



# PERFORMANCE EPISTEMOLOGIES OF THE GLOBAL MAJORITY SUMMER SCHOOL

PEST

20

19-23  
JUNE  
2024

APPLY BY 2ND FEB 2024



# SUMMARY

**The Performance Epistemologies of The Global Majority Summer School is a five-day intensive held at the Royal Central School of Drama, University of London.**

**Participants of the summer school will have the opportunity to attend the P*Si* #29 conference sessions. Additionally, they will engage closely with key ideas from Global Majority performance epistemologies in sessions led by prominent international scholars and artists whose work attends to the politics, practices, and pleasures of how Black, Global Majority and Indigenous knowledge shape performance thinking and making.**

**Summer school sessions include seminar workshops, mentoring sessions with our summer school mentors, excursions to performances in London, and social community-building opportunities.**



# PROGRAMME DETAIL

Performance Epistemologies of the Global Majority Summer School focuses on the numerous and alternative ways of knowing that emerge from Black, Global Majority and Indigenous cultures. In this moment of political and social reckoning against colonial and white supremacist ideology that has led to the suppression of any paradigm that is deemed "other," we as global majority scholars, artists, and activists in the West grapple with our praxis to centre knowing that functions outside of the Eurocentric canon. The programme will bring together prominent international scholars from Dance, Theatre and Performance Studies whose work attends to the politics, practices, and pleasures of how Black, Global Majority and Indigenous epistemologies shape performance thinking and making with postgraduate and doctoral students.

The Performance Epistemologies of the Global Majority Summer School will explore a range of performance/practice-based and theoretical approaches to Black, Global Majority and Indigenous epistemologies. Texts, performances and visual art stemming from African American, Caribbean, African, Asian (Southern, Eastern and South Eastern), and Latin American cultures will be included. Students will have the opportunity to engage closely with prominent scholars and key ideas from Global Majority performance epistemologies. The programme aims to create a cross-institution interdisciplinary community of scholars in this area.

# FACULTY

*Dr Melissa Blanco Borelli*  
Organiser (Northwestern University)



Dr Melissa Blanco Borelli is a critical dance studies scholar, choreographer, and cultural critic. She is an Associate Professor of Theatre and the Director of the Dance Program. As an interdisciplinary scholar, her research interests are broad. They include Blackness in Latin America, critical dance studies, performative writing, popular dance on screen, Black performance theory, (Black) feminist (auto)ethnography, historiography, archives, and the digital humanities. She is currently working on a book tentatively titled *Choreographies of Displacement in Contemporary Colombia* which looks at the function of corporeality in Colombian dance, protest movements, theatre, photography, music, and film. She is the author of *She is Cuba: A Genealogy of the Mulata Body* which won the Dance Studies Association's De la Torre Bueno Prize® for best book in dance studies in 2016. She is also the editor of *The Oxford Handbook of Dance and the Popular Screen* (2014).

*Dr Tia-Monique Uzor*  
Organiser (Royal Central School of Speech and Drama)



Tia-Monique is a lecturer in Contemporary Caribbean and African Diasporic Performance at The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama. As an artist-scholar, she critically engages Africanist dance as a vehicle for creating and interrogating African and African Diasporic worlds through interdisciplinary approaches and embodied research. Tia-Monique has presented and taught her work internationally and has published in the fields of Dance, Geography and Black feminism. Most recently, she has directed and choreographed *The Noise My Leaves Make* – a short dance film that explores Black British women in the rural English environment.

# FACULTY



*Dr Tara Aisha Willis*

Organiser (Research Fellow, Royal Central School of Speech and Drama)

Tara Aisha Willis, Ph.D., is a dancer, writer, and curator. She most recently served as Curator of Performance at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago from 2017–2023. She holds a Ph.D. in Performance Studies from New York University, where her dissertation focused on contemporary practices of improvisation and experimentation in Black dance performances, and was the first arts-centred project to receive the NYU-Wide Outstanding Dissertation Award in Arts & Humanities. Her monograph, *Indescribable Moves: Improvised Experiments in Dancing Blackness*, is being developed through the Dance Studies Association and University of Michigan Press's 2023 Studies in Dance History First-Time Author Mentorship Program.

# FACULTY 2024

To Be Announced









# WHO SHOULD APPLY?

**The Performance Epistemologies of the Global Majority Summer School is open to Black and Global Majority postgraduate and doctoral students around the world whose work is interested in performance-making and thinking from trajectories of thought rooted in Global Majority cultures.**

Preference will be given to students based on the following criteria:

- Black and Global Majority postgraduate students with a degree in a relevant discipline (Theatre, Dance, or Performance Studies) who are interested in Global Majority performance knowledge
  - Black and Global Majority doctoral students in a relevant discipline (Theatre, Dance, or Performance Studies) whose research centres Global Majority performance knowledge.
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# HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

**There is no tuition for the Performance Epistemologies of the Global Majority Summer School.**

Students will be responsible for their own travel costs and accommodation whilst attending the programme.

2x £2000 bursary contributions for accommodation and travel are available to an international student.

2 x £800 bursary contributions for accommodation and travel are available to a UK student based outside of London.

Tea, coffee and light refreshments will be provided daily during the conference. All other meals are the responsibility of the student.

A social dinner will be provided for students and faculty during the 5 days







# HOW TO APPLY

To apply please visit  
<http://tinyurl.com/PEGM2024> and fill in  
the information as completely and  
accurately as possible.

Applications for PEGM 2024 are due by  
2nd Feb 2024.





# FAQS

## Location

The summer school will be held alongside PSi#29 at Senate House and various locations around London. Additionally, the summer school will have a base in Bedford Square which is close to Senate House.

University of, London  
Malet St,  
London  
WC1E 7HU

This area is safe with access to transport links and many stores that sell food, electronics, and other supplies.

## Bursaries

There are four bursaries available to attend the summer school:

2x International - £2000

2 x UK based outside of London - £800

Please indicate on your application form whether you would like to be considered for bursary support.

## PSI29

All summer school participants will be able to receive support to fund their registration and membership to attend PSi. Please indicate if you will need this support on your application form

## Accommodation

The summer school does not provide accommodation and participants must make their own arrangements. Students are responsible for identifying and obtaining their own housing. A wide range of accommodation is available in London, but prices vary greatly depending on location.

## Health Matters

Students are responsible for arranging their own healthcare and related matters. When you arrive in London students will provide with information on the location of nearby doctors, pharmacies, and hospitals in London.

