

why study

Sound & Music at BCoT



Special Guest Lecture and Visit for Music Tech Students

Students and staff at BCoT were privileged to host a special lecture by musician and producer Martyn Ware, founder member of seminal 80s electronic bands The Human League and Heaven 17. Martyn lectured the students on his involvement in the music industry and pioneering work with synthesizers, both in the 80s and his current groundbreaking work with 3D sound mixing.

As a result of the visit, students were invited down to Martyn's 3D sound studio at the Brixton Art Space in London. With business partner Vince Clarke, Martyn creates 3D sound installations for events using a totally revolutionary software system that allows the placing of any sound, anywhere in the 3D sound field.

As part of the two hour demonstration Martyn mixed two pieces of student work into 3D format.

The pieces were Entitled "Americas Most Wanted?" by Tom Walke and "The Atomic Mozzie" By Vikki Soanes.

"The college is forward thinking as they are looking at the future of sound," said Martyn. **"The session went very well and very quickly. The two tracks the students mixed were really excellent. We'll probably incorporate them into our demos!"**



CHURCH COMES ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Music technology students spent an evening recording Basingstoke's Male Voice Choir recently, to fulfil a module of the course that requires them to carry out a live location recording.

Lecturers Manny Latina and Jim Lynn accompanied 11 students to the United Reform Church in Basingstoke to record the choir singing: 'The Lord's Prayer', 'Climb Every Mountain' and 'Unchained Melody'.

Student Harry Brewer from Farnham said: *"It was a really good experience and we were able to demonstrate our skills in recording live music. We all enjoyed the challenge and got a lot out of it."*

Jim Lynn, course coordinator said: *"The students worked well and set the equipment up quickly and effectively. They recorded the male voice choir using computer software and a number of microphones positioned around the church. They controlled the sound levels extremely professionally."*

Equivalent to three A Levels, the National Diploma in Music Technology is a two-year programme that looks at aspects of performance, sound equipment recording and studio management and production. Progression from this course is onto further study (typically a degree or HND) or employment within the music industry.

Music Technology Work Experience at BCoT

First Diploma Sound/National Diploma Music Technology student Joshua Antonini carried out two days of vocal/guitar sessions at Peermusic studios in central London where SonyBMG act Newton Faulkner recorded his 2007 UK Number One album "Handbuilt by Robots". Josh vocalled the song "Wonderful Brightening" for record producer/writer Dele Lademeji for future pitching to major record companies.

BCoT students Jason Riordan and Richard Gregory were also involved with the guitar session work for Spice Girl Melanie C's Platinum selling album Beautiful Intentions. The sessions were set-up by BCoT lecturer Paul Boddy who co-wrote and co-produced the albums' title track.



STATE OF THE ART APPLE MACs AT BCoT

Music Technology and Sound Engineering students are now able to take advantage of the latest in music hardware and software at BCoT. Students can now work on Apple iMacs with industry standard Logic Software, MBox 2 soundcards and M-Audio Oxygen 61 keyboards.

The set-ups are in effect self-contained recording studios - allowing students to write, produce, record and mix their tracks virtually to a high, professional quality standard.

MUSIC

BTEC Level 2 Diploma – 1 Year

Course Code: EF24

This course is aimed at those seeking a career as a sound engineer or technician within radio, theatre or music related industries. The topics covered include sound systems, sequencing, digital sound and the sound industry. You will have the opportunity to work with professional sound engineers in the BCoT sound studio and take part in activities both in college and off-site. You will develop music performance skills as well as DJ mixing and project based work experience.

Entry Requirements

4 GCSEs at grade D or above, including English or Creative Media Level 1 Diploma.

Method of assessment

Assignments and practical tasks plus a major project.

Progression

Further study (typically BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Music Technology); employment.

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma – 2 Years

Course Code: EF27

Are you interested in the music or sound industry? This exciting course is equivalent to three A Levels and therefore is a great route to university. It looks at aspects of performance, midi, sound equipment, recording, studio management and production. You will have access to our sound studio complete with modern recording and mixing equipment, sound-proof booth, multi-track recording facility and DJ facilities. This course will cover the following units:

- Creating and marketing a music product
- Music sequencing
- The sound and music industry
- Audio engineering
- Computer music systems
- Acoustics
- Multimedia
- Live sound
- Sound creation and manipulation
- Sound recording techniques

MIDI and computer technology is embedded within the course using modern software such as Logic.

Entry Requirements

5 GCSEs grade A-C (to include English and preferably Maths and Science) or BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Music or Creative Media Production (Merit).

Method of assessment

Assignments and practical tasks, plus final major project. You will have the opportunity to undertake work experience as part of your course to develop practical skills.

Progression

Further study (typically a degree, FdA or HND); employment within music and related industries.

INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE TECHNOLOGIES

Entry Level – 1 year

Course Code: CF28

This new one-year course gives students an introduction to the world of creative technologies including- media, music, information technology and art and design. It provides the skills, knowledge and the understanding to progress to a Level 1 qualification.

You will develop skills in IT, Internet Applications, Digital Photography, Animation, 3D design and Mixed Media.

This course will give you the foundation level skills to enable you to move up to the next level. Entry Requirements 3 GCSEs at grade G or above and a subject requiring English and a successful interview.

Method of assessment

Ongoing assessment by both written and practical assignments.

Progression

Further study (typically a Level 1 course in Creative Technologies and Creative Media).

CREATIVE MEDIA

Level 1 Diploma – 1 Year

Course Code: CF29

This course offers study in a wide range of creative subjects, these include both 2D and 3D

art and design, photography, website design, fashion, textiles, video production and music technology. We encourage you to be creative and experiment during your course and you will produce work for an end of year exhibition.

Entry Requirements

4 GCSEs at grade E or above including English and preferably Maths and Science and a strong interest in art, design and media.

Method of assessment

Continuous assessment by both written and practical assignments.

Progression

Further study (typically a Diploma in Art & Design, Creative Media Production or other Level 2 course).

Student plays on Magna Karta track

Second Year National Diploma Music Technology student Dan Wilcox recently played some guitar and bass session work for a track which was co-produced by BCoT lecturer Paul Boddy.

The track "Ring My Bell" by Magna Kartah, is a new version of the original Anita Ward disco track, and has since been included on a major compilation album to accompany the popular Portuguese TV series "Morangos com Açúcar". The album, which also features a track by Sean Kingston, is currently at number one in the compilation charts in Portugal and has, at the time of writing, achieved Gold sales figures. The track has also been remixed by several established remixers including Jason Herd who worked on the last Fedde le Grande single and is about to be mailed out to UK clubs and DJs. Clips of the track featuring Dan's playing can be heard at the following MySpace link:

www.myspace.com/magnakartah

MEET THE STAFF...

Paul Boddy Lecturer

Paul teaches Music Tech and Sound and is still active in the music industry having previously produced a top 10 single and worked with Melanie C, Lisa Scott-Lee, Sophie Ellis-Bextor and Uniting Nations. Paul's other music related jobs include in-house sound engineer and band musician on the QE2 cruise liner.



Manny Latina Lecturer

Manny teaches Music Technology and Sound Engineering and is an experienced DJ and producer. He has also worked actively in event organisation. His other specialist areas include multimedia and the music industry.



Jim Lynn Course Co-ordinator

Jim co-ordinates the BTEC National Diploma in Music Technology and BTEC First Diploma in Music (Sound Engineering) programmes. He is a guitarist and played in a small band in his early years and has recently set up the sound systems for many charity events around the Basingstoke area.

