SOUND DESIGN FOR THEATRE

In this practical online course, Sinha will guide you through the process of sound design. From concept to interpreting text to recording to mixing sound, you will learn some of the foundations of what it means to be a sound designer. You can access the series of short videos on your own schedule.

Creator/Instructor

A stalwart and consistent presence in the Canadian sound world, Debashis Sinha has realized projects in in radiophonic art, sound art, theatre, dance, and music across Canada and internationally. Sinha has developed his creative voice by weaving together his own experience as a second generation South Asian Canadian, his training with master drummers from various world music traditions, a love of electronic and electroacoustic music and technology, and a desire to transcend the traditional expectations of how these streams might intersect and interact.

A winner of two Dora Awards for Best Original Sound Design, his unique take on the place of sound in storytelling places him in demand as a composer and sound designer for theatre and contemporary dance with long artistic relationships with a number of Canada's foremost theatre companies including: the Stratford Festival, Soulpepper, the Shaw Festival, Why Not Theatre, Peggy Baker Dance Projects, The Theatre Centre and many others. His live sound practice on the concert stage has led to appearances at sound art and electronic music festivals around the world.

DESCRIPTIONS FOR EACH OF THE VIDEOS:

1) Sound Design Interview

What exactly does a sound designer do? In this short interview, Stratford Festival Student Advisory Committee Member, Aylish Betts, learns just this from sound designer, Debashis (Deb) Sinha.

2) Exploring the Power of Sound Design

In the first video of the course, Deb shares the power of sound in theatrical storytelling and provides an overview of this hands-on course.

3) Script Analysis

In this session, Deb uses an excerpt from the opening scene of *Hamlet* as a case study to guide you through the process of script analysis a sound designer must undertake.

4) Collecting Sounds

Next, Deb demonstrates how you can listen for, understand and collect sounds in your own home and neighbourhood to be used in your own designs.

5) Working with Audio 1

Now, Deb introduces you to working with audio through Audacity, a digital audio workstation that you can download and use for free.

Below are a couple of helpful links:
Start up and basic setup (watch the first two minutes): youtube.com/watch?v=DJhIlsLH32I
How to use the tools: youtube.com/watch?v=GqR448oQ42k&feature=youtu.be

The inclusion of any third-party material or link to another site, or mention of a third-party product or service does not imply endorsement by the Stratford Festival. If you access linked third party material or websites, or purchase any third-party product or service, you do so at your own discretion.

6) Working with Audio 2
Building on the last video, Deb guides you through some additional tools you can use to create your design.

7) Working with the Script
Now that you are more comfortable with some of the conceptual and technical elements of sound design and have some familiarity with Audacity, Deb leads you through the process of working your design into the script.

Learn how to record into Audacity here (beginning at 1:53): youtube.com/watch?v=DJhIlsLH32I
Learn how to export your sounds here: youtube.com/watch?v=HQ2GoReFgV0

8) Working with QLab 1
In this video, Deb introduces you to building and running sound cues through QLab, a software used to control sound, video and lighting.

QLab is free to download and many of its features are free to use. For more information on how to use Qlab, visit: qlab.app/tutorials/
(Audio is in the third section and you'll likely find other videos here if you want to explore more and deepen your learning.)

9) Working with QLab 2
Building on the last video, Deb guides you through some additional tools you can use to finalize and implement your sound design to serve the storytelling.

10) Conclusion
In the final vide of the course, Deb summarizes what you learned together and invites you to continue to explore what sound design can be.

To find out what Deb is up to these days, visit https://debsinha.com