



Adele's current position:

Adele manages the audio team working on all aspects of sound in the computer games produced by Electronic Arts.

Adele's work: 'I am responsible for the creative direction and design of the sound effects, speech and music of the Harry Potter computer games. I create the audio-design for the whole project. This includes reading the scripts and seeing the visuals, briefing and managing the team, producing mock-ups of how I want the games to sound, commissioning music, casting the voices and attending recording sessions.'

'Part of the challenge of my job is looking at the technological tools we can use and getting the most out of them. The team I belong to is the 'Harry Potter team' and these games are aimed mainly at a young audience of about 8 to 14 years old. This means that we cannot make the visuals too scary, but I can add atmosphere with a "dark" soundtrack. I work closely with the animation artists and get inspiration from what the game looks like.'

Adele's job also includes presentations at major trade shows, creating TV adverts and web movies - and lots of deadlines!

Her route to success: Adele studied maths, physics and music at A level, followed by a BSc in music at City University: 'I chose the more technical options of the degree course such as sound synthesis, acoustics and sound recording, because I knew I wanted to be an audio designer.' She then did a postgraduate course in 'sound' (now called 'sound post production') at the National Film and TV School at Beaconsfield Studios in Buckinghamshire.

Throughout her studies, Adele worked with several different organisations: 'My advice is to get as many work placements as possible. These enable you to find out what you want to do, and may even help you to secure a job.'

More about Adele: 'I never used to be a "gamer" but playing computer games to find out more about them has become part of my working and leisure hours. I also like swimming and going to the cinema, especially to see animation features, and recently got married.'

What next? 'I love my job because it gives me plenty of creative outlets. As for the future, technology is advancing all the time and I want to take advantage of that to create even more compelling effects. In this business, you are never without a challenge.'

