



## JOB DESCRIPTION

<b>Job Title:</b>	Post-Doctoral Research Assistant
<b>Department /Faculty:</b>	Drama, Theatre & Dance
<b>Grade:</b>	RHUL 7
<b>Reporting to:</b>	Reader in Dance

### Department Background

Royal Holloway has one of the leading departments of Drama, Theatre and Dance in the UK, with an international reputation for the excellence of its research. We have a lively and diverse community of researchers at all stages in their careers. All of our academic members of staff are active researchers, working at the cutting edge of research in many different aspects of drama, theatre and performance studies. In the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF), 86% of our research was judged world-leading or international in quality.

### Job Purpose

We are seeking a dynamic postdoctoral research assistant to join our research team for the AHRC Project *Embodied Performance Practices in Processes of Reconciliation, Construction of Memory and Peace in Chocó and Medio Pacífico, Colombia* (AH/R013748/1).

*Embodied Performance Practices* is a two-year project (2018-2020) funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), and RCUK Newton Fund alongside Colciencias in Colombia under the direction of Melissa Blanco Borelli (PI, Royal Holloway, University of London) and Bryce Lease (CoI, Royal Holloway). Our Co-Investigators in Colombia are Anamaría Tamayo Duque (Universidad de Antioquia) and Marta Isabel Dominguez (Universidad de Antioquia) with *La Corp-Oraloteca* (Universidad Tecnológica del Chocó) as our Project Partner. This project examines the role that embodied performance practices have on post conflict memories in order to aid the processes of reconciliation and peace-building among the majority Afro-Colombian communities affected by the armed conflict in four municipalities in Chocó and el Pacífico Medio. Its main objective is to co-create a digital archive with the communities most affected by the armed conflict. Within the archive, we hope to feature a collection of oral testimonies, memorabilia, video footage of workshops and discussions, and embodied performance work.

We are looking for a PDRA with an interdisciplinary background (Social Sciences, Humanities, or Arts) with expertise in dance/theatre/performance practices, memory studies, trauma, reconciliation and transitional justice with a focus on Latin America. Spanish fluency is required. There will be some travel to Colombia involved, but the majority of the work will be based at Royal Holloway, University of London. For more information on the project see: <https://gtr.ukri.org/projects?ref=AH%2FR013748%2F1>

<b>Key responsibilities and outcomes: (most frequent duties first)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Expertise in Colombian/Latin American politics, history, society, culture</li><li>• Ability to communicate accurately in Spanish and English</li><li>• Strong administrative skills relevant to event coordination, budget maintenance assistance, travel arrangements, data storage, digital archival work</li><li>• Communicate regularly with the Principal Investigator in Colombia and UK as necessary.</li><li>• Communicate effectively with external individuals and organisations.</li><li>• Communicate information orally, in writing and via online media.</li><li>• Communicate accurately in English, Spanish, and in translation between the two.</li></ul>
<b>Other duties:</b>
<p>Independent Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Research into organizations working on arts and conflict in/outside Colombia</li><li>• Working with artists, teachers, cultural policy makers, students, communities</li><li>• Use of online research resources, such as Mendeley, maintenance of online bibliography</li></ul> <p>Managing People</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Manage own research and administrative activities, with guidance, if required.</li></ul> <p>Teamwork</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Work effectively with the Principal Investigator to achieve the aims of the project.</li><li>• Act as a responsible team member, developing productive working relationships with other members of staff.</li></ul> <p>Initiative, problem-solving and decision-making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Work independently on research, administrative, organisational and translation activities.</li><li>• Solve logistical problems that arise during research event coordination</li><li>• Creative thinking to develop relationships with Colombian and other international academic and non-academic communities.</li></ul> <p>Planning and Managing Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Work with the Principal Investigator to prioritise key non-academic communities, Colombian cultural policy organizations</li><li>• Monitor progress regularly and re-assess plan accordingly</li><li>• Manage parallel research and administrative tasks to achieve goals within the resources and timescale of the project.</li></ul>
<b>Internal and external relationships:</b>
<p>The following list is not exhaustive but the post holder will be required to liaise with: other members of staff at partner institutions and project partners, staff and faculty inside/outside the school/department and College, academics in other institutions and, where relevant, industrial or professional contacts.</p>

*Job descriptions should be regularly reviewed to ensure they represent an accurate account of the duties carried out by the post holder. The job description may be altered from time to time at the discretion of the College, and in consultation with the post holder.*