THE
HOI POLLOI ACADEMY

PROSPECTUS
2016/17
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Introduction

Ever since its inception in 2004 HOI POLLOI has been working at being a platform where budding artists can be given the chance to develop and express their talent by working with theatre veterans and by performing to live audiences.

Inspired by the musical, 'Billy Elliot', HOI POLLOI believes that there is a lot of talent out there, sometimes in unlikely places, waiting to be discovered and nurtured. Just as Billy; the son of a widowed UK coal miner in 1985, had the potential to become an excellent ballet dancer, so do many undiscovered artists have the potential to make it in the theatre scene both locally and abroad.

HOI POLLOI wants to live up to its name and aims to:

- **to develop the potential of individuals, no matter what age or experience, to express themselves through the performing arts.**

- **to encourage self-esteem, friendship and team work amongst other life skills through performing arts education and the production of high quality entertainment**

- **to contribute to the cultural demands and needs of our society.**

In order to further achieve the goals mentioned above, the HOI POLLOI ACADEMY (HPA) was officially established in August 2013.
Principal’s Biography

MARCO CALLEJA B.Sc (Hons.) PGCE, ATCL

has been involved in the local theatre scene for a number of years as an actor, director, singer and dancer. He took part in various plays, ballets, pantomimes and musicals including; VOICES XTRAORDINAIRE; the musicals 1565, JEKYLL AND HYDE and FIDDLER ON THE ROOF; the plays CEDA L-IMBATT, TWELFTH NIGHT, ROMEO AND JULIET and CITTADIN VASSALLI; the ballets CINDERELLA and LA SYLPHIDE; and various pantomimes including JACK AND THE BEANSTALK (Masquerade), PINOCCHIO and ROBIN HOOD (FM Theatre Productions) and co-directed THE WIZARD OF OZ for the MADC, staged at the MFCC in 2012. Marco was also the Artistic Director for the MADC between 2011 and 2012. He was also involved in various television productions both in front of the camera and behind. Film credits include; IT-TMIEN NOTA, SANTA MONIKA, KLINIKA and recently playing the role of Bazzati on DEHEB IL-KARTA to be aired this October on TVM. He was also the executive producer for IL-KLIKKA Season 3.

In 2004 Marco set up his own theatre company – Hoi Pollooi Theatre Productions- for which he directed and produced SINDI RELLA, TARZAN & GEJNI, THIS THING CALLED LOVE and the musical JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT staged at the MCC in 2011. When not on stage, Marco is busy either teaching academics in primary school, Biology to older students or drama at the HOI POLLOI ACADEMY which he set up in 2013.

Marco is also a science graduate having obtained a B.Sc (Hons.) from the University of Malta in 2008. Following his first degree, Marco read for a Postgraduate Certificate in Education in 2009. Whilst pursuing his academic education, Marco also worked on his vocational training after hours, having been awarded his Intermediate Certificate in both Cecchetti Ballet and Modern Theatre Dance from the ISTD in 2011, his Grade 8 in Musical Theatre (Trinity College, London) and his Associate of Trinity College London Diploma (ATCL) in Speech and Drama in 2015.

Starting this October, Marco will be bringing together the sciences and the arts, the academic and vocational in a whole new venture – him following a full-time Masters in Arts Degree in Advanced Theatre Practice at the prestigious Royal Central School of Speech and Drama in London.
School Ethos

The key principles the HPA believes in are; people, relationships, skills and education, and these are at the centre of all its work.

Through the performing arts, which the school believes to be BOTH a MEANS and an END, the school works hard:

- *to develop life skills (self-confidence, public speaking, teamwork amongst others) in students of all ages.*

- *to provide an alternative way to traditional education*

- *to provide high quality training in the performing arts, opening doors for students to reach the standard required to pursue further education and eventually a career in the arts.*

Our priory is to create a safe, caring environment in which all students are respected and respect others whilst feel comfortable sharing their ideas and listening to those of others. Our expectations of behaviour are high and our code of conduct binds us as a whole school community.

School’s Code of Conduct

**BEHAVIOUR**

The priority of the HPA is to create a safe, caring environment where students can freely express themselves. This can be achieved through cooperation between students, parents and teachers.

At the HPA we focus on BOTH rights AND responsibilities. Students are respected and are expected to respect others. We want students to feel comfortable sharing their ideas however they must also learn to listen to those of others. During lessons and rehearsals, all participants need to abide by the rules established in order for the session to be BOTH productive and FUN.

Bullying – physical and psychological, verbal and non-verbal - is totally unaccepted and the school has a zero-tolerance policy towards bullying.
**PUNCTUALITY AND ABSENCE**

Since we value the importance of a good theatre arts education, all lessons are carefully planned and discussed by tutors. We wish to ensure that our objectives are reached and that students are making the most out of their session. It is for this reason that the HPA emphasises the importance of **regular attendance** and **punctuality**. Team work is crucial in theatre education and every team member is crucial for the success of the work being done - absenteeism hinders this. All tutors should be notified in advance if a student is sick and unable to attend the lesson.

**UNIFORM**

Students are required to wear the school uniform to all classes and events held by the HPA unless otherwise stated. The uniform consists of;

- a personalised HOI POLLOI ACADEMY t-shirt.
- The HOI POLLOI ACADEMY black jazz pants
- Black socks OR Jazz shoes OR Jazz sneakers.

Long hair should be neatly pulled back. Uniforms, t-shirts and jazz pants, can be ordered from the HPA.
CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Students will require the following:

- for all classes:
  - A flat file – to place all their lyrics, notes and other papers in,
  - A pencil to take notes with.

- for acting classes:
  - A copybook to keep as drama journal (students are expected to jot down any notes, instructions, and their own personal opinions about the lesson in order for them to take ownership of their learning),
  - A Bone Prop – for voice-work during acting classes. This can be purchased from http://www.themorrisonboneprop.com/

- for singing classes:
  - A small mirror.

HEALTHY EATING POLICY

As a performing arts school we believe that a healthy lifestyle is important for everyone however it is ‘imperative’ for every performer, hence our healthy eating policy. No unhealthy snacks and drinks will be allowed in the building. Students should opt for healthy snacks, such as fruit, and water or sports drinks.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE SCHOOL

The internet has become an efficient and very fast means of communication. For this reason, most correspondence, including circulars and request for payments, are sent via email. Kindly ensure that you have provided the HPA with a working email and please do go through the information sent, in order to stay updated with upcoming events and deadlines.

A Facebook group has also been introduced for parents, teachers and students to stay in touch. Both parents and students (those who are of age to have a Facebook profile) can request to be added to the group using the following link https://www.facebook.com/groups/hoipolloiacademy.

Kindly avoid using Facebook for urgent and important matters – emails and phone calls are best.
EXAMINATIONS AND PERFORMANCES

The HPA values performance and examinations **equally**.

- Examinations are there to give the student an idea of where his/her capabilities lie.
- Performances are there for students to share the work they have done and inspire their respective audience whilst gaining confidence and experience.

For the HPA one doesn't go without the other and the school will not allow students to sit for an exam without performing to a selected audience. The skills gained during the rehearsal period and the actual performances are priceless and are part of the education of every student at the HPA.

*It is useless being able to perform in front of an examiner and not being able to handle an audience and in the same way if one can handle an audience one should be able to handle an experienced examiner and gain the qualification he or she deserves.*

The HPA prepares students for TRINITY GUILDHALL EXAMINATIONS as follows:
- Group Examinations, which are held in MAY
- Individual Examinations, which are held in APRIL or MAY.

For more information, visit [http://www.trinitycollege.com](http://www.trinitycollege.com).

*The Yellow Class before their Young Performers' Certificate Exam - May 2016*

*The Blue Class in 'Power to the Children' - End of Year Performance 2015*
COURSES

The HPA values performing arts education as this is crucial in developing life-skills in all individuals. For this reason, the school has a number of courses tailor-made for all individuals even as young as three years old. Each course keeps in mind the person’s age, attention-span and life-experience in order to ensure the best outcome.

Students at the HPA can opt for either:

- **GROUP LESSONS** whereby they train with other individuals of similar age and capabilities and work on Group Performance and the skills that go with it. Lessons in groups are available for children as young as 3 and these allow performers to interact with other individuals of the same age and capabilities. This allows performers to develop skills such as devising in groups, improvisation and acting and reacting to other individuals leading to the creation of scene and ensemble work.

OR

- **INDIVIDUAL TUITION** where students have intensive one-to-one lessons with their respective tutors in preparation for performances and graded examinations by foreign boards. These qualifications are recognised* by most academic institutions in Malta and worldwide.

> *It is important to confirm recognition with the academic institution itself prior to registration as different institutions work differently.*
COURSES 2016/17

Group Classes

Teachers: Alison Bird, Tezara Camilleri, Nadia Vella, Analise Cassar, Marco Calleja et al.

Age: suitable for children aged 3 to 7.

Description:

YOUNG PERFORMERS classes are aimed for students aged of 3 to 7. These classes amalgamate ACTING|SINGING|MUSIC|MOVEMENT in a holistic, fun way in order to:

- Inspire children using music and song and empower them to express feelings and stories through acting.
- Introduce children to the various concepts of music including: rhythm, instruments, musical notes and note values,
- Relate the concepts of music to song and movement,
- Introduce children to a repertoire of music suitable for their age,

The programme spans over 4 years (4 levels) aiming at giving the children a taste of what each discipline entails. Through these classes young performers will gain a good strong basis in acting, singing, creative movement and music in order to undertake more hours of training as they grow older and their attention span increases.

Various resources are used during the lesson including; instruments, handouts, art, costumes, puppets to teach children how to express themselves in various ways.

Assessment: Group End-of-Year Performance AND Group Exam at Levels 2, 3 and 4.
**GROUP ACTING**

**Teacher:** Coryse Borg, Marco Calleja et al.
**Age:** suitable for children aged 8+
**Description:**

The Group Acting classes focus on developing the actor’s ability to work and interact with other actors in the space. Each hour-long class starts with a physical and vocal warm-up in order to increase flexibility in movement and to ensure students make full use of their voices. Class then move onto voice work, text work, movement and improvisation, staging and theatre studies including classical, romantic and contemporary work.

**Assessment:** Group End-of-Year Performance AND Group Exam.

*The Purple Class in 'The Witches of Macbeth' an adaptation of William Shakespeare's Macbeth - End of Year 2016*

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**CHORAL SINGING**

**Teacher:** Nadia Vella et al.
**Age:** suitable for children aged 8+
**Description:**

These hour-long classes aim to train students in the art of group singing. Each CHORAL SINGING class commences with a vocal warm-up and vocal exercises to strengthen students’ voices and pitch. Students are also trained to work together and sing in harmony. They will also learn the basic concepts of music including; rhythm, note and note values, time signature and key signature, in order to help them in their singing. A repertoire of songs is taught to the children throughout the year. Performances are also organised to share the work covered, enhance performance skills and boost confidence.

**Assessment:** Group Performances

*The Purple Class performing 'For Good' from the musical WICKED - End of Year 2016.*
**Musical Theatre 8+**

**Teachers:** Various.
**Age:** suitable for children aged 8+
**Description:**

Musical Theatre is one of the most loved genres of theatre whereby performers are required to be triple-threats, meaning that they are able to act, sing and dance. Students in this course are trained in acting, singing and modern dance for a minimum of two and a half hours on a weekly basis. Students will cover all the syllabus of their acting and singing classes together with the ISTD Modern Dance syllabus. A repertoire of songs and musical numbers is taught to the children throughout the year.

**Assessment:** Group End-of-Year Performance **AND** Group Exam.

*The Blue Class in 'Power to the Children'
End of Year Performance 2015*
COURSES 2016/17

Individual Classes

- **INDIVIDUAL ACTING**

Students can opt for Individual Tuition in Acting where they will cover; voice work, movement and improvisation, staging and theatre studies including classical, romantic and contemporary work.

Individual tuition can lead to a Trinity Guildhall Examination should the student wish to be assessed or can be used in preparation for an audition or performance students will be taking part in even outside of the HPA.

Individual Tuition in Acting requires the student to attend:

- 30 minute or 45 minute classes in INDIVIDUAL ACTING, offered by the HPA.
- A minimum of 20 sessions are required for a student to be fully prepared to sit an Individual Acting Examination.

- **INDIVIDUAL SINGING**

Students can opt for Individual Tuition in Singing where they will work on their singing technique, breathing, develop style and individuality amongst others.

Individual tuition can lead to a Trinity Rock and Pop Examination should the student wish to be assessed or can be used in preparation for an audition or performance students will be taking part in even outside of the HPA.

Individual Tuition in Singing requires the student to attend:

- 30 minute classes in INDIVIDUAL SINGING, offered by the HPA.
- A minimum of 20 sessions are required for a student to be fully prepared to sit an Individual Singing Examination.
- **MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO**

Students can opt for Individual Tuition in Musical Theatre where they are expected to be able to act, sing and dance in equal measures. Individual tuition can lead to a Trinity Guildhall Examination should the student wish to be assessed or can be used in preparation for an audition or performance to students will be taking part in even outside of the HPA.

Individual Tuition in Musical Theatre requires the student to attend:

- Classes in **INDIVIDUAL ACTING**,  
- Classes in **INDIVIDUAL SINGING**,  
- **After Grade 3** - students are required to **at least** join a GROUP MODERN JAZZ class in order to gain the skills required for the Dance Component of the Examination **together with** a few sessions of choreography in order to prepare the exam pieces.  
- A **minimum of 40 sessions altogether are required for a student to be fully prepared to sit a MUSICAL THEATRE (SOLO) Examination.**
## FEES 2016/17

### GROUP CLASSES

#### JUNIOR YEARS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>DURATION</th>
<th>PRICE*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YOUNG PERFORMERS - LEVEL 1</td>
<td>3 to 4 yrs</td>
<td>45 minutes</td>
<td>EUR 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOUNG PERFORMERS - LEVEL 2</td>
<td>4 to 5 yrs</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>EUR 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOUNG PERFORMERS - LEVEL 3</td>
<td>5 to 6 yrs</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>EUR 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOUNG PERFORMERS - LEVEL 4</td>
<td>6 to 7 yrs</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>EUR 90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### MIDDLE YEARS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>DURATION</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LIGHT BLUE CLASS - CHORAL SINGING</td>
<td>7 to 9 yrs</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>EUR 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIGHT BLUE CLASS - GROUP ACTING</td>
<td>7 to 9 yrs</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>EUR 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLUE CLASS - CHORAL SINGING</td>
<td>10 to 12 yrs</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>EUR 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLUE CLASS - GROUP ACTING</td>
<td>10 to 12 yrs</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>EUR 75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SENIOR YEARS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>DURATION</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PURPLE CLASS - GROUP ACTING</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>EUR 75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Prices are per term.

### INDIVIDUAL TUITION

#### INDIVIDUAL ACTING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PACKAGES</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INDIVIDUAL ACTING PACKAGE 1</td>
<td>EUR 130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDIVIDUAL ACTING PACKAGE 2</td>
<td>EUR 170</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### INDIVIDUAL SINGING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PACKAGES</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INDIVIDUAL SINGING</td>
<td>EUR 130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO

*For Musical Theatre, students need to register for Individual Tuition in both Acting and Singing.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PACKAGES</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO</td>
<td>EUR 260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO</td>
<td>EUR 250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**DISCOUNTS 2016/17**

### YOUNG PERFORMER DISCOUNTS

In order to promote MUSICAL THEATRE i.e. Acting, Singing and Modern Jazz, the HPA will offer students in any of the YOUNG PERFORMERS’ classes during the scholastic year 2016/17, a 10% discount when attending an additional dance class with a dance institution recognized by the HPA.

### SIBLING DISCOUNTS

In order to make the performing arts more accessible we will be offering discounted rates to siblings who attend GROUP LESSONS at the HPA for the scholastic year 2016/17 as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sibling</th>
<th>Fee Due</th>
<th>Discount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sibling 1</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sibling 2</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sibling 3</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sibling 4 and after</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) Sibling discounts are applicable on GROUP CLASSES provided by the HPA ONLY.
2) Sibling discounts are NOT applicable on MUSICAL THEATRE courses as these are already discounted.
### YEAR PLANNER 2016/17

**TERM 1**  
*From September 12th till December 17th*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 12th till 14th</td>
<td>Induction – Parent Meetings (times to be confirmed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 12th</td>
<td>Young Performers’ Classes start</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 19th</td>
<td>Group Acting and Choral Singing Classes start.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 21st</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>NO CLASSES WILL BE HELD</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 3rd</td>
<td>Individual Classes start</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 31st till November 4th</td>
<td><strong>NO CLASSES WILL BE HELD</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 1st</td>
<td>Deadline for Individual Exams – MARCH 2017 Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 8th</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>NO CLASSES WILL BE HELD</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 13th</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>NO CLASSES WILL BE HELD</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 19th till January 8th</td>
<td>CHRISTMAS RECESS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TERM 2**  
*From January 9th till April 8th*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 9th</td>
<td>Classes Resume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 1st</td>
<td>Deadline for Group and Individual Exams – MAY 2017 Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 10th</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>NO CLASSES WILL BE HELD</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 27th till March 3rd</td>
<td>Mid Term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>NO CLASSES WILL BE HELD</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARCH 2017</td>
<td>Dates to be confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRINITY GUILDHALL EXAM SESSION INDIVIDUALS only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31st</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>NO CLASSES WILL BE HELD</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 10th till April 23rd</td>
<td>EASTER RECESS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TERM 3**  
*From April 24th till June 3rd*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 24th</td>
<td>Lessons Resume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY 2017</td>
<td>Dates to be confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRINITY GUILDHALL EXAM SESSION GROUP EXAM &amp; INDIVIDUALS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 29th to June 2nd</td>
<td>Production Week for the End of Year Performance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 3rd</td>
<td>END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SCHOLASTIC YEAR ENDS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONTACT US

Office
Address:
Hoi Polloi Academy
c/o Romero Court Flat 3,
Archbishop Romero Street,
Saint Julian's

Mobile Number: 00356 99152535
Email: info@hoipolloimalta.com

Schools

THE BOX, MOSTA
Address:
The Box – a creative arts space
Blue Buildings
Znuber Street,
Mosta

By bus
Buses 31, 41, 42, 45, 48, 103, 186, 203,
238 and 280 pass nearby.

By car
The Box is situated on the outskirts of Mosta making it very accessible to those travelling by
car. The two bypasses from; the Rabat/Zebbug/Attard area and the other from the San Gwann
area both lead directly to The Box avoiding Mosta centre.

THE LODGE, QORMI
Address:
The Lodge
Saint Bartholomew Street,
Qormi

By bus
Buses 61, 62, 63 and 209 pass nearby.

By car
The Lodge is situated right opposite the
Church of Saint Sebastian in Qormi just
off the Qormi by-pass. The Lodge has its own drive-in making it easier for parents’ to drop off
their children for classes.