# Proposal form for Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

# Name:

Discipline: (*Please delete as appropriate*) Art/Architecture/Contemporary Arts/Design/Film/Theatre.

*If you have not completed an online application form, please do so here,* [*www.postgraduate-applications.lancaster.ac.uk/*](http://www.postgraduate-applications.lancaster.ac.uk/)*. You should upload this proposal form, once completed, to your application.*

*Please complete all of the following sections. Write succinctly and please do not delete the italicised questions.*

# Working title

What title, or title and subtitle, succinctly encapsulates your whole research topic?

# Research Questions

What are the key questions that you will ask of your primary sources and that will enable your writing (or practice and writing) to be appropriately reflexive and interrogative?

# Outcomes

What work would you intend to submit for examination at the end of your programme of study? For instance, do you propose that your research would lead to a normal academic written thesis of either 40,000 words (MPhil) or 80,000 words (PhD), or would you intend it to take some other form, such as an exhibition, a public theatre performance, an installation, a portfolio of plays, or a CD, DVD, website or other kind of media? If you want to undertake the practice-as-research option, what balance do you presently propose between the practical and the written/reflective components? Please be specific and indicate your current preference in percentage terms (e.g. “60% written thesis/40% practice in the form of an exhibition”). N.B. our regulations indicate that at least 20% of your output must consist of a written thesis (or equivalent).

# Critical Framework and Theoretical Model

What are your key concepts? How will you theorize, and position yourself in relation to, your primary sources? Provide references to books, articles, websites, etc.

# Methodology

How do you intend to go about your research? Do you need to engage initially in some form of field research, such as observing and interviewing practitioners or conducting practical experiments? What creative, critical and expositional methods do you then intend to employ for the development, documentation and production of your written work and in the exploration of your research questions? In the case of PaR applicants, what concrete creative methods do you intend to employ for the development, rehearsal, documentation and production of your practical work and the exploration of your research questions?

# Research Training

Above and beyond training that we will provide in generic research methods, do you need specialised training in practical and/or theoretical skills in order to carry out your research? For instance, do you need training in methods of qualitative analysis, or in the use of digital technologies, or in particular movement or devising skills? Also, will you need to travel to receive this training? For instance, will you need to intermittently attend workshops elsewhere?

# Resources and Implications

Do you need to engage in archival research or field work, and if so where, for how long and at what cost? If you cannot study without a scholarship or bursary, what sources of funding have you identified where you might be successful? In the case of practice-as-research applicants, how do you hope to undertake the research and development of, and the rehearsals for your practical project? Who will be involved? How will you finance, place and perform your practical project?

# References

What, in alphabetical order, are the full bibliographical details of any references you have made above (e.g. in the sections ‘Primary Sources’ or ‘Critical Framework’)?

*Only answer the following questions if you are proposing a practice-as-research based PhD project. If you intent to complete a 100% written thesis, please skip ahead to the declaration at the end of this document.*

# Rationale for Practical Component

What is the exact function of the practice that you propose to undertake? Is a practical project really essential? How will the practice enable you to explore your research questions in a way that is not possible through writing?

# Practical Experience and Expertise

What evidence can you provide of a high level of achievement in practice during your undergraduate studies or elsewhere? If you are applying for a doctoral programme in the Dance pathway, or the Theatre and Performance pathway, what evidence can you provide that you have already achieved a professional level of expertise and experience in the area in which you wish to research? For instance, in the past have you successfully applied for an Arts Council grant or had contracts with recognized and funded touring theatre companies? What vocational or professional-level technical and/or skills training have you received? (N.B. A practice-based MA may contribute to this evidence, but on its own is insufficient.)

# Sample of Creative Work

If you intend to apply for a practice-based PhD, you must submit a portfolio in support of your application. Have you submitted a CD, DVD or portfolio of art works with this application? What specific works are included? Does this consist entirely of your own unaided work? If not, what contribution did others make to this work, and for what part were you entirely responsible? In what ways do these works represent your expertise and experience?

# Declaration

I confirm that the statements I have made above about my qualifications are entirely true and can be independently verified.

Furthermore, if I intend to apply for a practice-based PhD, I can confirm that the statements about my sample creative work are true and can be independently verified.

Signed:

Date: