



**School of English - AUTH**

Join us to celebrate **World Theatre Day** (27/3)!

# **THEATRE(S) ACROSS, WITHIN, BEYOND**

*See our main sessions below*

9:30 am

**Open Doors**

10:00 am

**This space is mine: Workshop for theatre beyond us and within**  
(Katerina Kitsi and Theatre Workshop Students)

11:30 am

**Encounters with the uncanny: Transgressing public space**  
(Elizabeth Sakellaridou and Alexandros Michail)

12:00 pm

**Coffee Break**

12:30 pm

**Sign-language-integrated theatre: Where performativity multiplies**  
(Angela Tiziana Tarantini)

13:00 pm

**Theatre meets medicine: Interdisciplinary dialogues across local and global stages**  
(Vinia Dakari)



*For more information please contact [Vasiliki Misiou](#) and [Maria Ristani](#)*

**Event Venue:** Avlaia Theatre (Tsimiski 136)

# Our Sessions

## **'This space is mine'**

An experiential workshop on the move, engaging participants in active exploration of theatre within us and beyond.

## **Encounters with the Uncanny: Transgressing Public Space**

Elizabeth Sakellaridou and Alexandros Michail present and discuss the latter's long-duration performance "24 hours in the city/Like a Shadow/Thessaloniki"

## **Sign-Language-Integrated Theatre: Where Performativity Multiplies**

This talk discusses a translation and performative practice that is becoming more widespread in some countries, but has not yet been systematically analysed from the perspective of Translation Studies: sign-language-integrated theatre. Practitioner-researcher Rocks (among others) has analysed the practice of interpreting theatre into sign language, and has highlighted some of the shortcomings of said practice, the way it is often carried out (Rocks, 2019). Meanwhile, in Australia, Italy and the UK interpreter-performers have been engaging with alternative translation and performative practices which allow deaf audiences to enjoy the show and not divide their attention between the interpreter and the stage.

In my talk I will show some examples of how creative practitioners and interpreter-performers have solved the issue of focalisation. Working from theories on Performance Philosophy (Grant, 2013, 2015), I will then demonstrate how in sign-language-integrated theatre, performativity is an element and carrier of accessibility (Tarantini, 2023).

## **Theatre Meets Medicine: Interdisciplinary Dialogues Across Local and Global Stages**

This talk explores the interplay between theatre and medical science, highlighting their combined impact on crafting narratives and practices of care and healing. The analysis transitions from internationally acclaimed performances on health, illness, and medicine to the emerging medical-themed theatre scene in Greece, spotlighting innovative contributions and fresh trends within this dynamic cultural setting.

# Our Speakers

**Katerina Kitsi-Mitakou** holds degrees in English from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (BA Honours, PhD) and Leeds University (MA in Theatre Studies), and is Professor of English literature and culture and gender studies. She teaches and publishes on Realism, Modernism, and the English novel, as well as on gender and body theory. She is general editor of the European Journal of English Studies (<http://essenglish.org/ejes/>) and was president of the Hellenic Association for the Study of English (HASE, [www.enl.auth.gr/hase/](http://www.enl.auth.gr/hase/)) from 2014 to 2020.

**Elizabeth Sakellaridou** is Professor Emerita of Theatre Studies at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. She has taught a variety of courses on contemporary drama and theatre in her home university and other higher education institutions in Europe and the USA. Her particular research interests comprise contemporary British and European theatre, classical and modern Greek theatre, performance theory and cultural and gender studies. In the last few years she has also been drawn to the hybrid space of performance phenomenology. Her publications include *Pinter's Female Portraits*; *Contemporary Women's Theatre*; *Theatre, Aesthetics, Politics*; and numerous articles and chapters published in international journals and collected volumes respectively. She is also engaged in other theatre activities as a critic, dramaturg and translator of dramatic works from English into Greek and vice versa.

**Alexandros Michail** · Stage Director, Performance and installation artist. Grown up in rural Northern Greece, he lived in London working with the avant-garde of the contemporary art scene, including Mark Storor who influenced significantly his artistic development. An acrophobic, he performed an elegant aerial choreography for English National Opera time and again. Based in Thessaloniki, he works across the country and abroad. Working between theatre, installation and performance he often engages communities, nurturing intimacy and collective intelligence and harnessing the affect of shared symbols in order to condense and crack open lived experience, reveal the hidden dynamics of domestic and public power, escalate the tension between the personal and the political and investigate the possibility of the artist as igniter of destabilization and reprioritization of dominant narratives and identities. Fellow of Robert Bosch Stiftung and ARTWORKS (Stavros Niarchos Foundation), he has won an Award by J.S. Latsis Public Benefit Foundation and was selected by Marina Abramovic Institute to present a solo performance in AS ONE (Neon+MAI). His work has been presented at Biennale Architettura 2018, La Biennale di Venezia (Italy), Battersea Arts Centre (London), Buffer Fringe Performing Arts Festival (Nicosia), Macedonian Opera & Ballet (Skopje), OMA (Weimar), Benaki Museum, Municipal Theatre of Piraeus, Argo Theatre, State Museum of Contemporary Art, Thessaloniki Concert Hall, State Theatre of Northern Greece, Teatro T and more.

**Angela Tiziana Tarantini** obtained her PhD in Translation Studies at Monash University in Melbourne (Australia) in 2017. During and after her doctoral studies, she worked as Teaching Associate for Translation and Interpreting Studies, Linguistics, and Italian Studies for the School of Languages, Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics at Monash University. In 2021 she was awarded a Marie Curie postdoctoral fellowship for a project on sign-language-interpreted music as a translation and performative practice, which she carried out at Cardiff University (UK). She is currently Assistant Professor of Translation Studies at the Department of Languages, Literature and Communication at Utrecht University.

**Vinia Dakari** holds a PhD in Theatre from the School of English at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Her academic work involves teaching, writing and research in the intersection of theatre, health and medicine. Since the onset of the pandemic in 2020, she has been leading online virtual group Narrative Medicine sessions in collaboration with the Program in Narrative Medicine at Columbia University, New York.