

Dr. AVISHEK GANGULY

Department of Literary Arts and Studies
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

2010-present: Assistant Professor, Department of Literary Arts and Studies, Rhode Island School of Design.

EDUCATION

MA, PhD English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University, New York, 2012.
MA English and Linguistics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 2000.
BA English (Honours), Presidency College, University of Calcutta, Calcutta, 1998.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING AREAS

Modern and Contemporary Drama, Theater and Performance; Translation; 20th and 21st Century Literatures in English; Postcolonial and South Asian Studies; Urban Cultural Studies; Indian Popular Cinema; Public Humanities.

MAJOR AWARDS, GRANTS AND HONORS

Research Fellow, International Research Center, Freie Universität, Berlin, 2017-18.
John R. Frazier Award for Excellence in Teaching, Rhode Island School of Design, 2016 (nominated).
Inaugural Global Faculty Fellow, Rhode Island School of Design, 2015.
Academic Affairs Conference Fund, Rhode Island School of Design, 2012, 2015.
Robert Turner Theatrical and Performance Design Grant, Rhode Island School of Design, 2014.
Professional Development Fund Award, Rhode Island School of Design, 2014.
Humanities Fund Conference Award, Rhode Island School of Design, 2011, 2012, 2013.
Affiliated Scholar, Pembroke Seminar on “The Question of Consent,” Brown University, 2011-12.
Ph.D. Convocation Speaker, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University, May 2012.
Fellow, Mellon School of Theater and Performance Research, Harvard University, 2011 (declined).
Teaching Fellowship, Columbia University, 2008-09.
Marjorie Hope Nicolson Fellowship, Columbia University, 2002-08.

Mellon Summer Research Fellowship, Columbia University, 2004, 2007.
Sainsbury Support Fund Grant, Columbia University Arts Initiative, 2007.
Travel Grant, Southern Asian Institute, Columbia University, 2005, 2006.
Seed Grant, Sarai, The New Media Initiative, CSDS, Delhi, 2002.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- “The ‘Secular Designs’ of Wole Soyinka” in Milija Gluhovic and Jisha Menon eds. *Rethinking the Secular: Performance, Religion and the Public Sphere*. London: Palgrave Macmillan. (forthcoming)
- “Invoking the Translator” A Conversation with Raqs Media Collective, *Public Books*, August 1, 2016 Issue
- Review of Sudipta Kaviraj, *The Invention of Private Life: Literature and Ideas* (Columbia University Press, 2015), *Journal of South Asian History and Culture*, Vol. 7 Issue 3, 2016.
- Review Essay: Rey Chow, *Not Like a Native Speaker: On Language as a Postcolonial Experience* (Columbia University Press, 2014), *Parallax*, Vol. 22 Issue 1, 2016.
- “Theatres of Multilingualism,” *American Book Review*, Volume 35 No. 5, July/August 2014.
- “Politics and Periodicals in the 1960s: Readings around the ‘Naxalite Movement.’” *1968 and the ‘Third World.’*” Eds. Samantha Christiansen and Zachary Scarlett. Oxford/New York: Berghahn Books, 2012 (Paperback 2015).
- “An Unequal Music: A Study of Contemporary Bengali Urban Music in Late-Twentieth Century Calcutta.” *Space, Sexuality and Postcolonial Cultures: Papers from the Cultural Studies Workshop, ENRECA Occasional Papers Series 6*. Calcutta: Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, 2003.
- “Citybeats: Contemporary Urban Music in Calcutta.” *SARAI READER 02: The Cities of Everyday Life*. Delhi /Amsterdam: Sarai -The New Media Initiative & Waag Society, 2002.
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WORKS IN PROGRESS

- “Ethics, Politics, Translation in David Edgar’s *Pentecost*.” (journal article for *Modern Drama*).
- Polyglot Performances: Translation and the Post-monolingual Stage* (book manuscript).
- Staging Translation, Performing Multilingualism* (collection of essays co-edited with Kéline Gotman, Kings College, London).
- Performance Studies: An Introduction – A Course Book* (Turner Grant Performance Project)
- “Choreography as Mapping: *Juke, Cry, Hand, Clap* and Chicago’s Urban Folk Cultures” with Micah Salkind, *Public: A Journal of Imagining America* (journal article in progress).

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Performing Translation, Staging “New Europe” at ACLA Annual Conference, Harvard University, March 17-20, 2016.
- “Wole Soyinka, Black British Playwright,” Symposium on Representing Race and Black Britain in Theatre, Film, Television and Digital Media, National Theatre, London, November 6, 2015.
- Respondent and Organizer. International Symposium on “Theatre & Performance + Translation and Multilingualism,” Rhode Island School of Design, May 6, 2015.
- “Art and Translation in David Edgar’s *Pentecost*,” RISD Faculty Biennial/Faculty Forum, RISD Museum, March 13, 2015.
- “Staging the Secular: The Theatre of Wole Soyinka in 1960s Nigeria,” Religion and Internationalism Project’s Series *Art of Invisibility: The Aesthetic Construction of Religion and the Secular*, Brown University, February 25, 2015.
- Chair and Organizer. Special Session/Round Table titled “Beyond Monolingualism?” at the Modern Language Association (MLA) Annual Convention, Vancouver, January 8-11, 2015.
- “Panelist. “Bollywood and Hollywood: Betwixt and Beyond,” First Brown-Harvard Pakistani Film Festival, Brown University, November 2, 2014.
- “The Political Theatre of Utpal Dutt in a Global Frame,” International Federation for Theatre Research World Congress, University of Warwick, UK, July 28-August 1, 2014.
- Discussant, Modern South Asia Workshop, Yale University, April 5-6, 2014.
- Panelist, “Text, Performance, Ethics,” *Modern Drama* Symposium, University of Toronto, March 20, 2014.
- “Figuring Translation in Wole Soyinka’s *The Road*,” American Society for Theatre Research Conference (ASTR), Dallas, November 2013.
- “Staging “the global contemporary” in David Edgar’s *Pentecost*,” ACLA Conference, University of Toronto, April 2013.
- “Some notes on the ‘worldly’ in contemporary literary studies,” American Comparative Literature Association Conference (ACLA), Brown University, Providence, March-April, 2012.
- “Post-Soviet Postcolonial? Reading David Edgar’s *Pentecost*,” Conference on Colonial Legacies Postcolonial Contestations, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, Frankfurt am Main, Germany, June 2011
- “Translation and the politics of contemporary theatre: Reading Brian Friel,” Reassessing Theatrical Paradigms and Imagining Global Rights, American Society for Theatre Research Conference (ASTR), San Juan, November 2009.
- “Translation as dramatic strategy: Reading David Edgar’s *Pentecost* (1995),” Modern Language

Association Annual Convention (MLA), San Francisco, December 2008.

“Naxalite International’? A view of the Indian protest movements 40 years later,” 1968 - A view of the protest movements 40 years after, from a global perspective, 44th Linz Conference on International Labour and Social History, Linz, Austria, September 2008.

“Staging Collectivity: The Political Theatre of Utpal Dutt,” 22nd Annual South Asia Conference, University of California, Berkeley, February 2007.

“On some aspects of 20th-century Political Theater in India: Reading Utpal Dutt,” Conference on Politics and Literature in Contemporary South Asia, University of Oxford, UK, May 2006.

“Minoritizing the Avant-garde? Notes on the Careers of Modernism/s in the Early Twentieth Century Bengali Literature,” Roundtable on “Avant-garde and the Margin,” Modernist Studies Association Conference (MSA), Chicago, November 2005.

SELECTED PUBLIC HUMANITIES WORK

Member, Steering Committee, FRINGEPVD – An Edition of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Providence, Rhode Island, 2015-16.

Curator and Producer, Turner Performance Series – Citywide Public Performances, Talks and Symposia in connection with a special grant-funded course, Providence, Rhode Island, February-May, 2015.

Member, Board of Directors, The Wilbury Theatre Group, Providence, RI, 2015-present.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“Text, Performance, Ethics,” *Modern Drama* Symposium, University of Toronto, 20 March 2014.

“Rendering the Invisible Visible: Social Order and the Feminist Gaze,” A Discussion of Nivedita Menon’s *Seeing Like a Feminist*, Watson Institute, Brown University, April 24, 2013. Discussant.

Working session on “Football Stories/The Beautiful Game,” A documentary project by Lalit Vachani and Gianpaolo Baiocchi, Joukowsky Forum, Watson Institute Brown University, 1 October 2010. Respondent.

Plenary Session, “First Light: Satyajit Ray From the Apu Trilogy to the Calcutta Trilogy,” Film Society of Lincoln Center & Columbia University, Lincoln Center, New York, April 2009.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Member, Program Committee of the Annual Conference of the American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR) in Portland, OR, November 5-8, 2015.
Reviewer, *Modern Drama* (University of Toronto Press)
Reviewer, *differences: A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies* (Duke University Press)
Co-organizer and Moderator, "Collective Noun: A Conversation with Raqs Media Collective," RISD, March 19-20, 2013.
Panelist, "South Asian Studies: Collaborations and Conjunctures," Watson Institute, Brown University, December 7, 2012.
Co-organizer and Discussant, "Morir Sonãndo," by Coco Fusco, RISD, 20 October 2011.
Co-organizer and Discussant, "Mumbai Fables: A Conversation with Gyan Prakash," RISD Spring Liberal Arts Lecture Series, 11 April 2011.

COLLEGE SERVICE (Rhode Island School of Design)

Member, Global Partners and Programs Committee (2014-16).
Member, Admissions Committee (2014-15).
Member, RISD Board of Trustees Academic and Student Affairs Committee, 2014-15.
Member, Advisory Group, Kirloskar Visiting Scholar/Artist Initiative, (2013-present).
Member, Humanities Fund Committee, 2012-16.
Liberal Arts Representative, RISD Research Initiative, 2012-13.
Member, Instruction Committee and Winter Session Sub-committee, 2011-2012.
Member, Academic Computing and Advisory Committee, 2011-12.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Modern Language Association (MLA)
American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)
American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR)
International Federation for Theatre Research (IFTR)

REFERENCES

Available on request