



AARHUS  
UNIVERSITY

Research Centre  
Dance



Aarhus University, School of Communication and Culture – Dramaturgy  
and Coventry University, Centre for Dance Research

## Mobilizing Dramaturgy Call for Co-Tutelle PhD projects

Aarhus University and Coventry University are inviting applications from suitably qualified graduates under the AU Faculty of Arts Open Call for PhD scholarships for PhD research on the new cotutuelle programme *Mobilizing Dramaturgy*.

**Application deadline: 1 October 2020 at 23.59 Danish time (CET/CETS)**

**Enrolment start: 1 February 2021.**

The online Open Call for applications will be published around 1 September 2020, for guidelines see [Application guideline and forms](#). Applicants will apply under the Faculty of Arts-Graduate School's Open Call for a Faculty scholarship, and refer in their PhD project description to their wish to be considered for this cotutuelle scheme.

*A further opportunity to apply for this cotutuelle scheme is expected to be in the future round with the deadline 15 March 2021, with an enrolment start 1 September 2021.*

**The successful candidates will undertake a collaborative doctoral research programme under the supervision of academic experts from both universities, enrolling at Aarhus University and spending one year at Coventry University in the UK.** The programme offers researchers the opportunity to advance their skills and expertise in the higher education field, whilst developing their intercultural and international skills, and creating international networks and collaborations. When you apply for a PhD scholarship via an open call in Denmark, you apply for both enrolment and employment. The PhD grants are the same regardless of nationality. Non-Danish PhD scholars must however apply for a residence and work permit. Employment cannot happen until the permit has been granted. In this case, international applicants will also need to apply for a residence and student permit in UK. Should the latter not be granted to a successful applicant, they can still undertake their PhD research as regular AU-based PhD fellow.

In recent years, the field of dramaturgy has undergone a significant expansion. Far beyond the practice of editing dramatic texts for their realization on stage, and serving as 'outside eye' in the rehearsal rooms, contemporary dramaturgy exceeds the work of a 'dramaturg'. Instead, it sees itself as an activating 'catalytic' practice that mobilizes thinking as well as doing. Engaging with the mobilization of corporeality as well as of thinking, and setting in motion a choreography of problems, challenges, and impasses, this co-tutelle programme invites the exploration of dramaturgy as an artistic as well as a socio-political practice that may serve as a model for 'commoning' the interrogation and debate of urgent problems beyond populist, antagonistic confrontation. As a model for questioning, and a sustainable exploration of new

understanding, dramaturgy in this broader cultural frame may enquire about the means of creating insight, but also preserving knowledge archives through the performing arts.

Another important field of dramaturgic intervention is the negotiation of the interrelations and interdependencies of local and global contexts, including the institutional artistic contexts of touring and festivals. As such, the cultural, social and political realm of dramaturgy begins to touch questions of activation, activism, and the mobilization of resistance, too. Furthermore, dramaturgies of motion explore the organization of infrastructural, temporal and spatial constraints as well as dynamics, and a negotiation between objects and non-human mobility and the human common.

**The PhD co-tutelle between the Department of Dramaturgy at Aarhus University and the Centre for Dance Research at Coventry University invites proposals following these outlined premises and the interrogation of cognate problematics. Positioning dramaturgy as a concept of framing and understanding situations in the performing arts and beyond, we invite proposals particularly addressing the following areas:**

- **New concepts of dramaturgy in dance, theatre, and performance art**
- **Dramaturgy as a 'lens' to historicize and actualize dance, theatre, and performance art**
- **Dramaturgy as problematization of local and global interrelations in/through the performing arts**
- **Dramaturgies of the social and of commonality in the realm of performance**
- **Dramaturgical activation of situations of protest, riots, as well as migration**
- **Dramaturgical concepts related to new materialism, post humanism, the antropo(s)cene and a post-pandemic society.**

The Aarhus section of the co-tutuelle scheme is located within the Department of Dramaturgy and Musicology that is part of the School of Communication and Culture and situated within the Faculty of Arts at Aarhus University, one of the largest environments for interdisciplinary research and education in the humanities in Northern Europe. Based on the AU Kasernen Arts campus, our dramaturgy programme with its dedicated BA and MA courses in dramaturgy (as distinct from purely theoretical theatre studies) celebrated its 60th anniversary in September 2019. We have developed a distinct profile in research and education combining theoretical and practical exploration with strict scientific rigour. Our programmes cover all aspects of dramaturgic education, from theatre history to performance analysis, arts management, theatre pedagogy and community work. Our department engages in many long-standing partnerships with local, national and international artists and institutions, not least Eugenio Barba's Odin Teatret, based in nearby Holstebro, and the vibrant local theatre, dance and performance scene in Aarhus. It was recently closely involved in the delivery and evaluation of the Aarhus European City of Culture 2017 programme. Core research topics address immersive and participatory dramaturgies, affective and social dramaturgies, as well as curating and institutional dramaturgy.

C-DaRE is a world leading research Centre that conducts research into a wide range of dance activities, many in collaboration with professional dance artists and organisations and much of it in partnership with other disciplines including, for

example, cognitive psychologists, anthropologists, law experts, cultural heritage experts and programmers. The Centre's strength lies in promoting the importance of understanding the world and our place in it as embodied whether this is in the analysis of dance, the transformation of dance and performance through digital technologies, dance's culture and history, dance pedagogies and research-informed teaching, practice-as-research, tangible and intangible cultural heritage, or inclusive dance practices and pedagogies. Coventry University has a highly supportive provision through the Doctoral College, with skills training and research sharing opportunities such as research methods, presentation skills, and academic writing.

**To apply please visit <https://phd.arts.au.dk/applicants/how-to-apply/>**

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Please read the [Guidelines for electronic application](#) and the [FAQ page](#) before contacting the graduate school. If you do not find the answers to your questions/problems with the application in the guideline or FAQ please contact Bettina H. Acthon (acthon@au.dk) in good time before the application deadline.

Subject-specific enquiries about the cotutuelle scheme and your application can be sent to Professor Peter M. Boenisch at [peter.boenisch@cc.au.dk](mailto:peter.boenisch@cc.au.dk).