

## Writing in/as Research: Summer Intensive 2021

### Schedule

#### Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July

*(please note this subject to change and some titles/abstracts are to follow)*

#### Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July

- 10.00-10.30 Welcome, meeting spaces and structure of the week
- 10.30-12.00 Peter Thomas (Middlesex University, LSS)  
Opening presentation/discussion: Rethinking Writing in Research
- 12.00-4.00 Individual research & daily task
- 4.00-5.00 Vida Midgelow (Middlesex University, ACI)  
Practice Sharing/workshop: DancingWriting

#### Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July

- 10.00-11.00 Tansy Spinks (Middlesex University, Fine Art)  
Practice Sharing /workshop
- 11.00-12.00 Anna Charalambidou (Middlesex University, Media)  
Presentation Topic: Questioning what we mean by 'English'
- 12.00-4.30 Individual research & daily task
- 4.30-5.00 Open gathering space & review of online updates

#### Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July

- 9.00-11.00 Shut up and Write: join the weekly hosted time/space for your own writing
- 11.00-12.30 Jane Rendell (Guest Lecture, UCL, Professor of Critical Spatial Practice)

'Selvedages: A site-writing practice'

In this talk Prof Rendell will discuss the development of her site-writing practice over the past 20 years, starting with 'Undoing Architecture' from 1998, drawing attention to core concepts such as situatedness, relationality and positionality, informed by feminist writers such as Gloria Anzaldúa, Donna Haraway, and bell hooks. She will focus on the vital contribution situatedness offers to the process of structuring arguments, allowing spatial narratives to rework the conventional form of academic texts. She will also discuss how genres of autotheory and creative nonfiction, provide ways of refiguring relations of intra- and inter-subjectivities, finding unexpected voices and different points of view in connection to others.

- 1.30-3.00 Dr T.J.Bacon (Middlesex University, Theatre Arts)  
Presentation/Workshop Topic: Research, gender and non-binary language
- 3.00-5.00 Individual research | daily task

## Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July

- 10.00-11.15 Practical session: Walking and writing practice
- 11.15-2.00 Individual research | daily task
- 2.00-3.30 Maria Fusco (Guest Presentation, University of Dundee, Chair in Interdisciplinary Writing)
- ‘History of the Present’
- Professor Maria Fusco will make a performative reading of work-in-progress experimental opera about the peacelines in Belfast where she grew up. She will present and discuss the methodological and ethical considerations of writing as a ‘contemporary witness’. Maria is currently developing this work with Royal Opera House, London.
- 3.45-5.00 Final gathering space: Manifestos for writing

### Presenters Biographies:

**Dr T.J. Bacon**, Programme leader of Foundation Programme in Performing Arts at Middlesex University. TJB has been exhibiting performance arts work since 2009 (<https://tjb.org.uk/>), his work can be located within the framework of performance art and philosophical/phenomenological investigations that look to challenge perception, alongside the assumed liminal barriers of body-based art. He is also the founder and artistic director of [Tempting Failure](#), which produces the *London Biennial of International Performance Art*. 2022 will see the publication of his first monograph, *An Introduction to the Phenomenology of Performance Art: SELF/s*.

**Dr Anna Charalambidou**, Programme Leader for BA English and Senior Lecturer in English Language, at the Media Department of Middlesex University. Her research interests are in discourse analysis and sociolinguistics. In collaboration with Petros Karatsareas she documents ‘[GrenGLISH](#)’ the emblematic variety that London’s Greek Cypriots borrowed from English and adapted into the Cypriot Greek phonological and grammatical system. She is currently starting on a project entitled ‘Diversity that we can hear’ investigating whether and how accent diversity affects their teaching practices and curriculum design.

**Prof Maria Fusco**, Professor Maria Fusco is a working-class Belfast-born interdisciplinary writer. Her award-winning writing crosses the registers of fiction, performance and theory and is translated into twelve languages. She holds a Chair in Interdisciplinary Writing at the University of Dundee, previously Director of Art Writing at Goldsmiths. Her latest books are *Legend of the Necessary Dreamer* (2017) described by Chris Kraus as “a new classic of female philosophical fiction” and *Give Up Art: Collected Critical Writings* (2018) of which Lisa Robertson has said “Fusco’s scintillating mobility invites us to savour a new kind of critical empathy”. <http://mariafusco.net/>

**Prof Jane Rendell**, Professor of Critical Spatial Practice at the Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL. Jane has introduced concepts of ‘critical spatial practice’ and ‘site-writing’ through her authored books: *The Architecture of Psychoanalysis* (2017), *Silver* (2016), *Site-Writing* (2010) and curates a website of situated dialogical reviews – *Site-Reading Writing Quarterly*. <https://www.janerendell.co.uk/>

**Dr Tansy Spinks**, studied Fine Art in Leeds, has an MA in Photography from the Royal College of Art and is a Licentiate of the Guildhall School of Music, London. She is a Senior Lecturer in Fine Art at Middlesex University. She has exhibited widely both at home and abroad. Images have been purchased for several collections including the National Media Museum, Bradford and the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, Texas. Major publishers, for book and CD covers, have used her visual work commercially. Her edited collection 'Sound, Art and Music' was published in late 2020.

<http://tansyspinks.com/>

#### **Hosts:**

**Peter Thomas** is a senior lecturer at Middlesex with a research interest in writing as part of creative practice, in particular the generative role that writing can play in processes that are not primarily textual. He teaches and coordinates academic writing and language provision in the Faculty of Arts and Creative Industries. This involves working with students and staff on various forms and uses of writing, including conventional academic genres and more experimental textual practices.

Peter is currently doing a mixed-mode PhD (at Middlesex) on *The Essay and The Essayistic in Contemporary Art Practice*, for which he is developing an essayistic research methodology (or attempting to). This involves making artworks and other outputs in response to a problematic family heirloom, a völkisch painting by his great grandfather.

He has published on academic literacies, regenerating, writing and collaboration in art and design in higher education.

**Prof Vida L Midgelow** has a long fascination with the relationship between language and embodied creative practices arising from the difficulty of finding adequate words to capture movement experiences. She joined Middlesex University as Professor in Dance and Choreographic Practices in 2012, where she leads the doctoral provision for the Faculty of Arts and Creative Industries. She is editor of the *Oxford Handbook of Improvisation in Dance* and principal researcher for the *Artistic Doctorates in Europe* project [www.artisticdoctorates.com](http://www.artisticdoctorates.com) (EU funded). Selected public works include: *BreathBone*, *Skript* (NottDance Festival), *Some Fleshy Thinking* (OUP), and Practice-as-Research (Bloombury). With Prof Jane Bacon, Midgelow devised the *Creative Articulation Process* (CAP) and was founding editor of the hybrid peer reviewed journal, *Choreographic Practices*.

[www.choreographiclab.co.uk](http://www.choreographiclab.co.uk).