

## AYSE TASHKIRAN

**Job title**

Senior Lecturer, Co-Course Leader MA/MFA  
Movement: Directing and Teaching

**Email**

[ayse.tashkiran@cssd.ac.uk](mailto:ayse.tashkiran@cssd.ac.uk)

**Social media**

[Twitter @aysetashkiran](https://twitter.com/aysetashkiran)

**Website**

[www.aysetashkiran.com](http://www.aysetashkiran.com)



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### COURSES

Advanced Theatre Practice, MA/MFA  
Movement: Directing and Teaching, MA/MFA  
Research Degrees (PhD)

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### PROFILE

After joining Central in 2003, I became joint Course Leader of the [MA/MFA Movement: Directing and Teaching](#) in 2004. I combine my teaching on this course with practice in professional theatre settings as a freelance Movement Director and as a Researcher in the field of movement direction. I have also taught generations of performers on the [MA/MFA Advanced Theatre Practice](#) course.

My undergraduate degree is in Drama from Bristol University. My post graduate training was with Lecoq at L'Ecole International Jacques Lecoq for two years in Paris. I then spent twelve years as a physical theatre performer and creator in France, Hungary and Britain.

My movement teaching started at Guildford School of Acting in 1998 where I was Senior Tutor. My movement directing had started to develop whilst at Lecoq and became more formalised alongside teaching. The move to Central enabled me to develop and innovate in the teaching of movement direction, whilst also continuing to work as a movement director for theatre productions and companies, such as the Donmar Warehouse, Dante or Die and the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Talks, keynote lectures, panels and workshops have centred on movement direction, actor movement, and movement and presence in Chile, New York, Brazil, Cyprus, Portugal and Italy as well as in the UK.

I aim to serve communities of movement practitioners as co leader of [International Community of Movement](#) with [Vanessa Ewan](#), since 2014, and since 2020 as co-founder of Movement Directors' Association (MDA) with Diane Alison-Mitchell. The MDA is the first industry body for professional movement directors, addressing working conditions and illuminating the contributions of movement directors.

I am an Associate Artist of the Royal Shakespeare Company and a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. I have served as External Examiner at RADA and University of Chichester.

I am a member of Equity and UCU, and a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. My PG Cert in Teaching and Learning is from Central.

## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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- Movement direction practice and contexts
- Training of Movement directors
- Histories and lineages of movement direction
- Movement pedagogy
- Lecoq inspired chorus work, neutral mask, elements, 20 movements and movement forms, Fundamental journey
- Movement for puppeteers
- Training for performers
- Devising practices for performers
- Contemporary Collaborative practices
- Curriculum Design

## PHD SUPERVISION

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To date, I have co supervised Paul Piris' PhD thesis 'The Rise of Manipulating : The Puppet as the figure of the other' to completion.

I am currently interested in supervising doctoral projects in the areas of movement direction, devising practice and movement pedagogy.

## KEY PUBLICATIONS

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2020. [Movement Directors in Contemporary Theatre: Conversations on Craft](#) by Ayse Tashkiran (Bloomsbury; Methuen)

2017.? [The Actor and His Body?](#) by Litz Pisk, new introduction by Ayse Tashkiran (Bloomsbury; Methuen)

2016. 'British Movement Directors' in *The Routledge Companion to Jacques Lecoq*, pp. 227-235, edited by Rick Kemp and Mark Evans (Abingdon; Routledge)

## Contributions

2022. *Lightwork*. Edited by Alex Merkimes and Andy Lavender *Chapter 7 MyLife On movement direction* by Ayse Tashkiran. Publishers [Intellect](#), Bristol, UK

2022. *Movement Direction: Developing Physical Narratives for Performance* by Kate Flatt OBE, [The Crowood Press](#), Wiltshire, UK (2022). Three contributions to this book by Ayse Tashkiran in Chapter 6 Movement Direction for a play.

2021. *Skin Hunger by Dante or Die* (August 2021). Ayse Tashkiran's short reflection on skin in the creation of new work for Dante or Die's pandemic production. Publishers [Salamander Street](#), Glasgow.

## EXTERNAL PRACTICE

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### Movement Direction

2023. *Hamnet* by Lolita Chakrabarti after the novel by Maggie O'Farrell RSC Swan theatre and Garrick Theatre, director Erica Whyman.

2022. *Mary* by Rona Munro. Directed by Roxana Silbert at the Hampstead Theatre.

2022. *Dido's Bar* by Hattie Naylor and Marouf Majidi. Directed by Josephine Burton for Dash Arts, at The Factory, London and National Tour.

2022. *FOLK* by Nell Leyshon. Directed by Roxana Silbert at the Hampstead Theatre (Production Nominated for an Olivier Award 2022).

2022. *The Dark* by Peut Etre Theatre, National Tour. A dance theatre work for very young audiences. Directed by Daphna Attias. Peut Etre Theatre. National tour. Accessible movement work, devising movement and choreography with dancer and singer.

2021. Horizon residency for *Let Your Hands Sing* in the Silence Baltic Arts Centre, [Projekt Europa](#).

2021. *Skin Hunger* by [Dante or Die](#), directed by Daphna Attias, The Stone Nest, London. Movement direction of three actors using touch and movement motifs in a COVID safe, interactive installation.

2021/2018. *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare, directed by Erica Whyman in the Royal Shakespeare Theatre (RST), Barbican and National Tour, Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC), BBC Culture in Quarantine Season.

2019. *BLANK* by Alice Birch directed by Maria Aberg at the Donmar Warehouse with Clean Break

2019. *The Provoked Wife* by John Vanbrugh directed by Philip Breen (RSC).

2019. *As You Like It* by William Shakespeare, directed by Kimberley Sykes for the Royal Shakespeare Company 2019-2020 RST, Barbican and National Tour.

2018. *The Wolves* by Sarah DeLappe directed by Ellen McDougall at the Theatre Royal, Stratford East.

2018. *Shakespeare in Love* adapted by Lee Hall directed by Philip Breen, National Tour.

2018. *Duchess of Malfi* by John Webster, directed by Maria Aberg for the Royal Shakespeare Company in The Swan.

## **Presentations and Curation**

2019. *Movement Direction: Lineages and Contemporary Practices* at the 3rd [Seminário Internacional Corpo Cênico](#), convened by Artes do Movimento of Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro - UNIRIO.

## **Talks and Workshops**

2023. Lou Cope for a [Downtime Podcast](#) (6 January 2023)

2019. Litz Pisk's Pedagogic and Artistic Influence on Post-War British Theatre

2019. [Creative Collaboration: Women at the Helm](#) hosted by the Mono Box at Equity

2019. [Moving the Stage: Movement Director's Practice](#) at The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama

2019. Shaping the Stage at the Old Vic Theatre

2019. The [Movement Podcast](#) curated by Natasha Harrison

2018. Radical Mischief Conference RSC and University of Birmingham; curated conversation on how scholarship and performance might explore representations of violence in performance

2018. *The Stage* Short [Interview about movement direction teaching](#)

2017. *Teaching movement directors of the future*. Labanarium, University of Surrey

2016. Digital Theatre Interview on Movement Direction

2014. *History of Movement Direction*, [video for the National Theatre](#)

### **Networks and Associations**

- [Movement Directors' Association](#), co-founded with Diane-Alison Mitchell in 2020
- [International Community for Movement](#) co-run with [Vanessa Ewan](#), Co- Course Leader of the [MA/MFA Movement: Directing and Teaching](#)

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

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Equity and UCU

### **REGISTER OF INTEREST**

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Nothing to declare