



getting started

Welcome to Cambridge's theatre scene. With over 40 shows entirely run by students every term, the Cambridge stage is varied, vibrant and shaped by you, and there's always something to match your interests and availability. From stand-up comedy to musicals, Greek tragedy to new writing, pantomime to ballet, the Cambridge theatre scene provides opportunities to actors, directors and comedians, as well as hugely rewarding jobs in technical theatre, production and design. And as if that weren't enough, every year there are opportunities for students to perform at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and to tour America, Europe or Asia!

This booklet lays out all the different roles available in Cambridge theatre and offers advice on how best to get involved in each of them. It's produced by the Cambridge University Amateur Dramatic Club, the oldest and largest theatrical society in Cambridge, alongside the Management team of the ADC Theatre. Our committee includes an experienced representative for every

aspect of theatrical life, who will be very glad to answer questions and offer advice.

It couldn't be easier to get involved in the theatre scene: look out for auditions and adverts for technical positions. All adverts are posted on **camdram.net**, and most are advertised in the Cambridge Theatre Facebook group (**bit.ly/cam-theatre**). Weekly email lists can be subscribed to at **cuadc.org/get-involved**, which summarise any opportunities, as well as any other activities, like workshops and social events.

The Freshers' plays, which run midway through Michaelmas term, are a great way to get started. Applications for production team members will open on Friday 11 October, and you can sign up by either attending Freshers' Friday at the ADC Theatre Bar that day, between 4pm and 7pm, or by checking www.camdram.net. Auditions will take place at the ADC Theatre between Wednesday 16 and Friday 18 October, and interviews will take place at the ADC Theatre on Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 October.

how does cambridge theatre work?

This booklet is here to help you understand the different places and societies and that you might come across.

Instead of having a single theatrical society, Cambridge has many. Many of the colleges run a theatrical society, like the Pembroke Players (Pembroke) and Fletcher Players (Corpus Christi). There are also larger societies operating between colleges: **Cambridge University Amateur** Dramatic Club (CUADC) is the largest and oldest, and is a resident company at the ADC Theatre. The Cambridge Footlights are the world-famous comedy troupe that run a sketch show named a Smoker every two weeks. **Cambridge University Musical** Theatre Society produces musicals, including Chicago in November.

Most of these societies are funding bodies: they provide money to directors and producers, who build their own company, rather than having a permanent company who take part in every show.

If you want to put on a show in Cambridge, applications open midway through the term before. You can apply as a producer, director or actor, and you'll be interviewed by an applications panel where you will pitch your idea. If they like your pitch, you'll be assigned a slot for the next term! You can then apply to the theatre societies for funding. More information can be seen on the **Put on Your Own Show** page (**p. 23**).









diversity in theatre

Cambridge Theatre strives to be an environment where everyone is represented and valued. Send an email to **Meg**, the CUADC Social and Outreach Officer, at

outreach@cuadc.org if you have any questions.

The **LGTBQ+** scene in Cambridge theatre is large and welcoming. LGBTQ+ productions have been staged more and more often in recent years, especially with the founding of the Cambridge Univeristy Queer Players. We'll be co-hosting LGBTQ+ drinks with them in **the ADC bar on 15 October at 8pm** so come along to meet your fellow LGBTQ+ theatre makers.



Find links to Cambridge
Theatre Facebook groups
at cuadc.org/resources



We're keen to encourage women and non-binary people to get involved in all aspects of Cambridge theatre, especially technical theatre: from Lighting and Sound Designers to Stage Managers and Technical Directors, there are loads of exciting opportunities to get involved. The female and non-binary technicians' community is incredibly supportive and we can't wait to welcome any freshers, so come along to our drinks event in the ADC Bar on 17 October at 8pm. We'd love to meet you! Whether you're an English student, an Art Historian, or a Natural Scientist, technical theatre is for everyone and Cambridge is the perfect place to try it out.

The Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) theatre community has also grown over the past few years, with numerous BAME shows each term and plenty of opportunities both on and offstage. You can find the link to the BAME Theatre Facebook group on our Resources page

(cuadc.org/resources), where you can find opportunities posted for vacancies on and off stage, as well as discussion of BAME theatre in Cambridge. CUADC will also be hosting BAME Freshers' drinks in the ADC Bar on 22 October at 8pm, so feel free to come along and meet some other students.





the venues

There are two main theatre venues in Cambridge: the **ADC Theatre** and the **Corpus Playroom**. Many colleges also have their own theatres, like the Pembroke New Cellars, or the Fitzpatrick Hall in Queens' College.

The **ADC Theatre** is the largest student theatre space in Cambridge with 228 seats. The theatre has a large stage and there is the ability to fly in set and

lights, making it an excellent venue for people interested in more complex technical theatre. Beneath the stage is the workshop, where student technicians build the sets. The ADC also has its own clubroom, which is open only to students and is yours to use, whether as a room for production meetings, or just as a space to hang out. The ADC is found on Park Street, near Jesus Green (**CB5 8AS**).







The **Corpus Playroom** is a smaller, more intimate venue, with only 80 seats. Shows at the Playroom are generally shorter, making it a great venue for comedy and new writing. With the audience surrounding the stage on two sides, the Playroom is a great space for small-scale, intimate theatre. The Corpus Playroom can be found on 10 St Edward's Passage (**CB2 3PJ**), a small lane off King's Parade.

acting

There are many opportunities to act in Cambridge. With upwards of 40 shows every term, there is something for everyone. You can find auditions listings on **camdram.net** or on the **Cambridge Theatre Facebook page** (**bit.ly/cam-theatre**). Most auditions happen either at the ADC Theatre, the Corpus Playroom or in one of the colleges, and there is always an email address to contact if you don't know the way.

For most auditions, the Director will usually leave an extract outside the door for you to have a look at and then ask you to come into the audition room and read the piece through before giving you a bit of direction to see how you react. Extracts might also be posted on Camdram in advance, to give you more time to get comfortable with it. For musical auditions, you should prepare a song and bring along some sheet music if you have it. If you are interested in acting in Cambridge or just want a friendly face to talk to, speak to the CUADC Actors' Reps, Ollie and Mariam, by emailing them at actor@cuadc.org.



Get Involved

Sign up to the actors' list to receive details of auditions by emailing actor@cuadc.org

Email Ollie and Mariam at actor@cuadc.org with any questions

stewarding



Getting involved in Cambridge theatre does not have to mean getting near the stage at all! Every show at the ADC Theatre and Corpus Playroom needs volunteer stewards. In return for checking tickets and showing people to their seats, you get to see the show for free (and sometimes a free ice cream).

To sign up for stewarding, head to **stewarding.adctheatre.com**. Remember to show up with plenty of time and find a replacement if you suddenly can't make it. For more information email the ADC Production Manager, **Ellie**, at **ellie@adctheatre.com**.



directing



If you have seen a play and enjoyed it, you might be interested in becoming a Director, where you work with actors and a production team to bring a creative vision to life. There are three Freshers' shows that will be looking for brand-new Directors and Assistant Directors, so make sure to sign up to an interview by contacting **Alistair** at **director@cuadc.org**.

Many Directors also start by working as an Assistant Director to an existing show. Visit **camdram.net** or go to the Cambridge Theatre Facebook group (**bit.ly/cam-theatre**) to see which shows are looking for an Assistant Director, and make an application! If you want to find out more, contact **Alistair** at **director@cuadc.org**.

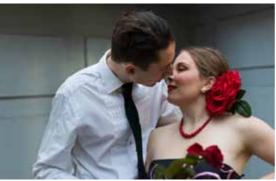
Get Involved

Sign up to the Directors' mailing list by emailing director@cuadc.org to find out what opportunities are available for Director and Assistant Director roles.

Turn up to the Introduction to Directing workshop on Saturday 26 October at 4pm, in Dressing Room 1 at the ADC Theatre

writing







If you've ever had an inkling to write for the stage, Cambridge's theatre scene is one of the best places to be.

If you already have a script written, you can apply to stage it at the ADC Theatre or Corpus Playroom. Check the **Put on Your Own Show** page (**p. 23**) for more details, or email the ADC Theatre Manager, **Jamie**, at

jamie@adctheatre.com if you have any questions.

If you have nothing written, but want to try, then there are many good opportunities to practice writing. You can try writing comedy sketches for the Cambridge Footlights: contact **Amelia** at **ah968@cam.ac.uk** for more information.

There are also short play contests like *Smorgasbord* at the Corpus Playroom, and the Festival of New Writing in Downing College. Check **camdram.net** or the Cambridge Theatre Facebook page

(**bit.ly/cam-theatre**) to find out how to apply.

producing

If you like the idea of leading a team of people to bring together a show, then you might be interested in becoming a Producer! Producers oversee the entire process of creating a show from its initial idea to its performance on-stage: recruiting a team, realising designers' ideas, co-ordinating a publicity campaign, and much more.

The Producers of all shows at the ADC Theatre and Corpus Playroom are guided through the process by the ADC Production Manager, **Ellie** (**ellie@adctheatre.com**), so you don't need experience to be a Producer, just enthusiasm!

If you have any questions at all about producing or how to get involved, you can contact the CUADC Producers' Rep, **Isobel**, at **producer@cuadc.org**

Wondering where all these great photos came from? Production photography is a huge part of theatre publicity.

To get involved, join the Cambridge Theatre Photographers Facebook group (bit.ly/cam-theatre-photo) or speak to Lucy (details opposite).



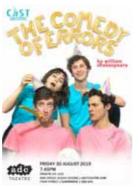
Get Involved

Sign up to the Producers' mailing list by emailing producer@cuadc.org to find out what opportunities are available.

Turn up to the **Introduction to Producing** workshop on **Saturday 26 October at 5pm**, in Dressing

Room 2 at the ADC Theatre

BY NICK PAYNE STANDARD Set 4 MM 2019 THE STO APRIL - Set 4 MM 2019 THE STORAGE SET 4 MM 2019











publicity

If you enjoy painting, drawing, or any visual art, you might want to become a Publicity Designer. Publicity Designers create the wonderful posters that advertise the shows coming up. If you've had no experience using image editing programs like Photoshop before, that's fine: the software is free to use at the ADC Theatre, and both the CUADC Publicist **Lucy**

(publicist@cuadc.org) and ADC Production Manager Ellie (ellie@adctheatre.com) will be happy to guide and help you.

If you don't think you have artistic ability but want to be a part of marketing a show, you can be a Publicist. These people work with the ADC Theatre to promote a show on social media and in the press. Contact Lucy or the ADC Theatre Manager, Jamie (jamie@adctheatre.com), if you have any questions.

Get Involved

Sign up to the Designers' list by emailing **publicist@cuadc.org** to find out what opportunities to be a Publicity Designer or Publicist are available.

Send any questions to **Lucy** at **publicist@cuadc.org**

set design



If you've ever been a dab hand at decorating at home, you might want to become a Set Designer!

The Set Designer is one of the most exciting and creative roles Cambridge theatre has to offer. Their role is to work with the Director and the Technical Director to turn a vision into a design. The sky really is the limit (even on a relatively low budget), with sets ranging from the stripped-back and surreal to the lavish and dynamic. There are many opportunities to get



involved with Set Design, from being the main designer to helping out with painting. If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact the CUADC Designers' Rep, **Emily**, at **designer@cuadc.org**.

Turn up to the Introduction to Set Design and Building workshop on Saturday 26 October at 2pm, in Dressing Room 2 of the ADC Theatre

costumes





If you're the kind of person who hunts for the perfect outfit from TK Maxx, then Costume Design is the field for you!

Costume is a key element of every show: it often anchors the show to its time period and ties the production together visually. There is a well-stocked costume cupboard run by the CUADC Designers' Rep Emily (designer@cuadc.org), and Costume Designers get costumes from here, local charity shops, and make their own.

To get involved with Costume Design, look for shows advertising on Camdram (www.camdram.net). Speak to Emily at

designer@cuadc.org if you have any questions.

Get Involved

Sign up to the Designers' mailing list by emailing Emily at **designer@cuadc.org** to find out about vacancies.

Join the Cambridge Theatre Designers' Facebook page at bit.ly/camtheatredesign

set building

Set Building is all about making the Set Designer's plans a reality, choosing your materials and using the tools and machines at the ADC Theatre to bring the world of a show to life!

The ADC Theatre has its own carpentry workshop where sets can be built. If you've never used a power tool before, don't worry: the ADC Technical Manager, **Eduardo**, is here to train you in their usage and give advice. Contact him at **eduardo@adctheatre.com**.

To become involved as a set builder, or to hear about upcoming vacancies for carpenter roles, contact the CUADC Technical Director, **Isabella**, at

td@cuadc.org.

Large-scale shows like the Pantomime will be looking for a team of builders to help build their exciting shows, so you can chip in and be a part of creating something wonderful! No prior experience in set building is necessary as you will be trained no the job. Contact Isabella at

td@cuadc.org for more information.



technical direction

If you're organised and enjoy the opportunity to bring together lots of different people to work on a project, then you might be keen on becoming a Technical Director.

The Technical Director ensures that all technical aspects of shows are safe, running the get-in (where the set, lighting and other technical aspects are set up) and get-out (where everything is taken down).

You will be guided throughout the process by the ADC Technical Manager, **Eduardo** (**eduardo@adctheatre.com**), so don't be worried if you haven't done anything like this before!

To get involved, contact the CUADC Technical Director, **Isabella**, at **td@cuadc.org**, to find out about upcoming vacancies where you can apply to be a Technical Director for a show.



Get Involved

Sign up to the technical mailing list by emailing **td@cuadc.org** to find out about technical opportunities.

Turn up to the Introduction to Set Design and Building workshop on Saturday 26 October at 2pm, in Dressing Room 2 of the ADC Theatre

lighting

Being the Lighting Designer for a show is a great opportunity to play with cool technology while also using some creative flair. They control the position of lights, as well as their angles and colours, to create incredible atmosphere and effect.

There are other roles that work together with the Lighting Designer to bring the show's lighting design to life, such as the **Chief Electrician (CLX)**, who helps to rig the lights and plug them in properly.

The best way to get involved with lighting at the ADC is to attend one of the get-ins for a show: this is the time on a Sunday morning where all the lights get rigged. Contact the CUADC Technicians' Rep, **Sam**, at

technician@cuadc.org for more information.

You can also contact Sam if you'd like to be added to the Technicians' mailing list, and find out which shows are looking for Lighting Designers and Chief Electricians.

If you have never seen a theatre light before, don't worry! The ADC Technical Manager, **Eduardo**, is here to teach you how it all works. Contact him at **eduardo@adctheatre.com** if you're keen to find out more.



Get Involved

Sign up to the Technicians' mailing list, by emailing **Sam** at **technican@cuadc.org**, to find out about lighting and sound team vacancies.

Turn up to the **Introduction to Lighting Design** workshop on **Saturday 2 November at 4pm** on the ADC Theatre Stage.

Or come along to the **Introduction to Sound Design** workshop on **Saturday 16 November at 4pm** on the ADC Theatre
Stage

sound

If you've got a keen ear for film soundtracks or other music, then you might be interested in becoming a Sound Designer.

Sound Designers choose and create all the sounds that are heard on stage, from soundscapes that can create atmosphere, to live music that underscores musicals.

Sound design encompasses a vast range of different skills, from the person who finds the perfect gunshot sound for a scene, to the people who fit microphones on singers. To get involved with Sound Design, contact the CUADC Technicians' Rep, **Sam**, at **technician@cuadc.org**, to find out which shows are looking for Sound Designers, and to attend the sound setup period for an upcoming show.

Have you never used a microphone before in your life? It doesn't matter! The ADC Technical Manager, **Eduardo**, is here to give you guidance. You can contact him at

eduardo@adctheatre.com



stage management



The **Stage Manager** is the glue that holds the show together. They find the props for the show, they make sure that the actors know where they are supposed to be on-stage, and they ensure that everything is done safely. Depending on the show, they even get to perform special effects like blankfiring guns or pyrotechnics.

The Stage Manager is accompanied by a **Deputy Stage Manager** (DSM), who sits at a desk off-stage and communicates with the lighting and sound designer. The DSM is responsible for ensuring that every lighting and sound moment in the show is perfectly timed.

All Stage Managers are trained by the ADC Production Manager, **Ellie**, who can be contacted at

ellie@adctheatre.com.

If you'd like to be involved with Stage Management, contact the CUADC Stage Managers' Rep, **Daisy**, at **daisy@cuadc.org**, to find out what opportunities are available.

Most shows are looking for **Assistant Stage Managers**, people who carry out effects on-stage (including flying set up and down). This is a great way to find out more about theatre: contact Daisy to find out which shows are looking for Assistant Stage Managers!

put on your own show!

The amazing thing about the ADC Theatre and Corpus Playroom is that anyone (and we really do mean anyone!) can apply to put on a show, as a Writer, Director or Producer. You don't need to be part of a society or club. You don't need to have ever done theatre before. You simply need to make an application and pitch your show.

Between **Thursday 17 October and Thursday 31 October**, applications will open to stage a show at either the ADC Theatre or Corpus Playroom in Spring term. To make an application, you simply need to visit

adctheatre.com/applications and fill out a form with your ideas for a show.

You will then be invited to give a fiveminute pitch in front of a panel of students and ADC Management. This is not supposed to be scary, just the best way to hear your ideas for your show!

If you are keen on applying and want more information, contact the ADC Theatre Manager, **Jamie**, at

jamie@adctheatre.com. He will also be hosting an event in the ADC Bar on **Wednesday 23 October** at 8pm where you can ask questions about applying!



Get Involved

Visit the ADC Theatre Bar on **Wednesday 23 October at 8pm** to find out more about how to apply with a show.

Applications will open at 11am on Thursday 17 October and close at 11am on Thursday 31 October.

To apply, visit adctheatre.com/applications and fill out an application form.

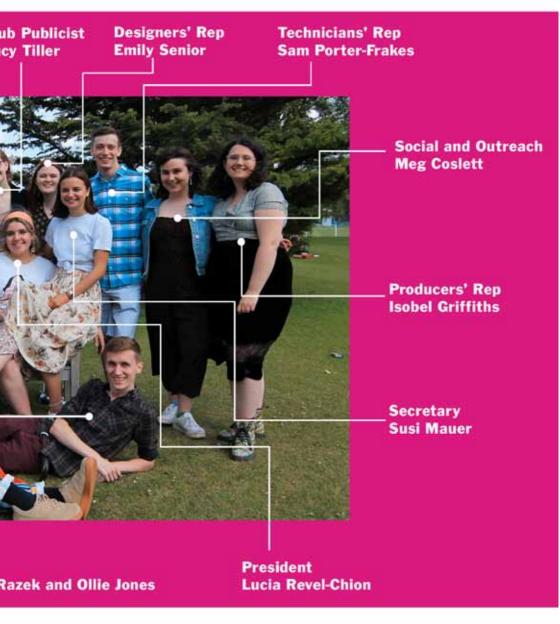
You will pitch to the panel on either **Saturday 2 or Sunday 3 October**, depending on your availability.

Contact the ADC Theatre Manager, **Jamie**, at **jamie@adctheatre.com**, if you have any questions or concerns!

CUADC committee



The CUADC committee is made up of 15 students elected by the other members of the Club. We support our productions and help people get involved in theatre in Cambridge. You can become a member yourself! For more information, visit cuadc.org or email **Tom** at **members@cuadc.org**



autumn events

Friday 11 October Applications open for Freshers' Shows

Applications to perform or be part of the team for the Freshers' plays will open online: visit Freshers' Friday that day for more details, or contact

president@cuadc.org for
details on how to apply.

Friday 11 October ADC Theatre, 4pm-7pm Freshers' Friday

Come to the ADC Theatre for tours backstage and the chance to ask any questions to members of Cambridge's main drama and comedy societies!

Tuesday 15 October ADC Theatre Bar, 8pm-10pm LGBTQ+ Social

Socialise with other LGBTQ+ theatre-makers in the ADC Bar.

Wednesday 16 October ADC Theatre Bar, 7pm Theatre Trip Social (with other trips on future Wednesdays in term)

Join other students to watch the play *The Deep Blue Sea* at the ADC Theatre. Each Wednesday there will be a group trip to see the show on at the ADC that week!

Thursday 17 October ADC Theatre Bar, 8pm-10pm Female/NB Technicians' Social

Come and meet the CUADC committee and say hello to other members of this great community.

Friday 18 October, 12pm Applications Close for Freshers' Shows

Make sure to sign up to be a part before then! contact president@cuadc.org for more details



Wednesday 16 to Friday 18
October
ADC Theatre
Auditions for Freshers' Shows
If you have signed up to
perform in the Freshers'
shows, you will get a slot
to audition on one of these
dates.

Saturday 19 and Sunday 20
October
ADC Theatre
Interviews for Freshers' Shows
If you have signed up to Direct, Produce, Design or be a
technician in the
Freshers' shows, you will get
a slot for a short interview on
one of these dates.

Tuesday 22 October ADC Theatre Bar, 8pm-10pm BAME Social

Open to all BAME students interested in getting involved with the theatre scene this year.

Wednesday 23 October
ADC Theatre Bar, 8pm
How to apply with a show
An opportunity to find out
how to apply to put on a show
in Spring 2020

Saturday 26 October
ADC Theatre Dressing Room
2, 2pm
Introduction to Set Design
and Building
An opportunity to learn how

Saturday 26 October ADC Theatre Stage, 4pm Introduction to Lighting and Sound Design

you can design and build set!

A hands-on opportunity to find out how lighting and sound work at the theatre!

Saturday 26 October
ADC Theatre Dressing Room
2, 4pm
Introduction to Directing
An opportunity to find out
more about what directing a
show involves.

Saturday 26 October
ADC Theatre Dressing Room
2, 5pm
Introduction to Producing
An opportunity to find out
how you can become a
Producer for a show



adc management

The ADC Theatre and Corpus Playroom are run by a management team of four full-time staff. They are all former students who were involved in theatre, and are here to help you as much as possible, so make sure to contact them by email, or drop by their office at the ADC Theatre and say hi!



theatre manager

Jamie Rycroft jamie@adctheatre.com

As a student, Jamie was involved in Cambridge Theatre as a Producer, Writer and Sound Designer. He's responsible for programming each season at the ADC Theatre and Corpus Playroom, for running the Theatre's publicity campaigns, and for long-term planning. Feel free to chat to him about your ideas for putting on a show!



operations manager

Luke Dell luke@adctheatre.com

As a student, Luke was involved in Cambridge Theatre as an Actor, Producer and Director. He is responsible for managing the ADC bar, for Front of House operations, and for the Theatre's day-to-day finances. Let him know your cocktail ideas, or if you have a question about funding a show!



production manager

Ellie Mitchell ellie@adctheatre.com

As a student, Ellie was involved in Cambridge Theatre as a Producer, Stage Manager and Set Designer. She is responsible for guiding teams through the production process and is your first point of contact for all things show related!



technical manager

Eduardo Strike eduardo@adctheatre.com

As a student, Eduardo was involved in Cambridge Theatre as a Lighting Designer, Chief Electrician and Actor. He is responsible for providing technical training and support to all our productions, so don't hesitate to get in touch with questions about any aspect of technical theatre!

beyond the adc

Unbelievable as it might sound, the ADC Theatre is just one venue, and there are even more opportunities to get involved with Theatre than the ones listed in this booklet!

We've listed some societies that you might be interested in contacting. To get contact details for any society, contact the ADC Production Manager, **Ellie**, at **ellie@adctheatre.com**

University-wide societies

Cambridge Footlights for stand-up and sketch comedy

Cambridge Impronauts for lovers of improvised theatre

Cambridge University Musical Theatre Society (CUMTS) for musical theatre.

Meet them at the ADC Bar on Friday 11 October, 4pm-6pm!

The Marlowe Society, staging verse drama, both ancient and modern
Cambridge University Opera Society for

lovers of all things operatic

Eggbox Comedy, who fund comedy projects in Cambridge and beyond Old Vag Club, providing alternative theatre

Relaxed Theatre Company, creating accessible theatre

...and many more!

Outside of Cambridge

in alternative locations

Cambridge American Stage Tour (CAST), to venues across the USA

European Theatre Group (ETG), taking Shakespeare around Europe

Rickshaw, educational theatre workshops for children in India

University of Cambridge Asia Theatre Tour (UCATT), taking a classic to Asia

...and some new ones on the way!

College Societies

CADS (Christ's)

GODS (Churchill)

Fletcher Players (Corpus Christi)

DDS (Downing)

REDS (Emmanuel)

GADS (Girton)

The Arden Players (Murray Edwards)

Pembroke Players (Pembroke)

BATS (Queens')

Brickhouse (Robinson)

The Mighty Players (Selwyn)

The Dryden Society (Trinity)

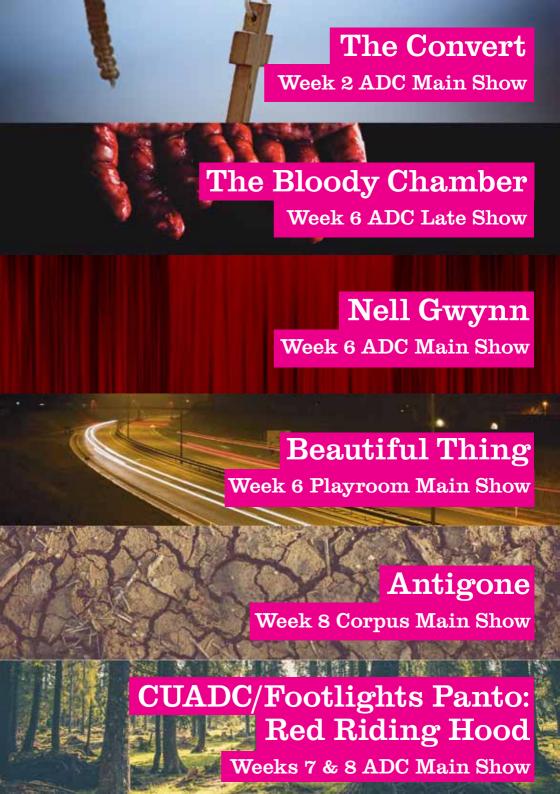
Cue.5 (Anglia Ruskin)

...and more at nearly every college

Beyond the theatre

Cam FM, a student-run radio station Cambridge Film Association (CFA), making and distributing films around the university









Amateur Dramatic Club