

VOCALS PART-TIME (LI-LIV)

Course Name	Vocals (LI – LIV)
Location	Institute of Contemporary Music Performance, London
Start Dates	January, April, July, October
Duration	10 weeks part-time
Class size	Typically no more than 12 students per class
Timing	2 hours/week, weekday evenings
Course Fees	See website for details
Entry Requirements	No assessment/audition is required. Following discussion with staff, students are allocated to one of four levels of class

THE PROGRAMME

Learning to sing is a creative, rewarding and relaxing way to spend some spare time. And while it may sometimes seem like a daunting task, our structured yet informal classes will soon have you singing confidently and in-tune! Our professional teaching faculty has been teaching singers and vocalists for twenty five years so we do know what we are talking about!

On an Institute course, even if you are an absolute beginner, before you know it you'll be singing confidently in a range of styles. Class sizes are generally quite small so you can be assured of lots of attention, and of course you will be learning with like-minded people who share the same goals as you. And if you are already an experienced singer and performer, then choosing a more advanced course will help you brush up those vocal skills and develop your repertoire.

The vocal part-time pathway (levels I to IV) is a fun, engaging and relaxing way to learn to sing and perform on stage and build your confidence whilst experiencing the Institute's great teaching and facilities. These structured courses only take a couple of hours per week, and so long as you put in a little of your own practice, you will be amazed at the progress you can make in a short time.

Each level contains a perfect balance between technique, theory and the building of practical skills, all delivered in a supportive and encouraging environment. Simply put, this is the most enjoyable way either to learn from scratch or to take your singing to the next level. Contact us now to book your place!

COURSE OUTLINES:

VOCALS I

If you have no experience of singing (other than in the bath!) then this is the course for you! You will be introduced to the basic techniques that are required to maintain vocal health and improve your singing skills, such as posture and support, simple relaxation exercises, basic vowel sounds and correct articulation.

The focus of the class is always on the practical, so you will build up skills by singing real songs and repertoire by artists you will know. You will spend lots of time singing within the class environment, enabling you to build confidence both as a group and individually.

Finally, in week ten of the course we provide an Institute 'House Band' so that everyone can get their first taste of singing in front of a real band, all within an encouraging and supportive environment!

- **Introduction to relaxation and breathing techniques**
- **Identifying the correct posture and support**
- **Basic warm-up routines to help understand the voice**
- **Basic microphone technique and stage technique**
- **Sing and perform a repertoire supporting the techniques covered on the course**

VOCALS II

Have you a basic understanding of warm ups and control, can sing a limited repertoire, but maybe lack confidence to go beyond that? On this course you will build more confidence and start to understand some basic music theory, whilst further working on your vocal technique, improving posture and control, aural skills and the basics of singing in harmony.

The course is built around fun and engaging musical examples, so you acquire the skills through learning to sing a wide range of material.

Again, one unit of the course is an LPW (Live Performance Workshop), where we provide a student backing band for the class to workshop a song and have the opportunity to apply some of the material studied!

- **Relaxation and breathing techniques**
- **Developing warm-up routines - improving tone placement and support, dynamic control, pitching and articulation**
- **Introduction to aural skills**
- **Introduction to ensemble singing**
- **Developing microphone technique and stage technique**
- **Sing and perform a repertoire supporting the techniques covered on the course**

VOCALS III

Do you have a good grasp of the fundamental vocal techniques but feel that your knowledge and repertoire need developing? Vocals III is designed to take the solid fundamental skills learnt in the previous levels and further develop your confidence, skill and knowledge.

You will study more complex vocal techniques, warm-ups, exercises and ensemble pieces, which are all again supported by real musical examples making the classes fun and rewarding.

As in the other courses, one week will be an informal Live Performance Workshop with an Institute house band, but in addition we introduce two specialist style units into the course. This gives you the opportunity to start investigating a musical genre in greater depth, and learning about the specific techniques and delivery associated with some of the most common genres of popular music.

- **Dynamic relaxation and breathing techniques**
- **Intermediate warm-up and practice routines focusing on vocal registers, tone placement, pitching, intonation and articulation, dynamic control and support**
- **Ensemble singing – understand the importance of blending the group voice and the role of the backing singer**
- **Further developing the singers aural skills**
- **Developing microphone and stage technique – Building confidence and dealing with stage fright**
- **Stylistic classes on ‘Pop’ and ‘Rock’.**
- **Sing and perform a repertoire supporting the techniques covered on the course**

VOCALS IV

This course is for the intermediate vocalist who can sing with confidence, but is maybe lacking in technical knowledge. It is designed to continue to build solid technical skills, develop some music theory and continue to build vocal strength and stamina.

Your studies will include more advanced warm ups, including lips and jaw, gaining further control of the voice and its placement. Again, all topics are supported by real musical examples making the classes fun and rewarding.

As in the other courses, one week will be an informal Live Performance Workshop with an Institute house band. In this course you will also spend one unit investigating a specific style and another on creative song writing, looking at how to write melodies and create memorable backing vocal arrangements.

- **Develop more advanced warm-up and practice routines**
- **Explore more advanced vocal technique such as flexibility (licks, runs and trills) and further develop minor and major scale exercises**
- **Stage techniques – Exploring expression and interpretation of lyrics and songs**
- **Ensemble singing - Explore the role of the backing vocalist – blend, timing, pitch and intonation**
- **Maintaining vocal health**
- **Further develop aural skills**
- **Specialist classes on ‘Soul’ and ‘Creative Songwriting’.**
- **Sing and perform a repertoire supporting the techniques covered on the course**