



Listening at the Intersections

Wednesday 26 June 2019
University of Roehampton

Workshop convened by Leah Bassel (Roehampton) and Tanja Dreher (University of New South Wales)

Supported by the University of Roehampton and the University of New South Wales (UNSW)

Venue

Please note that the Hammersmith Bridge is closed until further notice, meaning there is no bus service from Hammersmith Station to the campus. If you are coming from central London the best route to campus might therefore be the Southwest train, e.g. from Vauxhall to Barnes Station, then a 15 minute walk or 5 minute bus ride taking the 265 bus or Roehampton Shuttle bus to Roehampton University Main Entrance.

To plan your journey it is best to use the Transport for London website and to check right before travelling due to possible changes:

<https://tfl.gov.uk/>

The University of Roehampton provides the following information on travel to campus, but please do also check the TfL site due to changes mentioned above:

<https://www.roehampton.ac.uk/contact-us/>

If you need to use parking on campus please let Leah know (though it is quite limited, as noted on this university website).

Venue Details

The workshop will take place in Digby Stuart College, in the **Convent Parlour**

On the Campus map this is beside Digby Chapel, Digby Stuart College, Building 3:

<https://www.roehampton.ac.uk/globalassets/documents/campus/university-campus-map-september-2017.pdf>

The College address is: Digby Stuart College, Erasmus House, Roehampton Lane, London, SW15 5PU

If needed on the day Leah's contact details are: +44(0)7931754277

Catering

During the workshop we will provide lunch, tea and coffee. We have noted dietary requirements and most food provided will be vegetarian or vegan.

Following the workshop we would like to all go for informal drinks at the King's Head pub:

King's Head Roehampton, 1 Roehampton High Street, Roehampton SW15 4HL

<http://kingsheadsw15.co.uk/>

This is about a 15 minute walk from the campus or accessible by bus (approximately 5 minute ride on the 493 or 265 bus)

Unfortunately we are not able to cover costs for informal drinks.

Thanks to the University of New South Wales, as well as Digby Stuart College and the Department of Social Sciences, University of Roehampton for their support of this event.

Program

8.45am	Welcome coffee		
9.15am	Opening by Leah and Tanja, Introductions		Leah Bassel and Tanja Dreher, All
9.45	Listening at the Intersections	Susan Bickford Tanja Dreher	Chair: Poppy de Souza
10.15	Listening 'here and now'	Jason Arday Divya Ghelani	Chair: Leah Bassel
10.45	Break		
11.15 – 12.45	Interventions – Part 1	Poppy de Souza Anthea Garman Malcolm James Rajni Shah	Chair: Tanja Dreher
12.45 – 1.30	Lunch: provided in Convent Parlour		
1.30 - 3	Interventions – Part 2	Dhanveer Brar Lucia Farinati and Claudia Firth Anja Kanngieser Nine Eglantine Yamamoto-Masson	Chair: Jason Arday
3 – 3.30	Break		
3.30 – 5	Bringing it all together & Closing Comment from Leah		Rajni Shah, Leah Bassel, All

** Please note that names are listed in each section alphabetically. Feel free to discuss with the other people in your session to change the order if you want to.

Workshop Overview

Listening at the Intersections will bring together research and activism on the politics of listening with a particular emphasis on intersectional and decolonial perspectives. Extending beyond recent work on listening as a contribution to deliberative democracy, the event will develop and foreground scholarship that engages with longstanding critical race and feminist debates on speaking positions and the politics of representation. The aim is to catalyse a transformative politics of listening which is responsive to the resounding calls to decolonise scholarship and reinvigorate anti-racist activism in the context of resurgent white nationalism and far right populism.

The study of listening as a social and political practice has been growing across disciplines, going against the grain of the traditionally dominant focus on voice and speaking. This workshop explores research and activism that push beyond celebrations of voice and speech to consider how attention to listening can foreground a commitment to responsibility and responsiveness. Speakers at the intersections of different disciplines will consider whether and how responsibility for change can be shifted from marginalised voices onto institutions, practices and norms that condition who is heard. In particular, speakers will consider the ways in which the failures of listening of the present are structured by colonialism. They will identify alternative modes of listening that can be found in the experiences and scholarship of historically silenced groups.

Listening at the Intersections aims to:

1. **Advance** scholarship of those working in the field of critical listening studies across disciplines (particularly scholars of intersectionality, decolonial and postcolonial studies, sound and performance studies) through sharing and debating the latest developments in this area.
2. **Open up** questions of shifting responsibility in ways that cut across traditional disciplinary boundaries. We aim to push inquiry beyond the established parameters of debates around speech, voice and representation. These concepts – and the broader question of who should speak and who should listen, and what responsibilities for change result – can be reconsidered and recast through the focus on listening.
3. **Bring together** ‘word-based’, logocentric approaches with the scholarship focusing on sound and performance we can open up new areas for research and collaboration, as well as potential methodological innovation.
4. **Foreground** the research of early career scholars who are working at the intersections of these emerging research agendas. These scholars are ideally placed to further develop the synergies across the intersections and take forward this innovative area of enquiry.

This event leverages the interventions of researchers and activists working in diverse contexts which have not yet been brought in to close collaboration. The discussion will foreground social and political processes where listening has been identified as a key dimension, which include the following: national truth and reconciliation processes (such as in South Africa, Canada, and Australia) Grenfell Tower, where residents repeatedly voiced safety concerns for years prior to the fire which caused deaths and displacements, and the ongoing inquiry has been criticised for its

failure to listen to bereaved people. Speakers will diagnose such failures, connecting challenges in the UK (e.g. the Windrush scandal, the ongoing Brexit drama) to broader global struggles (e.g. Rhodes Must Fall). They will also explore the potential for 'listening' as a conceptual framework and practical resource in broader antiracist and feminist coalitions.

The workshop is focused through three key conceptual frames:

1. Intersectionality:

We draw on key insights from our past work on resistance by women of colour to austerity (funded by the British Academy), xenophobia and the far right in Europe, and the politics of Muslim women's integration (Bassel and Emejulu 2017; Dreher 2009b, 2010; Bassel 2012). We invite all participants to consider how listening is conditioned by intersections of 'race', class, gender and other social locations and how the failure or refusal to listen is structured by the legacy of the colonial past in the present and the neoliberal realities of today (Spivak 1988; Stoeberl 2016; Dreher 2009b).

2. Connecting listening to decolonial and postcolonial scholarship:

We aim to advance a distinctive intellectual agenda in listening studies correcting – in some cases – for ahistorical and/or 'race'-blind analyses.

3. Beyond Words, Logocentrism:

The workshop will cross boundaries in the study of listening beyond the exclusive focus on more conventional 'word-based' claims. This undertaking is inherently interdisciplinary, involving a focus on curation, blurring the distinction between audience and performers and exploring sound as well as words.

Workshop Format

The workshop will build on the momentum of *The Politics of Listening 2018* international conference convened by Tanja Dreher and Poppy de Souza in Sydney, November 2018 <https://www.politicsoflistening2018.com/>. Listening at the Intersections begins with reflections from Dr Susan Bickford (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill) in order to engage with her discussion starter paper and pathbreaking book *The Dissonance of Democracy* (1996) and to explore listening as a form of intersectional feminist politics over twenty years after its publication. We anticipate that the workshop will plant the seeds to chart new directions in listening research.

Some workshop participants will then provide brief (up to 12 minute) talks through which we aim to maximize exchange rather than speaking 'at' each other in static blocks.

We will conclude the workshop with some plans for next steps.

Readings

Suggested readings:

Susan Bickford (2019) – ‘Listening at the Intersections’ discussion-starter paper

Divya Ghelani (2018) Grenfell Tower: ‘there are only the deliberately silent, or the preferably unheard’ available online at: <https://mediadiversified.org/2017/06/22/grenfell-tower-there-are-only-the-deliberately-silent-or-the-preferably-unheard/>

Leah Bassel (2017) ‘Listening as Solidarity’ Chapter 5 in *The Politics of Listening: Possibilities and Challenges for Democratic Life* Plagrave, London

Tanja Dreher (2009) ‘Eavesdropping with permission: the politics of listening for safer speaking spaces’, *Borderlands E-Journal*, vol. 8, no. 1, pp. 1-21, available online at: http://www.borderlands.net.au/vol8no1_2009/dreher_eavesdropping.htm

NB: A note from Nine Eglantine Yamamoto-Masson on the title of the suggested reading by Divya Ghelani: Arundhati Roy's original words are: "[...] there's really no such thing as the 'voiceless'. There are only the deliberately silenced, or the preferably unheard.", (cf. <http://sydney.edu.au/news/84.html?newsstoryid=279> , it's from her acceptance speech for the 2004 Sydney Peace Prize Lecture) i.e. "the deliberately silenced", not "the deliberately silent". The article is excellent and the original quote is also important for Roy's argument.

Further reading:

With thanks to participants for many excellent suggestions

Act Esol. *Language, Resistance, Theatre*, Serpentine Galleries, 2019
Free download: https://www.serpentinegalleries.org/files/downloads/act_esol_language_resistance_theatre_2019_0.pdf

Ahmed, Sara *Feminist Killjoy* blog eg. <https://feministkilljoys.com/2017/11/10/complaint-as-diversity-work/>
<https://feministkilljoys.com/2015/04/16/becoming-unsympathetic/>;
<https://feministkilljoys.com/2017/01/04/wound-up/>

Ahmed, Sara *Strange Encounters: embodied others in post-coloniality*

Ahmed, Sara ‘Feminist Killjoys’ in *The Promise of Happiness*

Ahsan, Hamja, *Shy Radicals: The Anti-Systemic Politics of the Introvert Militant* (London: Book Works, 2017)

Arday, J. and Mirza, H. (Eds.). 2018. *Dismantling Race in Higher Education. Racism, Whiteness and Decolonising the Academy*. London: Palgrave.

Bassel, L. 2017. *The Politics of Listening. Possibilities and Challenges for Democratic Life*. London: Palgrave.

Bassel, L. and A. Emejulu. 2017. *Minority Women and Austerity. Survival and Resistance in France and Britain*. Bristol: Policy Press.

Bassel, L. 2012. *Refugee Women: Beyond Gender versus Culture*. London: Routledge.

Bickford, S. 1996. *The Dissonance of Democracy. Listening, Conflict and Citizenship*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

Bhambra, G., Gebrial, D., Nişancioğlu, K. 2018. *Decolonising the University*. London: Pluto Press.

Bhopal, K. 2018. *White Privilege: the myth of a post-racial society*. Bristol: Policy Press.

de Souza, P. (2018). 'What Does (In)justice Sound Like? On listening, acoustic violence and the booning of Adam Goodes', *Continuum: Journal of Media and Cultural Studies*, 32(4). (special issue: Shifting the Terms of Debate). doi: 10.1080/10304312.2018.1488524.

Dreher, T. 2009a. 'Listening across difference: Media and multiculturalism beyond the politics of voice', *Continuum-Journal of Media & Cultural Studies*, vol. 23, pp. 445 – 458.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10304310903015712>

Dreher, T. 2009b. 'Eavesdropping with permission: the politics of listening for safer speaking spaces', *Borderlands e-Journal : New Spaces in the Humanities*, vol. 8, pp. 1 – 21. Open access at http://www.borderlands.net.au/vol8no1_2009/dreher_eavesdropping.htm

Dreher, Tanja 2019 'Listening After Christchurch' available at <https://tanjadreher.net/2019/05/07/listening-after-christchurch/>

Dreher, T and A. Mondal (eds.) (2018) 2018, *Ethical Responsiveness and the Politics of Difference*, Palgrave Macmillan, New York

Farinati, Lucia and Claudia Firth, *The Force of Listening*, Errant Bodies Press, 2017
Free download: http://www.errantbodies.org/doormats_6.html

Garman, Anthea 'Citizens and Journalists: The possibilities of co-creating the democracy we want' available at:
https://www.academia.edu/36557635/Citizens_and_journalists_The_possibilities_of_co-creating_the_democracy_we_want

Garman, Anthea 'When an editor listens to a city' available at:
https://www.academia.edu/37070536/When_an_editor_listens_to_a_city

Ghelani, Divya 'Necessary Stutterings', *Unbound*, available at:
<https://unbound.com/boundless/2019/03/11/necessary-stutterings/>

Ghelani, Divya 'Roots' *The Mechanics Institute Review* available at: <http://mironline.org/roots-divya-ghelani/>

Ghelani, Divya 'India: Firefly' Litro #156 available at <https://www.litro.co.uk/2016/10/litro-156-india-firefly/>

Joseph-Salisbury, R., Johnson, A. & Kamunge, E. (eds.). 2018. *The Fire Now: anti-racist scholarship in times of explicit racial violence*. London: Zed Books.

Kanngieser A and Beuret N 2017 Refusing the world: Silence, commoning, and the Anthropocene. *South Atlantic Quarterly* (Special Issue Autonomism and the Anthropocene) 116(2): 363-380.

Kanngieser A 2012 A sonic geography of the voice: Towards an affective politics. *Progress in Human Geography* 36(3): 336-353.

Motsemme, Nthabiseng, 'The Mute Always Speak: On Women's Silences at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission', *Current Sociology*, 52.5 (2004), 909–32

Precarious Workers Brigade, Training for Exploitation? Politicising Employability and Reclaiming Education, *Journal of Aesthetics & Protest Press*, 2017

Free download: https://www.joaap.org/press/pwb/PWB_Text_FINAL.pdf

Quashie, Kevin, *The Sovereignty of Quiet: Beyond Resistance in Black Culture* (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2012)

Rhodes Must Fall Movement, Oxford. 2018. *Rhodes Must Fall. The Struggle to Decolonise the Racist Heart of Empire*. London: Zed Books. Edited by Roseanne Chantiluke, Brian Kwoba and Athinagamso Nkopo

Robinson, Dylan, *Hungry Listening* (forthcoming 2020)

Royster, Jacqueline Jones, 'When the First Voice You Hear Is Not Your Own', *College Composition and Communication*, 47.1 (1996), 29–40

Schäfer, Martin Jörg, Vassilis S. Tsianos, and geheimagentur, eds., *The Art of Being Many: Towards a New Theory and Practice of Gathering* (Bielefeld: transcript, 2016)

Simpson, Leanne Betasamosake, *As We Have Always Done: Indigenous Freedom Through Radical Resistance* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2017)

Spivak, G. 1988. 'Can the Subaltern Speak?'. In *Marxism and the Interpretation of Culture*, edited by C. Nelson and L. Grossberg, 271–313. Urbana: University of Illinois Press.

Stoeber, J. 2016. *The Sonic Colour Line: Race and the Cultural Politics of Listening*. New York: New York University Press.

Participants

Jason Arday

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Dr Jason Arday is an Assistant Professor in Sociology at Durham University in the Department of Sociology. Jason is a Visiting Research Fellow at The Ohio State University in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and a Trustee of the Runnymede Trust, the UK's leading Race Equality Thinktank. He is also an Elected Steering Committee Member of the Parliamentary Group Comprehensive Future and a School Governor at Shaftesbury Park Primary School in London.

Jason also sits on the following trade union equality committees; Trade Union Congress (TUC) Race Relations Committee and the University and College Union (UCU) Black Members' Standing Committee. He is a Graduate of the Operation Black Vote (OBV) MP Parliamentary Scheme, a scheme focused on unearthing the next generation of ethnic minority Parliamentarians.

Jason's research focuses on Race, Education and Social Justice. He is the Co-Editor of two policy publications with Professor Claire Alexander (University of Manchester) and Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard (Joseph Rowntree Foundation) which have been disseminated within UK Parliament from the Runnymede Perspectives collection funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC); *Aiming Higher: Race, Inequality and Diversity in the Academy* (February, 2015) and *The Runnymede School Report Race: Education and Inequality in Contemporary Britain* (September, 2015). He has also completed a report for University and College Union (UCU) entitled *Exploring Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Doctoral Students' perceptions of a career in Academia: Experiences, Perceptions and Career Progression* published in June 2017.

Jason is author of the forthcoming titles: *Considering Racialised Contexts in Education: Using Reflective Practice and Peer-Mentoring to support Black and Ethnic Minority educators* (Routledge); *Being Young, Black and Male: Challenging the dominant discourse* (Palgrave); *Exploring Cool Britannia and Multi-Ethnic Britain: Uncorking the Champagne Supernova* (Routledge). He is the Co-Editor of the highly acclaimed *Dismantling Race in Higher Education: Racism, Whiteness and Decolonising the Academy* (Palgrave) with Professor Heidi Mirza (Goldsmiths, University of London).

Jason is the Lead-editor of the book series on Race and Education (Palgrave) with Professor Michael Peters (Beijing Normal University), Professor Paul Warmington (University of Warwick), Professor Vikki Boliver (Durham University), Professor Zeus Leonardo (University of California) and Professor James Moore III (The Ohio State University).

Leah Bassel

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Leah Bassel is Professor of Sociology at the University of Roehampton, UK, where her research interests include the political sociology of migration, intersectionality and citizenship. Her books include *Refugee Women: Beyond Gender versus Culture* (Routledge, 2012), *The Politics of*

Listening: Possibilities and Challenges for Democratic Life (Palgrave, 2017), and *Minority Women and Austerity: Survival and Resistance in France and Britain* co-authored with Akwugo Emejulu (Policy Press 2017). She is currently co-Principal Investigator, with Akwugo Emejulu, of the Open Society-funded project Women of Colour Resist. Leah has also led projects funded by the Economic and Social Research Council and the British Academy. She is Associate Editor of the journal *Citizenship Studies*.

Before pursuing an academic career, Leah was an emergency outreach worker in Paris, where she provided humanitarian assistance to asylum seekers and created a circus camp project for refugee youth.

Susan Bickford

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Susan Bickford is associate professor of political science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her work is situated at the intersection of feminist and democratic political theory, with a focus on the impact of conflict and inequality on democratic political practice. She is the author of *The Dissonance of Democracy: Listening, Conflict, and Citizenship*. Her recent articles include "Emotion Talk and Political Judgment" (Journal of Politics 2011) and, with Elizabeth Markovits, "Constructing Freedom: Institutional Pathways to Changing the Gender Division of Labor" (Perspectives on Politics 2014).

Natasha Boatswain

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Natasha Boatswain is a recent graduate from the University of Roehampton and the award winner of "outstanding contribution to the department of Social Sciences 2018-2019" "Undergraduate of the year 2016-2017" and "winner of the late Sister Dorothy Bell prize 2017-2018". Natasha, as Roehampton universities Student Representative between 2016-2018 worked extensively across the university on behalf of the student voice. Natasha's field of study and interests lie in social justice and the Criminal Justice System which led her to become the president of the Criminology society that she introduced in 2016. As a third year Criminology student Natasha has fundraised to support Roehampton's Sacred Heart Society to raise an awareness to trafficked women and their children affected by the humanitarian crisis. Natasha also became a host for the charity "House a refugee" who support those who have become displaced through fleeing wars and discrimination. Prior to studying, Natasha worked as a Prisoner Custody Officer for over a decade with a private custodial company. Currently Natasha is the founder and lead for a project called Reflection. The project idea emerged out of Natasha's time as the Roehampton Postgraduate Representative for the Roehampton Student Senate where she, along with her student peers recognised a need for young people to see their reflection in positive role models, the curriculum and the academic teaching departments. The project aims to empower and support young people and educators through a series of workshops delivered by a team of recent graduates and community workers. Natasha currently works at Roehampton University on a student led project called "Decolonising the Curriculum funded by the Rebuilding Attainment for All Project (RAFA2).

Dhanveer Singh Brar

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Dhanveer Singh Brar is a Lecturer in Visual Cultures in the Department of Visual Cultures at Goldsmiths, University of London. His research and teaching focuses on the aesthetics and politics of black diasporic sonic culture from the mid-twentieth century to the present. He has published essays in *Social Text*, *Glass Bead*, and *Propter Nos*.

Poppy de Souza

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I am an Adjunct Research Fellow with the Griffith Centre for Social and Cultural Research at Griffith University and a Postdoctoral Research Fellow with the University of Melbourne on the Australian Research Council Discovery Indigenous project "From Members to Leaders? Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Participation in Political Parties", led by Associate Professor Michelle Evans. My research is interested in voice poverty and the politics of listening in the context of changing media technologies, everyday cultural production, representational politics and political transformation. More recently, my work has explored sound, race and the cultural politics of listening; acoustic violence and the 'white ear'; critical temporalities of slow listening; and the conditions of being heard in settler colonialism. I'm currently thinking through the notion of 'earwitnessing' as an alternative framework to empathy in response to podcast media and oral history recordings made by, and in collaboration with, First Nations and refugee/asylum seeker communities, particularly media that contests the racialised carceral logic of the settler colonial state. You can find me at <http://www.poppydesouza.com/>

Tanja Dreher

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Tanja Dreher is an ARC Future Fellow, Scientia Fellow and Associate Professor of Media at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. Tanja analyses contemporary media and mediation through the lenses of social justice, the politics of listening, First Nations sovereignties, anti-racism, decolonising methodologies, data justice and feminist media studies. Current topics include First Nations media and voice; community and alternative media; media activism and media interventions; resurgent white supremacy, listening interventions, and social justice in the age of datafication. Her previous research has focused on news and cultural diversity, community media interventions, experiences of racism and the development of community anti-racism strategies after September 11, 2001. Tanja has worked closely with diverse communities in western Sydney through collaborative research with Arab and Muslim communities and with media and community arts organisations. She is the co-editor (with Anshuman A Mondal) of *Ethical Responsiveness and the Politics of Difference* (Palgrave, 2018) and recently co-convened (with Poppy de Souza) *The Politics of Listening 2018*: <https://www.politicsoflistening2018.com/>

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Lucia Farinati

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Lucia Farinati (I/UK) is a researcher, curator and activist. She studied on the Curatorial Programme at Goldsmiths College, London and History of Art and Aesthetics at the University of Trento (I). In 2007, she established Sound Threshold, an interdisciplinary curatorial project exploring the relationships between site, sound and text. Since 2010 she has also been working with the Precarious Workers Brigade collective, expanding her interest in sound from the curation of site-specific projects into the analysis of voice and listening as a political practice. She is the co-author with Claudia Firth of *The Force of Listening*, Errant Bodies Press, 2017. She was the chair of the panel Listening Politics at the festival/conference of Tuned City, Messene (GR), 1 June 2018. Lucia is currently working on a research project on Audio Arts magazine in collaboration with Tate Archive as part of her PhD at Kingston University London.

Claudia Firth

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Claudia has just completed a PhD in Critical and Cultural Studies. Her PhD is a non-linear political history of radical informal learning in relation to three moments of post-economic crisis (the 30's, the 70's and the present). Together with Lucia Farinati, she recently published *The Force of Listening*, a book exploring the role of listening at the intersection of contemporary art and activism. Written as a constructed dialogue with a number of interlocutors, the book tackles questions of solidarity and resonance, the politics of the voice, the ethics of listening, the challenges of institutional frameworks and reflections on the Occupy movement. For both her thesis and *The Force of Listening*, dialogic and montage writing methods were used to produce the final texts. Claudia is also a skilled facilitator and has extensive experience of facilitating workshops across both cultural and activist sectors. She has worked with the Precarious Workers Brigade, the London Renters Union and other activist and artist groups. She currently teaches at Ravensbourne University and Birkbeck, University of London.

Anthea Garman

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Anthea Garman teaches writing and editing, long-form journalism, multimedia storytelling and academic writing in the School of Journalism and Media Studies. She leads the National Research Foundation-funded research project called "Licence to Talk" (2019 to 2021) which seeks to ascertain the shifts and ruptures in what is said and what is sayable in the South African public sphere. The study seeks to assess whether listening theory offers new practices for those conducting public debates, discussions and engagements, whether they be face to face encounters, via the media or on social media. She is a member of the School's Mellon-funded research project (2018 to 2012) called Media and Sociality which uses coloniality theory to examine highly digitised post-colonial spaces and their possibilities for social connection. She is part of the Public Life of Ideas research network led by Prof Carolyn Hamilton at UCT. She is co-editor (with Herman Wasserman) of *Media and Citizenship in South Africa: Between Marginalisation and Participation* (HSRC Press) and Antjie Krog and the *Postapartheid South*

African Public Sphere: Speaking Poetry to Power (UKZN). A comprehensive list of her work can be found at <https://rhodes-za.academia.edu/AntheaGarman>

Divya Ghelani

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www.divyaghelani.com

Divya Ghelani is a writer who holds an MA in Creative Writing from the University of East Anglia and an MPhil in Literary Studies from the University of Hong Kong. Her novel-in-progress has been longlisted and shortlisted for four literary awards. She lives between the UK and Berlin and is Programme Associate for the UK's leading literary salon, the Word Factory. She has published articles, short stories, and judged story and flash fiction competitions. She is Researcher on a HLF-funded exhibition and storytelling project about the 1974 strike at Imperial Typewriters in Leicester, which saw 500 South Asian workers protest against unfair work conditions and racist discrimination. The opening of her novel, *Night School*, is in Issue One of *The Good Journal*. She is represented by Niki Chang at The Good Literary Agency.

Sierra Kamara

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Sierra Kamara is a Criminology and Sociology student at the University of Roehampton. Sierra is also the democratically elected Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) Officer at Roehampton University and sits on the committee of the recipients of the Best New Society Award from both the National Society awards and the Roehampton Student Union Awards: Universal Black Minds. She previously won a Jack Petchey and Stephen Lawrence award, as well as an acclaimed Rotary Award for her academic excellence. She volunteered weekly at her local foodbank over the span of five years and raised over 400kg of food through campaigning in local assemblies. As a recognition for all her hard work, in 2015, Sierra also won a scholarship to carry out voluntary work in India for several weeks. Here, she found the true meaning of benevolence and altruism, as well solidifying her love for people and learning. This is why Sierra is especially passionate about injustices in every form from poverty to inequalities faced by women and children of colour and what we can do to alleviate certain issues that they face. Injustice and inequality shape who we are and how we navigate around the world, these concepts helped her delve into an altruistic mind-set that longed for constant, substantial positive change. When she visited the concentration camps in Krakow, her desire to protect marginalised groups was solidified further and she knew that she couldn't see herself doing anything else. This is why she is involved in the Decolonising the Curriculum project. For Sierra, it's all about redefining concepts and creating voices for those that are often left on the side-lines.

Malcolm James

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Malcolm James is a writer and teacher employed in media and cultural studies by University of Sussex. His research interests are in cultural studies, post-colonial and critical race approaches to youth, urban culture, migration, music and sound. Much of his work is community based, around youth clubs in East London. His essays, articles and journalism are widely published. He is author of the books *Urban Multiculture: Youth, Politics and Cultural Transformation*, and co-editor of the book *Regeneration Songs: Sounds of Investment and Loss in East London*. He is currently writing a book called *Sonic Intimacies* which explores the reggae/jungle/grime nexus.

Anja Kanngieser

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Dr Anja Kanngieser is a political geographer and sound artist. They hold a Vice Chancellors Research Fellowship in Geography, University of Wollongong, Australia. They are the author of *Experimental Politics and the Making of Worlds* (2013), and have published in interdisciplinary journals including *South Atlantic Quarterly*, *Progress in Human Geography* and *Environment and Planning D*. Anja's work looks to the intersections of political economy and ecology, sound and social movements; their current projects use oral testimony, field recording and data sonification to amplify community responses to ecological violence and environmental change in Oceania. <http://anjakanngieser.com/>

Anshuman A. Mondal

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Anshuman A. Mondal is Professor of Modern Literature at the University of East Anglia. His recent research has focussed primarily on the ethics and politics of intercultural encounters, in particular on freedom of speech controversies. His book *Islam and Controversy: The Politics of Free Speech after Rushdie* was published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2014, and he is the co-editor, with Tanja Dreher of *Ethical Responsiveness and the Politics of Difference* (Palgrave, 2018), which arose from a Vice Chancellor's International Visiting Scholar Fellowship at the University of Wollongong in 2016. He is currently working on a book on anti-racism and free speech.

Rajni Shah

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Rajni Shah is a British/Indian artist whose work leans gently but clearly across disciplines, countries, and thought structures, ranging from intimate encounters with passers-by in public space to large-scale performances in theatres and galleries. Key projects - always created alongside and in collaboration with others - include *hold each as we fall* (1999), *The Awkward Position* (2003-4), *Mr Quiver* (2005-8), *small gifts* (2006-8), *Dinner with America* (2007-9), *Glorious*

(2010-12), *Experiments in Listening* (2014-15), *Lying Fallow* (2014-15), *Song* (2016), and *Feminist Killjoys Reading Group* (2016-ongoing). Rajni was an Artsadmin Associate Artist (2009-2013), an Honorary Research Fellow at The Centre for Contemporary Theatre, Birkbeck College, University of London (2012-2016), and is currently a Horizon Postdoctoral Fellow at Concordia University's Acts of Listening Lab, affiliated with the Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling and the Department of Theatre. In 2019, Rajni's first monograph, also called *Experiments in Listening*, will be published as a book and a series of zines within Palgrave's Performance Philosophy series.

Shavae Willoughby

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Shavae Willoughby is a third-year criminology student at the University of Roehampton, where she is actively involved in projects such as decolonising the curriculum where she is the chair of the student steering group and work alongside Professor Leah Bassel and Natasha Boatswain to decolonise the curriculum in Social sciences. She is currently the Student Project Manager for Re-Imagining Attainment for All (RAFA) and works closely with Professor Marilyn Holness and the Student Engagement team to address the attainment gap and raise Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) students' engagement in the university. By providing a platform for students to voice their concerns and shape their student experience by placing them at the forefront of decision making.

Since joining the University of Roehampton, Shavae has used her platform to open discussions and directly address the Eurocentrism in the curriculum and attainment gap through data collection and analysis. Through her pioneering work with the RAFA2 Project and Student Engagement, there is a noticeable change in the university. Through her data collection and focus groups, Shavae found that there was a need for more student support and that could be obtained through student involvement. Shavae produced a proposal and got approval for the Roe Buddies Mentoring and Befriending scheme to help new students with their transition into university and existing students that required further support.

Shavae did her dissertation on 'how black girl transition after incarceration in their youths' as this group was identified as a neglected cohort among social scientists. Shavae received a first class for her dissertation and intended to publish her work and raise awareness on the contributing factors of black girls' incarceration. During her time at the University of Roehampton, she has received three awards – 'idea of the year', 'exceptional commitment to a Student Engagement Project' and 'Department Rep of the year'.

Shavae is hopeful that the higher education sector can contribute to successfully destigmatising the discrimination towards individuals from a BAME background and in turn, educate society on acceptance of individuals from all backgrounds.

Nine Eglantine Yamamoto-Masson

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Nine Eglantine Yamamoto-Masson is a French-Japanese artist, practising theorist, researcher, translator, cultural producer, activist and community organiser. She studied philosophy, film

theory, history of art, cultural studies, literature, and linguistics at the universities of Paris Sorbonne, Berlin Humboldt, NYU, London Goldsmiths, and Tokyo Waseda. She is currently a PhD candidate at the Amsterdam School of Cultural Analysis (University of Amsterdam).

In academic research and artistic and activist practice, her work examines how historical memory, ideology, resistance and counter-narratives are mobilised at the site of their encounter with art, discussing radical creative imagination as a critical forum and method of resistance towards social equity and justice. Using a decolonial intersectional feminist framework, she examines configurations of power, prejudice, violence, representation in everyday life. Particular focus is placed on the legacy of Japanese WW2 colonial war crimes, state-enforced historical amnesia, intersecting with US military imperialism.

In Berlin she coordinates and works with self-organised grassroots anti-racist organisations and with activists who organise hands-on support for migrants, people of colour, queer people, womxn/femmes, and that fight fascism and gender-based-violence. She is founding member of the art & research platform District*School Without Centre in Berlin (www.district-berlin.com).

In 2019 she is a visiting researcher at Hiroshima City University.
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