singer and subsequent study to complete a music degree at Goldsmiths College in 1994. Alongside performance work in West End, repertory, and radio, I went on to gain experience as a singing coach at Goldsmith's College, the BRIT School and London School of Musical Theatre. In the same period, I became interested in vocal health and designed and implemented workshops to fitness professionals, teachers, and performers. This growing enquiry into the spoken voice provided the impetus for me to pursue further specialist study on the MA Voice Studies programme at Central. I graduated in 2008 and began working here a year later as a visiting lecturer before joining the faculty as Lecturer in Voice on the MA/MFA Voice Studies programme in 2014. In addition to teaching voice and providing pastoral, academic and pedagogical support I liaise with MFA students and co-ordinate activities in the second year of their study.

I also teach group singing and practical voice on BA Acting (CDT), practical voice and accents work on MA Music Theatre and vocal support for student productions at Central. Outside the conservatoire training setting, I am an associate coach for Speak Easily Ltd, a leading provider in communication skills and accent softening courses.

In 2017 I completed my training as a Designated Linklater teacher with Kristin Linklater at KLVC in Orkney. Since then, I've accepted invitations to lead workshops in Linklater voice work in the UK and Europe.

My research interests focus on the relationship between the spoken and sung voice and the development of an integrated approach to access vocal expressivity. I am particularly interested in how this might be applied to the process of theatre-making and seek opportunities to compose music for the stage which exploit this interrelationship in storytelling. This work informs ongoing research and generates teaching materials to support my practice.

I'm currently compiling a collection of original vocal music for publication as a teaching resource.

EXTERNAL MEMBERSHIPS

Equity
Voice Care Network
British Voice Association
Voice and Speech Trainers Association

COURSES

Voice Studies: Teaching and Coaching MA/MFA
Music Theatre, MA
Acting (CDT), BA

TEACHING AREAS

Practical Voice
Accent and Dialect work
Singing

RESEARCH AREAS

The interrelationships and differences between the spoken and sung voice
Integrated voice techniques
Politics of RP in actor training
The role of breath in performance
Vocal character work

PRACTICE

My practice includes work as a voice coach, composer and actor as well as conference presentations.

Compositions include:

2019. Mata Hari for Spontaneous Productions
2018. Three Men in a Boat for Spontaneous Productions
2014. Home Fires (also musical director and cast member) Sydenham Arts Festival and subsequent transfer to the Brockley Jack Studio Theatre, (Director: Vicki Hambley). Funding received from ACE and Heritage Lottery Fund.
2001. Looking for Mister Right, also actor. Finborough Theatre (Director Cate Hamer).

As voice/accent coach:

POT, Stratford Circus and Ovalhouse (Director: Sophie Moniram)
Blue Remembered Hills, New Diorama (Director Graham Hubbard.
Vanessa and Virginia, Riverside Studios (Director Emma Gersch).
Impotent, Lion And Unicorn (Director Graham Hubbard).
The Importance of Being Earnest, Sydenham Arts Festival (Director Jonathan Kaufman).
Midsummer Nights' Dream, Sydenham Arts Festival (Director Jonathan Kaufman).

I have given presentations at a range of conferences and for a series of networks including ATHE Boston 2018; Inaugural Voice Geek Conference; International Centre for Voice and Voice Care Network; SongArt Symposium at RCSSD; Stage and Screen Conference, Rose Bruford College.

REGISTER OF INTEREST

Nothing to declare.