

AVISHEK GANGULY
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Assistant Professor
Department of Literary Arts and Studies
Rhode Island School of Design, Providence RI 02903

AREAS OF ACADEMIC INTEREST

Drama, Theatre, and Performance Studies; Philosophies of Translation; Contemporary Literatures in English; Urban Popular Cultures and Cinema in India; Postcolonial Studies; Public Humanities

EDUCATION

2012 MA, PhD	English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University, New York Dissertation Supervisor: Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak
2000 MA	English and Linguistics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
1998 BA	English (Honours), Presidency College, University of Calcutta, Calcutta

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2010 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of Literary Arts and Studies, RISD
2010 (Spring)	Lecturer, Department of Literary and Cultural Studies, Bryant University, Smithfield RI
2003-07	Instructor, Undergraduate Writing Program, Columbia University in New York
2001-02	Lecturer, Departments of English, Gargi Collge and Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi, Delhi

MAJOR FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND HONORS

2020 (Winter)	UGC-SAP Visiting Fellowship, Center for English Studies, School of Language, Literature and Cultural Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
2018	Nominated for John R. Frazier Award for Excellence in Teaching, RISD
2017-18	Research Fellow, International Research Center, Freie Universität, Berlin
2016	Nominated for John R. Frazier Award for Excellence in Teaching, RISD
2015	Inaugural Global Faculty Fellow, RISD
2014	Robert Turner Theatrical and Performance Design Grant, RISD

- 2014 Professional Development Fund Award, Rhode Island School of Design
2011, 2012, Humanities Fund Award, RISD
2013, 2018
2011-12 Affiliated Scholar, Pembroke Seminar, “The Question of Consent,”
Brown University
2012 Ph.D. Convocation Speaker, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences,
Columbia University
2011 Fellow, Mellon School of Theater and Performance Research, Harvard University
(declined).
2008-9 Teaching Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University
2002-08 Marjorie Hope Nicolson Fellowship, Columbia University
2004, 2007 Mellon Summer Research Fellowship, Columbia University
2007 Sainsbury Support Fund Grant for arts programing, Columbia University Arts Initiative,
New York
2001-02 Seed Grant, ‘Sarai – The New Media Initiative,’ Centre for the Study of Developing
Societies, Delhi

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- “The Kalicene? On first viewing of Ashish Avikunthak’s *Aapokalin Trikalika* [The Kali of
Emergency],” Catalog Essay, Aicon Gallery, New York, 2019
- “Song, Politics, Hashtag: The Story of Contemporary Bengali Music Making” in *The Arts and
South Asia*, Harvard South Asia Institute, Cambridge, MA, 2017
- “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, 2017
(peer reviewed)
- “Invoking the Translator” A Conversation with Raqs Media Collective, *Public Books*, August 1,
2016.
- 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 Languageing 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.
(peer reviewed)
- “Politics and Periodicals in the 1960s: Readings around the ‘Naxalite Movement’” in
Samantha Christiansen and Zachary Scarlett eds. *The Third World in the Global 1960s*.
Oxford/New York: Berghahn Books, 2012 (Paperback 2015). (peer reviewed)
- “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. (peer reviewed)

“Citybeats: Contemporary Urban Music in Calcutta.” *SARAI READER 02: The Cities of Everyday Life*. Delhi / Amsterdam: Sarai -The New Media Initiative & Waag Society, 2002.

WORKS UNDER REVIEW

Translation and Performance in a Global Age, eds. Avishek Ganguly and Kéline Gotman
(book manuscript, under review at Cambridge University Press)

“Moving Translation: Introduction,” Avishek Ganguly and Kéline Gotman in Ganguly and Gotman eds. *Translation and Performance in a Global Age* (under review)

“Interpreting between privacies” Reading Brian Friel’s Translations, Again,” *Translation Studies*, Volume 13, Issue 2, May 2020 (peer reviewed journal article; revise and resubmit)

“Border Thinking: Translation and Planerarity in Spivak,” *Intermédialités : histoire et théorie des arts, des lettres et des techniques*, No 34, Spring 2020 (peer reviewed journal article; under review)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Performing Englishes: Reflections on the work of Nicoline van Harskamp” in *My Name is Language*
Co-produced by the Dutch Mondriaan Fund, Scriptings, and Archive Books, Berlin (essay, 2020)

“Translingualism and Contemporary Theatre” in Steven G. Kellman and Natasha Lvovich eds.
The Routledge Handbook of Translingual Literature (Routledge, forthcoming in 2021)
(peer reviewed, under contract)

Translation: Performance, Politics, Planerarity (book manuscript)

“Ethics, Politics, Translation in David Edgar’s Pentecost.” (journal article for *Modern Drama*)

“Towards a Performative Theory of Translation” in Erika Fischer-Lichte and Torsten Jost eds.
Theatrical Speech Acts (Routledge). (peer reviewed)

Global Englishes: A Cultural History (book manuscript)

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS/INVITED TALKS

“Border Talk: Translation and Planerarity in Spivak,” American Comparative Literature Association Conference, Chicago, March 2020 (upcoming)

Participant, “New Alphabet School: Translating,” Haus der Kulturen der Welt (HKW), Berlin, June 17-18, 2019

Respondent, “Traduttore Traditore: The Instrumentalism of Conventional Wisdom about

- Translation,” keynote address by Lawrence Venuti at “Un(common) Ground: Authors, Texts, Translators: A Translation Colloquium,” Brown University, April 18, 2019
- Moderator, Roundtable Discussion and Closing Remarks, “Writers in Conversation with their Translators,” at “Un(common) Ground: Authors, Texts, Translators: A Translation Colloquium,” Brown University, April 19, 2019
- ““Voice Work”: Sonic Performances in Indian International Call Centers,” with Diya Das, American Society for Theatre Research Annual Conference, San Diego, CA, November 15-18, 2018
- “How to do Things with Words, in Politics,” Re-Casting the Commons: Reflections on Contemporary Politics, Performance, and Scholarship,” PhD Symposium, School of Theatre, Dance and Performance Studies, University of Maryland, College Park, March 9, 2018
- “Do Business Majors Dream of Speculative Fiction?” Bryant University, Smithfield, Rhode Island, February 26, 2018
- Respondent, Artist Talk by Nicoline van Harskamp, International Research Center- Interweaving Performance Cultures, Freie Universität, Berlin, September 13, 2017
- Invited Lecture and Guest Reviewer, Kunstakademie Münster/University of Fine Arts, Münster, Germany, June 20, 2017
- Panel Chair and Respondent, International Conference: The Past is Back on Stage – Medieval and Early Modern England on the Contemporary Stage, University Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3, Montpellier, France, May 19-20, 2017.
- “Staging Translation in the Theatre of David Edgar,” International Research Center- Interweaving Performance Cultures, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, May 16, 2017
- “Performing Translation, Staging “New Europe” at ACLA Conference, Harvard University, 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
- “Epic/Theater: Staging Translation in David Edgar's "Pentecost" at 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
- Discussant. “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
- “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
- Respondent. 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.
- Panelist. 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

SELECTED PUBLIC HUMANITIES WORK

- Talkback Panelist, *Waiting for Godot*, Wilbury Theatre Group, Providence, October 4, 2019
- Panelist, Discussion on the films of Ashish Avikunthak, Aicon Gallery, New York, April 10, 2019
- Member, Public Art Selection Committee, Woonasquatucket River Greenway Arts Project, Department of Art, Culture + Tourism, City of Providence, RI, 2018-19.
- Talkback Panelist, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, Trinity Rep Theater, Providence, RI, February 19, 2017

“What is Fringe?” Panel/Public Discussion presented by FringePVD—the Providence Fringe Festival and Rhode Island Council for Humanities, July 18, 2016

Moderator, Reading and Conversation with Fiston Mwanza Mujila, Internationaler Literaturpreis winning author of *Tram 83* and his English translator Roland Glasser, French American School of RI, Providence, September 25, 2015

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

Member, Steering Committee, FringePVD – An Edition of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Providence, Rhode Island, 2015-present

Curator and Producer, Turner Performance Series – Citywide program of public performances and talks in connection with a special grant-funded course at RISD, Providence, RI Spring, 2015

COLLEGE SERVICE (Rhode Island School of Design)

Faculty, Decolonial Teaching in Action Program, SEI, 2020

Coordinator, Literary Arts and Studies Concentration, (2018-present)

Member, Global Partners and Programs Committee (2018-present)

Faculty Lead, Working Group for Concentration in Performance (2016-present)

Literary Arts and Studies First Year Program Review Committee, 2017

Member, Global Partners and Programs Committee (2014-2016).

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, 2012-2015

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 SERVICE

Organizer, Inaugural Lecture in the MA in Global Arts and Cultures Speaker Series, “Is Modernity Still At Large?” by Arjun Appadurai, Goddard Professor in Media, Culture and Communication, NYU April 11, 2019

External Reviewer, Northwestern University Press, University of Toronto Press, and Duke University Press

Organizer, First Global Forum Guest Lecture, “As My Work Pulls Me,” by Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, University Professor in the Humanities, Columbia University, November 18-19, 2015

Member, Program Committee of the Annual Conference of the American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR) in Portland, OR, November 5-8, 2015.

Discussant, Ayad Akhtar: A Conversation, with Shazia Sikander and Dennis Congdon, RISD, October 25, 2016

Co-organizer and Moderator, “Collective Noun: A Conversation with Raqs Media Collective,” RISD, March 19-20, 2013

Panelist, “South Asian Studies: Collaborations and Conjectures,” Watson Institute, Brown University, December 7, 2012
Co-organizer and Discussant, “Morir Sonando,” by Coco Fusco, RISD, 20 October 2011.
Organizer and Discussant, “Mumbai Fables: A Conversation with Gyan Prakash,” RISD Spring Liberal Arts Lecture Series, 11 April 2011.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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