

JESSICA HARTLEY

Job title

Course Leader of Actor Training and Coaching,
MA/MFA

Email

jessica.hartley@cssd.ac.uk



COURSES

Actor Training and Coaching, MA/MFA
Acting - Classical, MA
Acting - Contemporary, MA
Acting for Screen, MA

PROFILE

I am Course Leader for the [MA/MFA in Actor Training and Coaching](#). After a successful career as a secondary school drama teacher, I ran away with the circus, specialising in static trapeze. My PhD research questioned the ethics and tact-filled practices that are used when working with adolescent students in circus. I foreground my neurodivergency, feminism and class as a political intervention when considering radical equality within academia and conservatoire training.

I am a Senior Fellow of the HEA.

I was a successful drama teacher and Head of Drama in comprehensive schools across London and the South East of England and have worked as a freelance director and educator specialising in circus training and contemporary performance. I trained as a director at Central under the mentorship of Catherine Alexander, and was subsequently short-listed for the Oxford Samuel Beckett Theatre Trust Award on four occasions between 2003-2007. My professional experience as an associate director saw my alignment with Orla O'Loughlin (Sob, The Traverse and now Guildhall), John Wright (as ASM on *Only Fools No Horses* 2009) and with Jatinder Verma (educator on *Journey to the West* 2001-2002).

I found a permanent home at Central in 2013 working with pedagogy and risk-taking. I have worked for Portsmouth University, The University of Greenwich, Brunel University, Tara Arts, Surrey County Arts, The Why Not Institute - and run a few bars in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

I delivered the Keynote address in AusAct 2019 at Queensland University of Technology: 'Vulnerability in a Crisis: Pedagogy, critical reflection and positionality in Actor Training '.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Freedom and coercion in Pedagogy
- Consent and boundaries in Actor Training
- Dignity and compassion in teaching
- Risk, vulnerability, and wellbeing
- Oracy
- Phenomenology
- Clown
- Failure
- Neuroinclusivity

PHD SUPERVISION

I am currently supervising a PhD with the University of Dundee, on the subject of oracy, wellbeing and gender in primary education.

I have been contracted to examine a PhD in January 2022 for Royal Holloway University on the subject of Actor Training and Interdisciplinarity.

KEY PUBLICATIONS

2022. 'Twenty First Century Pedagogy: A Reflection' in *Be The Change: Learning and Teaching for the Creative Industries*. ed. Anna McNamara. (New York: Nova Science Publishers). (Forthcoming.)

2020. [Vulnerability in a Crisis: Pedagogy, Critical Reflection and Positionality in Actor Training](#). *Fusion Journal*, 17, 6-19.

2018. 'Performance and Pedagogy' in *Performing Interdisciplinarity: Working Across Disciplinary Boundaries through an Active Aesthetic* ed. Experience Bryon. (London: Routledge), pp. 118-130.

2017. [Rupturing the cycles of Shame in Education](#), TEDx Royal Central

REGISTER OF INTEREST

Nothing to declare