

Research in Drama

Drama at Queen Mary was ranked first in the UK in the last Research Excellent Framework and we have some of the world's leading performance researchers. There are currently around 25 PhD students, working on a wide variety of projects.

Research Areas

Our research focuses on a broad range of specific areas, including, but not limited to:

- Postdramatic theatre
- Feminist, queer and anti-racist performances and theories
- Theatres of the African diaspora; Black theatre and performance
- Transnational performance
- Live art, performance art and contemporary performance
- Theatre and labour; performance as work
- Theatre for social change, social justice and inclusion
- Applied theatre, community theatre, theatre in education
- Theatre and performance historiography, archives and documentation
- Audiences, spectatorship and reception
- Space, place, and urban development
- Affect, feeling, atmosphere and emotion in theatre and performance
- The senses in performance
- Illness, disability, ageing and the medical humanities in performance
- Early modern performance
- Theories of voice, sound, movement and actor training.

Funding

- QMUL Principal's Research Studentships
- AHRC London Arts and Humanities Partnership (LAHP). Available to Home and Overseas applicants
- Specific International scholarships schemes for China, Mexico, Colombia, Chile, USA and Commonwealth nations
- Self-funded applicants are welcome to apply throughout the year

Contact for PhD enquiries:
sed-research@qmul.ac.uk

Application process

1. Prospective applicants should fill out the enquiry form and you will be contacted to discuss your project proposal sed.qmul.ac.uk/drama/postgraduate/phd/apply
2. Successful enquirers will be encouraged to fill out the online application form.
3. Those that meet the entry requirements and attract sufficient supervisory interest may be invited for a formal interview.
4. Following the interview and discussion on funding, you may be made an offer for a PhD position.

Entry requirements

- Bachelor's degree- 2:1 or higher (Or international equivalent)
- Master's degree in a relevant subject
- IELTS 7.0 with 7.0 in all components.

Project list

You may find it useful to browse the list of past and current PhD projects:
qmul.ac.uk/sed/drama/postgraduate/phd/recent/

Application deadlines

September 2024 entry

- HSS Principal Studentships: **24th January**
- China Scholarship Council: **31st January**

NOTE: Some external funding bodies require a separate application, with different deadlines.

Please check here for information:

qmul.ac.uk/scholarships/database

Student profile

Souradeep Roy did his PhD in Drama under the supervision of Dr Nicholas Ridout. He is writing a history of theatrical performances in Calcutta from the 1940s to the 1970s, to explore possibilities and contradictions of anti-capitalist theatre-making in the Third World. Prior to joining QM, he had studied literature and theatre in universities of Calcutta and Delhi, and in Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi. He had also worked at Ashoka University as well as the Indian Writers' Forum Trust as a cultural organiser, besides working as an actor and theatre director in India.

"I found my time in QM to be very fulfilling. The PhD cohort is very collegial, and I had excellent and supportive supervision. As I'm Bengali I was especially happy to engage with the local community in Tower Hamlets and the department was supportive of these collaborations. My advice to students, especially international students, would be to engage with London's social and cultural diversity, but also keep the focus on writing. A running bibliography and sharing chapters with like-minded peers always helps!"