

Dr. Canan Salih

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Education

PhD in Applied Theatre, Royal Central School of Speech and Drama (CSSD) 2008-2014

Thesis Title: Towards an Understanding of how London Turkish Cypriot Youth 'Perform' their Diaspora Identities through Emplacement and Mobility (Part Funded by Elsie Fogerty Fund)

Supervisors: Professor Sally Mackey (CSSD) and Dr S. Banaji (LSE)

Brief Synopsis of Research:

The Turkish Cypriot community of London has been described as 'invisible', a community at the point of eradication (according to Aksoy and Robins in 2001). For three generations of London Turkish Cypriots (LTC) the process of cultural identification has seen an evolution from **migration and 'homeland'** association, to critical **displacement**, assimilation and a different form of 'homing desire' (as referred to by Brah in 2003). This growing diversity in cultural identification is reflected in enhanced access to spatial consumption, **mobility and choices of emplacement** for its younger generations.

My thesis addresses some complex issues that have arisen out of recent auto ethnographic research of the LTC youth, conducted through applied drama practice and various adaptations of **psycho-geographical practices**; Issues around identifying young participants relationship to **cultural spatiality and place making** as part of their identity construction process. My PhD argues for applied drama's efficiency in exposing subliminal **performative behaviour** and attitudes towards identification and belonging of the LTC youth. It discusses the appropriateness applied drama exemplifies as a qualitative research tool within this context, using documented examples of practice. During my PhD I have also led seminars, and supervised undergraduates in Applied Drama practice and Drama and Theatre in Education courses at RCSSD and completed my Diploma in Teaching in Lifelong Learning Sector (DTLLS)

2013 – 2014: Diploma in Teaching in Lifelong Learning Sector (DTLLS) College of East London, London, UK

2005 - 2008 MA Theatre and Performance Studies, Rose Bruford College, Kent 1995 - 1998 BA (Hons) Theatre, Dartington College of Arts, Devon
Upper Second Class Honours

Southgate College, Enfield

1995 A-levels: Music, Theatre Studies, Art

Ajax High School, Ajax, Ontario, Canada

1990 Ontario Academic Credits (OAC): Art B, English C, English lit. C, Sociology C, Law C, Visual Arts C, Geography C

Haggerston School, Hackney, London

1988 GCSE Math C, English C, Music A, Art C, Sociology C, English lit B, Biology D, CDT C, Turkish (O' Level) A

Associated Board of Music, London

1994 Grade 6 Singing, Music Theory, and Piano

Employment

2020 - 2021: Part-time Visiting Lecturer, Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Famagusta, Cyprus

Delivering PhD and MA courses for the faculty of Communication and Media in **Ethnographic Research**, and **Theory of Moving Image**.

Delivered courses via Teams and Moodle as per the guidelines of the department of Education TRNC and EMU

2020 - 2021: Part-time Visiting Lecturer, Mediterranean-Karpaz University (AKUN), Nicosia, Cyprus

Delivering undergraduate courses in **Introduction to Sociology** and **Career Development** via online platform, delivering courses via Google Classroom as per the guidelines of the department of Education TRNC and AKUN

2016 - 2019: Assistant Professor in Theatre, Richmond University of American Liberal Arts, Richmond Hill, Richmond, London

Deliver lectures and supervise seminars based on Dramaturgy, Feminist Theatre, and Community Theatre modules in applied drama practice within community context. Specialism in Ethnography, Anthropology, Social Studies and Diaspora, and space/place studies through applied drama practice. In addition, running the Top Girls Module on women in theatre. Duties include tutoring students in undergraduate studies, including moderating presentation and facilitation assessments, preparing essay topics, and exam questions, marking written work and mentoring students. In addition, co-wrote the Performing Arts Admin MA programme for the Faculty of Communications.

2018 – 2019: Artistic Director of Stages Project, Peoples Palace Project (PPP), Queen Mary University, London, UK

Stages is a practice-based enquiry into how performance can be used to stimulate reflection on “othering” processes in society that lead to discrimination, violence and social exclusion. Using the Ten Stages of Genocide (from Genocide Watch) as the catalyst for dramatic content, each group collaboratively creates a theatre event that addresses inequality and social exclusion that reflects local realities. *Stage 3* is the first piece produced by the *Stages* project, and is a ten-minute participatory performance devised by a group of students from Queen Mary University of London, whom I worked with as theatre director. *Stage 3* opened the Tafahum project’s (Un)Structured Dialogues event in Tower Hamlets in July 2018. Involving young people and decision makers in the participatory performance, *Stage 3* used the Ten Stages of Genocide as a catalyst to look at the bureaucracy and power of the UK’s naturalisation system.

2012 – 2018: Visiting Lecturer in Applied Theatre and Drama, Royal Central School of Speech and Drama (CSSD), Swiss Cottage, London, UK

Deliver lectures and supervise seminars based on applied drama practice in community context. Specialism in Ethnography, Anthropology, Social Studies and Diaspora, and space/place studies through applied drama practice. Tutoring students in MA studies of applied theatre practice, including marking written work and mentoring placements.

Jul 2001 – Dec 2019: Youth Arts Officer, 'A' Team Arts, LB Tower Hamlets Arts, Parks and Events, London, UK

Lead facilitator of *Project Charlie*, a drugs awareness programme that used applied drama across primary and secondary schools to raise self-awareness, (2001 – 2003). Ran, for 18 years, the performing arts programmes for the boroughs Youth Arts team on a job share basis. Responsibilities included **collaborating with external organisations, universities and artists**, working towards projects involving 13-19 year olds and professionals collaborating in the performing arts, music and film. Running the **youth drama group**, *House of Talent*, in national tours (including the Edinburgh Fringe Festival), local performances, short and feature length films and international exchanges. **Annually writing and directing productions that include live theatre, film and dance (with a total of over 15 productions to date)**. Involved in **Extensive fundraising** for projects, which have included Youth Opportunities Funds (£5k), Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (£30k), Awards for All (£10k) and Heritage Lottery Fund (£50k). Founded and ran an **all girls after school drama project** that involves 18 young women from four different secondary schools in Tower Hamlets. **Managed the council's International Women's Day festival** (2011 – 2017), liaised with various youth service providers, voluntary and public and private sector organisations. Delivered AQA and Arts Awards accreditation through applied arts practices.

Jul 2015 – Present: Dramaturge, Curator, Writer and Director, Arts Without Borders Ltd, for Season of Bangla Drama Festival (SBD), LB Tower Hamlets, Arts, Parks and Events, London, UK

Programming the Season of Bangla Drama (SOBD) Festival (a significant, small theatre festival in Europe for Bangladeshi Diaspora). I am a Dramaturge to the numerous theatre groups contributing to the festival programme. I am also on the SBD curator panel, conducting, in collaboration with Ali Campbell and Queen Mary University, London, co-facilitation of the festivals reflective practices, e.g. evaluations, Long Tables, scratch/devising and development workshops. As a Theatre Director I have also created a number of youth drama pieces, which were transferred to the Edinburgh Fringe festival 2016 and 2019, in collaboration with applied performance students of Queen Mary University, London.

Sept 2004 – July 2005: Drama Teacher, Homerton Technical College, Hackney, UK

Drama teacher of years 7-9. Taught the drama curriculum to the lower school years, including issues on bullying, family, relationships, and conflict resolution. Supported Key Stage 3/4 learning.

Sept 1999 – July 2010: Senior Manager and Drama Leader, Youth Create, Sawbridgeworth, UK

Teaching drama as a means of widening social and educational needs of young people aged 4 - 18 years. Using interdisciplinary art forms to broaden young people's perception of theatre and encouraging the application of this knowledge in performances. Operating an open door policy that **includes individuals with various special needs**. Managing staff and budget linked to the group. Planning workshops and term-time programmes.

Sept 1998 – July 2013: Drama Tutor, Theatre Train, Harlow and Brentwood, UK

Working with young people between the ages of 6 - 18 years, **facilitating creative responses to issues through different drama techniques**. Also teaching young people in the different styles of acting, writing, devising, and researching with the aim of developing creative and social skills.

Sept 2000 – July 2010: Drama Facilitator, Chats Palace, Hackney, UK

Ran the in-house youth drama provision, **writing and directing plays**, producing productions each year.

Jan 1998 – Sept 2000 Outreach Associate, Chats Palace, Hackney, UK

Outreached groups in the community. **Lead and developed workshop programmes that prepared and engaged participants from a range of backgrounds, cultures and abilities in active participation in live arts activities**. Co-ordinated and managed 28 projects in two years with youth centres, schools, the elderly social clubs, SEN and Disability projects, and refugee groups in Hackney, London.

Oct 1998 – March 1999: T.I.E Workshop Leader, Caught in the Act, Brixton, UK

Engaged as a **Workshop Leader on the company's drug education programme 'Tell Tale Signs'** for parents, carers and other adults across Britain.

Skills

General skills in practice-as-research, project management and data analysis. Specific expertise and interests in: Theatre and film studies, social sciences and humanities, issue-based drama, creative writing and scriptwriting.

IT:

- Confident in use of various software package: Microsoft Office Suite, Internet Explorer, Safari, Chrome, Adobe Photoshop, Final Cut Pro (Editing), Final Draft (scriptwriting) and several e-mail packages. Operating Systems: Mac OSX, Windows Vista, Windows XP
- A skilled database writer and user

Teaching Experience:

- Postgraduate and Doctorate Demonstrator. MA and PhD tutor, includes mentoring on placement studies, tutoring on practice-as-research papers, and marking dissertations.
- Experienced syllabi and programme designer in MA and BA level studies in arts and humanities subjects, arts administration and social sciences
- Experienced internal moderator of academic assessments via criteria outlined at Rich, American University, London
- Regularly supervised practical projects for third year undergraduate students, lectured on the Key Concepts programme at CSSD, and have supervised the undergraduate dissertation and research projects of final year students on the BA and MA Drama and Theatre Education at CSSD.

- Have lead several seminars and lectures for undergraduates in applied drama practice, youth arts practice and community arts.
- Facilitate drama and arts based workshops with 13-25 year olds, using applied drama and media technology as a means of exploring issue based arts practices.
- Recruit, train and supervise sessional arts tutors in Arts Awards, Safeguarding, Health and Safety and risk assessment practices and policies.

Time Management:

- It was important to complete my PhD part-time within 5 years and I did this successfully. I have also met, without fail, many deadlines in my employment in facilitating, teaching and supervisory duties. I have extensive experience of juggling different tasks and bringing these to a successful conclusion.

Publications/Conference Papers:

- Salih, C. 'The performance and performativity of diaspora identity through emplacement and mobility of London Turkish Cypriot young people.' Provocation paper at the Theatre and Performance Research Association Conference (TAPRA), Plymouth (2009)
- Salih, C. 'Discussing PaR on the emplacement and mobility of London Turkish Cypriot youth.' Presentation paper at the TAPRA Conference, Swansea, (2010)
- Salih, C. 'Performing Public Spaces', *Collisions*, Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, (2010)
- Salih, C. 'Home', presentation of Practice-as-Research at *Collisions* Conference, Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, (2011)
- Salih, C. 'Home-2', facilitation of invited panel of people to discuss outcomes of the *Home- 2* PaR at *Collisions* Conference, Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, (2012)
- Salih, C. 'The performance and performativity of diaspora identity through emplacement and mobility of London Turkish Cypriot young people.' Paper presented at the Awkward Localism Conference, University of Greenwich, (July 2013)
- Salih, C. 'Practice-as-Research: Challenges and Consideration', Presentation of PaR Examples for Research Development staff at Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, (April 2015)
- Salih, C. 'Realism: Performance and Performativity of London Turkish Cypriot Youth', *Stanislavski Studies: Practice, Legacy and Contemporary Theater*, Routledge/Taylor and Francis, (Nov 2015)
- Salih, C. 'Performing Place', *Platform: Postgraduate Journal of Theatre Arts*, Royal Holloway, University of London (Nov 2015)
- Salih, C. 'Young Women in Tower Hamlets Performing Places of Safety', LBTH publication (2016)
- Salih, C. 'Hyphenated Identities: Multicultural Britain', *Knowing One Another: Through the Art of Drama*, Brick Lane Circle Publications, London (2018)
- Salih, C. 'Journeys: Multi Routes into Britain', *Knowing One Another: Through the Art of Drama*, Brick Lane Circle Publications, London (2018)

References available upon request