

**Uploading Portfolio Work
&
Supporting Text**
**Guidelines for applications to:
BDes Sound for the Moving Image**

3 stages

- ▶ Stage 1: UCAS Application: Deadline 15th January
- ▶ Stage 2: Portfolio submission on GSA Website <http://application.gsa.ac.uk/> :
Deadline 22nd January
- ▶ Stage 3: Interview: February.

Stage 1: UCAS Application

- ▶ Here we will evaluate if you meet the requirements for Year 3 entry
 - ▶ A completed or pending HND in Sound Production or similar
 - ▶ For mature students, relevant work experience or preceding degrees

Stage 2: GSA Portfolio Website

Stage 2: GSA Portfolio Website - Why images?

- ▶ The GSA application website asks for images as it is a shared site for all programmes - many of which use images for portfolio assessment - however we are only assessing your audiovisual work, provided by your links.
- ▶ The GSA cross-discipline portfolio website is designed for heads of schools of design, fine art and architecture to assess images of artworks, sketchbooks - documentations of visual processes.
- ▶ Unfortunately this system must be used for all courses, so you are also required to upload 15 images to complete this form - however, for MDes Sound for Moving Image we need to assess 5 examples of your **audio** or **audiovisual work**. So we have devised a workaround.
- ▶ You can upload blank white squares or images of to show us elements of your practice - where you record, instruments you play, artists you are inspired by... etc.
- ▶ .

Stage 2: GSA Portfolio Website - Upload instructions

- ▶ Step 1 *Choosing your Specialism*
- ▶ Firstly choose your 5 examples in advance, and use the 500 word dialogue box provided in the first stage, *Choosing your specialism*, to tell us about the ideas and inspiration behind your selected works and what attracts you to the course. Please place your weblinks that will lead us directly to each of your sounds or films (via Youtube, Soundcloud, Vimeo or similar). On the audio/audiovisual site there also should be a title for the work in the following format:
 - ▶ Your Name (+ a collaborator if there was) "Title of work" (Date completed) [medium e.g. song, film, stop motion animation, soundscape, music, installation, live performance using...]
- ▶ Alternatively you can provide a weblink that leads us to all 5 examples, via one these platforms (there is no preference): a WeTransfer link; a dedicated Youtube, Soundcloud or Vimeo page (with only these 5 examples); You can even send a link to a website you have created which hosts only these 5 examples of your work.
- ▶ Step 2 *Upload your images page*
- ▶ Then, on the *Upload your images* page, we suggest that you use blank white squares or show us elements of your practice - where you record, instruments you play, artists you are inspired by... etc. places you like recording in photographs from gigs or performances you have enjoyed (or played in yourself!) Stills from videos or films you have worked on influences or inspiration - bands, producers, sound designers, composers, museums, artworks, album covers etc. documentation of artworks you have installed in a gallery

Stage 2: GSA Portfolio Website - Recommended portfolio materials.

- ▶ We appreciate that you are a diverse cohort with varying backgrounds. Therefore we recommend you submit either:
- ▶ songs (you have written, produced or recorded)
- ▶ music (that you have produced or recorded - either with live or synthesised instruments)
- ▶ narrative or abstract films or animations that you have produced yourself with/without accompanying sound design or musical score
- ▶ narrative or abstract films or animations produced by another artist (please make this clear in the title) for which you have produced the sound design or musical score
- ▶ soundscapes (that you have recorded and edited)
- ▶ experimental sound/music pieces
- ▶ field recordings (that you have taken yourself)
- ▶ graphic scores (produced by yourself or another artist) with the accompanying music or sound

Supporting Files

- ▶ Each one of the 5 work presented should ideally contain examples of different work
- ▶ Before you finally submit your application, check each link or URL to ensure you are happy with the work hosted at this link. This will be what admissions staff reviewing your application will be presented with.

How is my application assessed?

► Stage 1:

Admissions staff from the programme you have applied to will review the audio/ audio-visual works you have uploaded and read your Supporting Text and UCAS Personal Statement.

The criteria on the following pages is used to assess your application.

Assessment Criteria

- ▶ Ability to apply practical skills.
- ▶ Ability to apply analytical and conceptual skills.
- ▶ Ability to communicate about your work and to put it into context.
- ▶ Ability to demonstrate an interest in one or more of the following skills:
 - ▶ Sound Production
 - ▶ Music Production and Composition
 - ▶ Sound for Film & Broadcast
 - ▶ Game Sound
 - ▶ Sonic Arts

Ability to apply practical skills

- ▶ We want to see your practical skills and how you explore and use different time-based media such as sound, music, video and games.
- ▶ This should be evidenced by submitting examples of your work in the form of 5 web links to audio or audio-visual work. These links should be placed in your GSA Portfolio website statement.
- ▶ Examples of work appropriate for your portfolio include sound and music recordings you have made, music you have produced or composed, films you have shot and edited, films by third parties for which you have created sound and/or music, sound design for games, interactive audio-visual work (such as MaxMSP patches or Pure Data patches), music scores, field sound recordings, documentation of exhibitions or live events.

Ability to apply analytical and conceptual skills

- ▶ We are interested in the concepts and ideas behind your work how and how they progress and develop; from the initial starting point / source of inspiration through to a finished piece of work.
- ▶ This should be evidenced by submitting short supporting statements of a few sentences for each example of your work. In the supporting statement you should outline your concept for each piece of work and you should describe what creative decisions you made in order to realise this concept.

Ability to demonstrate an interest in

(Sound Production, Music Production, Music Composition, Sound Design for Film, Sound for Games, Interactive audio-visual work, Sound Art)

- ▶ We are interested in finding out more about you and the sound designers, film-makers, music producers, musicians, sound artists that you are inspired by. We are also interested in finding out what films, games, TV programmes and art installations you have been particularly impressed by in terms of how they use music and sound. We want to know what or who has motivated or inspired you to apply for this course. You should include your reasons for applying to Glasgow School of Art and information on what you hope to gain by studying the programme.
- ▶ You should use the **Supporting Text** and your **UCAS personal statement** to address the areas above.

Stage 3: Interview

- ▶ Applicants selected for interview will be asked to discuss their portfolio of work at the interview. This should normally include the work submitted via upload and any additional work completed in the intervening time period.
- ▶ The portfolio interview is a two-way process: for you to gain a better understanding of the GSA and your chosen programme and for GSA staff to review your portfolio and ask you questions about your work and your interest in the course of study.
- ▶ The portfolio interview will normally last about 20 minutes and will be conducted by 2 members of staff.
- ▶ Applicants from outside the UK will be offered a telephone /Skype interview and may be asked to supply additional work in lieu or a portfolio.