EASTAP Conference schedule

Pre-conference | Tuesday 2 September 2025

10am–5.30pm	Conference registration open Milton Court Box Office
11am–5.30pm	Disrupt Open Space* Studio Theatre, Rehearsal Room 1 & Rehearsal Room 2 Burning the parachute: Can community power survive the funding cycle? An Open Space event for anyone who works in the arts that cares about community, power, and the politics of sustainable change. Tickets available here *Open Space ticketholders only

9–11am	Registration & Tea/Coffee						
11–11.20am	Welcome & Opening Milton Court Theatre						
			iate Academic Keynote ng Round Table				
		Milton	Court Theatre				
		Andı	é de Quadros				
		Performing Disobedience: Resistan	ce and Radical Hope under the Warfare State				
11.20am–1pm	Across Europe, the resurgence of militarized nationalism, securitized borders, and internal policing has entrenched the continent within a warfare logic—one that frames migrants, racialized communities, and dissenters as threats to be managed or erased. This presentation, Performing Disobedience: Resistance and Radical Hope under the Warfare State, explores how artists, activists, and cultural workers might use performance to confront these violent infrastructures. Acts of disobedience do more than resist, they rupture the everyday choreography of the warfare state, they dream forward, cultivating radical hope through aesthetic and communal practices that assert presence, solidarity, and survival. Drawing on examples from personal experience, this talk situates performance as a vital mode of political life. Engaging decolonial, abolitionist, and feminist theoretical lenses, I ask: How are our publics being reimagined through acts of refusal and care? What performative strategies challenge the continent's racialized regimes of exclusion? And how might these fugitive performances help us sense otherwise futures within—and beyond—the fortress?						
	Dr André de Quadros is a professor of music at Boston University with affiliations in African, African American & Black Diaspora, American, Asian, Jewish, Latin American, Muslim studies, prison education, and Forced Migration. As a conductor, educator, artist, scholar, poet, and human rights activist, he has worked in over 40 countries in the most diverse settings including professional ensembles, projects with prisons, psychosocial rehabilitation, refugees, and victims of sexual violence, torture, and trauma. His work crosses race and mass incarceration (USA), peace-seeking (Israel-Palestine), forced migration (Latin America), public health (Latin America), and Islamic culture (South Asia). He has held distinguished visiting positions at the University of Cambridge and the University of Melbourne. He has several books, articles, book chapters, and choral editions to his credit in addition to hundreds of workshops, keynote presentations, and performances.						
1–2pm	Lunch						
	Rehearsal Room 1	Rehearsal Room 2	Rehearsal Room 3	Gym			
2–3.15pm	Panel 1.1 Access and inclusion	Panel 1.2 Coloniality and decolonising	Panel 1.3 Agency, identity and diversity: tensions and possibilities	Panel 1.4 Emerging Scholars Forum: AUDIENCE & ACCESSIBLIITY			
	Chair: Sophie Proust	Chair: Bilal Akar	Chair: Jorge Louraço Figueira				

	Fabienne Mathis Institutional opening processes - How can the sustainable and structural inclusion of people with disabilities in Swiss theatre organizations and audience succeed? Zoë Glen Decentring Neuronormativity in Performance and Performer Training Christina Banalopoulou	Clare Finburgh Delijani Democratizing and Decolonizing Theatre in Mid-Century France: The Théâtre noir de Paris (Paris Black Theatre) and The Théâtre de la langue française (Theatre of the French Language) Rebecca Infield Decentring Censorship in Colonial French Algeria: Hocine Bouzaher's 'Des Voix dans la casbah' (1960)	Annelies Van Assche Krumping the Opera: A Choreographic Coup or Baroque Spectacle 2.0? José Pedro Sousa On the Democratic Road: Queer Stages of the Portuguese Revolution Marlene Behrmann Interdisciplinary cross-cultural tandem match making in performing arts as an act of decentralizing	Chair: Paula Magalhães Elisa Smeraldo From body to sound: movement sonification and accessibility in performing arts Keiu Virro Abstract for Emerging Scholars Forum: Theatre for Diverse Young Audiences: Accessibility as Cultural Participation Tatiana Vakhatova
3.15–3.40pm	Multilingual Soundscapes, Democratized Pedagogies: Theatre and Performance in Rum Minority Schools in Turkey	Diana Damian Martin, Marilena Zaroulia European Entanglements: cultural politics and performance interventions	eak	Direct and Indirect Audience Engagement in Tiago Rodrigues' Performances/ the Emerging Scholars Forum Lisa Celsi Spectatorship and the Right to Appear: Exploring the Political Dimensions of Watching
3.13–3.40pm	Rehearsal Room 1	Rehearsal Room 2	Rehearsal Room 3	Gym
	Panel 2.1 Democracy and theatre Chair: Pieter Verstraete	Panel 2.2 Political theatres and refigured communities Chair: Leonardo Mancini	Panel 2.3 Dance heritage, history and decolonial agency Chair: Timmy De Laet	Panel 2.4 Emerging Scholars Forum: POWER IN INSTITUTIONS Chair: Lisa Celsi
3.40–4.55pm	Christopher Balme What's democratic about theatre? David Calder	Madli Pest Political Theatre – between manifestation of identity and entertainment	Gustavo Vicente Decentering dance historiographies: nomadic poetics in Portugal	Burcu Güney Yılmaz Cultural and Creative Infrastructure in Devolved Regions: What Do Universities Do?
		Maíra Santos	Gisela Doria	

	Public Spaces and Public Spheres: Performance Infrastructure, Transnationalism, Democracy Reka Polonyi Democracy at play: making 'theatre as politics' (and not 'political theatre')	Scores in Flight: Democratizing Performance Creation in the Peripheries of Lisbon and São Paulo Alexandra Portmann Democratising Curation? A critical investigation of Co-Curation practices in contemporary European Theatre and Performance	Dance as Decolonial Practice at Casa de Ensaio – A Reference from the Global South Timmy De Laet Distributing Dance Heritages: Authorship, Transmission, Values	Ileana Gherghina Decentring actor training to include second language English actors: experimenting with Shakespearean sonnets Kristýna Ilek Dramaturgy and Healthy Creative Practices: Reimagining Working Conditions, Power Dynamics and Care Maria Sławińska A new need – definition of artistic ensemble
5–6.30pm		Presentation of new jou	Reception rnal issue & OJS platform -2 Foyer	

9–9.30am	Registration				
	Rehearsal Room 1	Rehearsal Room 2	Rehearsal Room 3	Gym	
	Panel 3.1 Pedagogies and practices for cultural renewal	Panel 3.2 Democratisation and cultural practice	Panel 3.3 Protest and performa	Panel 3.4 Emerging Scholars Forum: SHIFTS IN NATIONAL DRAMATURGIES	
	Chair: Lily Climenhaga	Chair: Tomaz Toporisic	Goran Petrovic Lotina	Chair: Kristyna llek	
9.30 – 10.45am	Tara McAllister Viel Training Actors' Voices and 'Decolonizing' Voice Curriculum: Shifting Epistemologies Avra Sidiropoulou "Directing, Leadership, and the Ethics of Care" Jasper Delbecke Decentring Theatre in Flanders. The Case of the Royal Flemish Theatre and KVS < > Congo	Dolores Beasley The Hamilton Effect? Democratisation in Casting in Commercial Theatre Paula Magalhães Staging the process of democratic transformation: the revue theatre Daniela Sacco Democratisation and Decentralisation: The Case of Indigenous Theatre in Quebec	Choreographies of Dissent: Stude Movements and the Performance Political Change in Belgrade Maria Konomi "I have no oxygen': Visual and Performative Elements in Anti-Corruption Demonstrations for Just for Tempi Victims in Greece" Filippos (Philip) Hager Rehearsing nowness: acting on stand in the streets during the 2023 protests in Greece	Theresa Spielmann Palliative Dramaturgy: Recentring Loss in Eco-Theatre (Emerging Scholars Forum) Matteo Tamborrino, Giuliana Pititu Decentring and Distributing in Piedmont Region: a Shift in Patterns tage Ioanna Solidaki Reconsidering Decentring: The	
				'tiny' and the 'breach in time', for a dramaturgy of resistance.	
10.45– 11.10am		Break			
	Rehearsal Room 1	Rehearsal Room 2	Rehearsal Room 3	Gym	
11.10am– 12.25pm		Panel 4.2 Ecologies, sustainable practices and end times		Panel 4.4 Emerging Scholars Forum: EXPLORING TRADITION	
•	Chair: Gisa Doria	Chair: Amy Blier-Carruthers	Chair: Sophie Hope	Chair: Nazli Tabatabai-Khatambakhsh	
		Silviu Dimitriu		Fábio Belém	

	Decolonizing and Decentring the Archive: The Nebula of "Kurdish Princess" Leila Bederkhan Vito Lentini The Dante Project. Wayne McGregor and "The Divine Comedy". Raquel Madeira Platformisation of dance stages or the mirror of human connections in the post- digital era: 'Solas' (2023) by Candela Capitan.	Decentering Theatrical Mimesis: Theatre as a Supplement Eliane Beaufils Decenter Ecological Politics to Youth. The Danish Roleplay Active action Jonas Schnor Infinite Ends: From Posthuman to Posthumous Dramaturgies in the 21st Century	Ellen Wagstaff Working 'With': Decentring and Recentring the Practitioner in Applied Theatre Practice Sean Gregory, Heloisa Feichas Our spaces between: re-imagining creativity and re-wilding possibilities through connecting conversations. Elizabeth Fullerton Decentring the artist to make room for unheard voices: co-creation in the art practice of Rory Pilgrim	Rescuing Forgotten Spaces: Teatro do Príncipe Real and the Challenges of Portuguese Theatre Historiography Alessandro Tollari Democracy beyond language. Performing linguistic (un)learning otherwise Luca Domenico Artuso Haunting the Patriarchal Order: Aoki Ryōko's Artistic Practice and the Politics of Tradition in Japanese Nō Theatre
12.25 – 12.40pm		Break		
		GUILDHALL ASSOCIATE AC	CADEMIC KEYNOTE	
		Milton Court To	heatre	
		Milton Court To		

the philosophers, the working-class artist risks being valued only for one thing: their working-class lived experience, leaving the space for all other models of performance for artists from more privileged backgrounds to occupy. To this end I will examine differing approaches to what might be termed theatres of real people, autobiographical, or autofictional, performance and processes of community participation. The keynote will explore how working-class theatre artists can be located in each model as a shoemaker whose only value is the cultural and social capital of their classed lived experience, rather than their skills as an artist. I will also examine models of these practices which highlight this risk and undertake strategies to counter the ideological imaginary of cultural deficit in their work. In conclusion, I will note how the ideological severance of the 'art' from the 'working-class artist' is now becoming endemic in public arts policy in the UK, holding great risk to both the diversity and quality of theatre practice in the future, and to the potential for those from working-class backgrounds to become artists in the first place.

Liz Tomlin is Professor of Theatre and Performance at the University of Glasgow. Her publications include Acts and Apparitions: Discourses on the Real in Performance Practice and Theory (2013) and Political Dramaturgies and Theatre Spectatorship: Provocations for Change (2019). She has recently focused on class analysis of theatre leading an AHRC Research Network on class discrimination in the British theatre industry (2018-19) and holding an AHRC Research, Development and Engagement Fellowship (2022 – 24) (Figurations of working-class subjects in UK theatre practice and policy). Open access publications resulting from this work include a co-edited special issue, Artist Development: Access, Diversity, Exclusion (Studies in Theatre and Performance 40:3, 2020) and Staging Class Conflict in the UK (2025). She formerly directed theatre productions with communities and schools in South Yorkshire, UK (1995-2010), and was playwright and co-director with Point Blank Theatre (1999 – 2009), with selected playtexts published in Point Blank: Performance Texts and Critical Essays (2007).

		Point Blank: Performance Texts and C	ritical Essays (2007).	, , ,	
	Lunch		Gym		
1.30 – 2.30pm			ESF LUNCH SESSION: WORKING IN INTERCULTURAL ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENTS		
	Rehearsal Room 1	Rehearsal Room 2	Rehearsal Room 3	Gym	
	Panel 5.1 Women, leadership, change	Panel 5.2 The spectator (embodied, interpellated and decentred)	Panel 5.3 Decentring practices and paradigms	Panel 5.4 Emerging Scholars Forum: NATIONAL	
	Chair: Avra Sidiroploulou	Chair: Leslie Deere	Chair: Martina Groß	PERSPECTIVES Chair: Keiu Virro	
2.30 – 3.45pm	Ann-Christine Simke Decentring Theatre Production — Intersectional Feminist Theatre Making in Scotland's Regions Sophie Proust	Cláudia Madeira, Raquel Rodrigues Madeira Where is "The Centre of the World"? The spectator beyond the centre and periphery in the performances of Ana Borralho and João Galante.	Aldo Milohnić Decentring, Distributing and Democratising in the Theatre of Milo Rau	Melanie Fieldseth Gestures of Decentering at a National Dance Company	
	•		Sophie Hope	Varvara Sklez	
	What new modes of governance with women at the head of theatres? Marta Ribeiro	Mahsa Sheydani Hamlet the Spectator: How a Canonical Text's vision Multiplies Through Dissolution	From impacting to de-centring? Exploring paradigm shifts at Guildhall School	Fragile, Elusive, Sensitive: Positionality of Contemporary Russian Migrant Artists	
		Ljubi Matic	Stefania Lodi Rizzini	Rita Agatina Di Leo	

	Female Voices, Censored Stages: Resilien and Cultural Resistance in Portugal during the Marcelist Spring	ce Taking in a Gift-Back Performance		Decentering Perspectives Throug Eccentric Bodies	jh	Site of Resistance – A temporal and artistic struggle shared? Giulia Sala Barong and Tourism in Bali: decentralizing tradition from ritual to stage
3.45–4pm		Bro	eak			
4–5.45pm	VR Intervention 4–5pm Evi Stamatiou Ethnoacting in VR for Resilience in Acting Students	Rehearsal Room 1 Hackathon / Promptjam 4.15–5.45pm Guildhall Production Studio Deepfaking Dramaturgy	Parslow Long Ta Nightlife			
7.45pm onwards		Cow/ Royal Cou *Theatre ticketholde				

9–9.30am			Registration		
	Rehearsal Room 1	Rehearsal Room 2	Rehearsal Room 3	Gym	Meeting Room 1
	Panel 6.1 Migration, refugees and (counter-)hegemony	Panel 6.2 Recentralise and radicalise	Panel 6.3 Bodily co-presence and physical performance at the boundaries	Panel 6.4 Emerging Scholars Forum: REVOLUTION AND RESISTANCE	EASTAP ExComm Meeting* 8.30–10.45am
	Chair: Mary Mazzilli	Chair: Sean Gregory	Chair: Cláudia Madeira	Chair: David Calder	*EASTAP ExComm members only
	Alejandro Postigo Miss Brexit: Decentring Linguistic Hegemony in UK Theatre	Jorge Louraço Figueira The revolution mixtapes: precariat theatre plays in Portugal since 2010	Tomasz Wiśniewski Complicité: Peripheries and Margins	Angelina Demarchi-Roussel "Opera and Street Art: Reclaiming an Art Form and New Creative Challenges. A Case Study of the Theatrical Brass Band Les Grooms"	
9.30–10.45am	Małgorzata Budzowska Performing art as a counter- hegemonic practise. Institute of Performing Law by Michał Zadara	Tomaz Toporisic Decentring and distributing the positions of power in contemporary performing arts	Sara Fontana Archaeology of gesture and democracy of the body in the works of Virgilio Sieni Esther Criado Valladares	Tiago Ivo Cruz Decentralisation: how Portuguese independent theatre groups aimed to foster democracy after the Carnation Revolution and its institutional consequences	
	Emma Cox Forensic Arts, Counter Forensics, Forensic Activism: The Para-Jurisdictions of European Asylum	Martin Bernátek Radicalizing Culture: Avant- Garde Theatre's Engagement with the Working Class	Crisis and Catalan Live Art. Decentralizing the subject, reimagining performance: a case study of "El Conde de Torrefiel".	Eva-Liisa Linder The Wind of Change: Theatre at the Forefront of the Democratic Turn during Estonian Transition	
				Marianna Lucarini Who Distributes What, and for Whom? The Paradox of Cultural Democratization in Occupied Spaces	
10.45– 11.10am		1	Break	ı	1

1.30–2.30pm	Lui	nch	Gy ESF LUNCH SESSIO	m N: GRANT WRITING	
2.45–4.45pm	EASTAP AGM Milton Court Theatre				
4.45–5pm	Break				
	Studio Theatre	Rehearsal Room 1	Rehearsal Room 2		
	Performances	Hackathon	Long table		
	Chair:	5.15 6.45nm	5.15–6.45pm		
	Moa Sahlin, Funmi Adewole Elliott	5.15–6.45pm	Jo Chard, Sophie Hope		
	One bucket of PEACE: A Site-Specific Performance Lecture at the Edge	Open for curation in real time	Disrupt and the Decentre		
5–6.45pm	Alexandra Oliveira				
	Fragments of a Collective Look				
	Christina Schmutz				
	Opening Up a Sliding Door				
	Nazli Tabatabai-Khatambakhsh				
	Critical Conversations with Medea and Carmen				
7.30pm onwards	Deaf Republic* Royal Court Theatre *Theatre ticketholders ONLY (SOLD OUT)				

9–9.30am	Registration					
	Rehearsal Room 1	Rehearsal Room 2				
	Panel 8.1 The anthropocene, climate crisis, theatre and performance Chair: Martin Bernátek	Panel 8.2 Action, curation, democracy Chair: Filippos (Philip) Hager				
9.30-	Fernanda Raquel An animist turn in the performing arts – artistic experiences to rethink the anthropocene	Eleni Gini Heterotopia and democracy in the performative space of Angélica Liddell				
10.45am	Rui Pina Coelho Performing Hope: Utopian Theatre in an Age of Collapse	Agata Tomšič Capital in the 21st Century Contemporary Theatre: the joys and sorrows of different theatrical systems through ErosAntEros' Saint Joan of the Stockyards lens				
	Marcela Moura Recycling as a process of decentralisation, distribution and democratisation	Stella Keramida Protest and Theatricality: Democratising theatre and performance				
10.45– 11.10am		Break				
	Rehearsal Room 1	Rehearsal Room 2	Rehearsal Room 3			
11.10am– 12.25pm	Panel 9.1 Theatre, institutions, democracy Chair: Marta Riberio	Panel 9.2 Environments, aesthetic practices and affects Chair: Alix de Morant	Panel 9.3 Ideas and engagements Chair: Nazli Tabatabai-Khatambakhsh			
	Pieter Verstraete	Theron Schmidt	Ana Maria Ursu			

1.30–3pm	WORLD CAFÉ METHOD PLENARY & LUNCH (1.30-3pm) Milton Court Studio Theatre		
12.40– 1.30pm	Guildhall ASSOCIATE ARTIST KEYNOTE Milton Court Theatre In conversation with Campbell X		
12.25 – 12.40pm	Break		
	Ana Bigotte Vieira, Tiago Ivo Cruz On Commemorations and Their Discontents: Independent Theatre and Decentralization After the Portuguese Revolution or what remains after the 50th anniversary of April 25th in 2024?	José Maria Vieira Mendes Who's my friend? 'Participation' in Lucy McCornick's, Lucy & Friends Sayan Parial, Piyasha Halder Eco-Theatre Aesthetics and Practice: Affective Spaces of Performance	Azadeh Sharifi The Trans-European artistic practice of "teatro Phralipe" - OR: How to decentre European Theatre from its margins
	Exiled Lives on the Stage: Analyzing Life Narratives to Improve Democracies and Institutions Lily Climenhaga The Dramaturgy of Republic: Representation(al) Democracy and the Wiener Festwochen	Decentering the researcher through affective attunement Alice Golisano The European Pavilion: An alternative method for the decentring of artistic practices outside national narratives	Joseph Dunne-Howrie Staging Cultural Decline: The War on Woke at the Battle of Ideas