

# MOUNTVIEW

## MA SITE-SPECIFIC THEATRE PRACTICE

FULL-TIME | JANUARY 2024 ENTRY  
APPLICATIONS CLOSE 29 NOVEMBER 2023

**Site-specific theatre has captured the imagination of theatre and fine art practitioners throughout the UK and internationally. It engages with a chosen site's history, atmosphere and architecture to underpin devised or text-based narratives. Site-specific theatre allows a space to inform the final performance and acknowledges that the performance can only happen in that specific location.**

The first course of its kind in the UK, Mountview's MA in Site-Specific Theatre is created and led by Geraldine Pilgrim, a leading practitioner in the creation of site-specific theatre and installations, and provided in partnership with Shoreditch Town Hall. The course is aimed at practitioners with fine art or theatre and performance backgrounds wanting to diversify their artistic skills in the area of site-specific performance.

The teaching structure includes Salons, Seminars and Masterclasses, as well as site visits, practical realised projects and an international or UK site residency. There is strong emphasis on learning through practice, and the training will cover practical skills and creative realisation as well as theoretical and methodological investigation.

A maximum of six students are accepted on to the course, enabling cohesion and allowing greater proximity with visiting practitioners. Previous students have gone on to devise their own performances since graduating, and have also worked with companies including Dante or Die, Dash Arts and Dream ThinkSpeak.

Teaching takes place both at Shoreditch Town Hall, an innovative independent arts centre experienced in presenting site-specific performances, and Mountview's Peckham site. Each student has their own dedicated workspace within the Mountview studio at Shoreditch Town Hall.

Students create realised site-specific performances throughout the three Terms of the Course to invited audiences. There is staff and technical support with lighting, sound projection, props and costumes supplied by Mountview and Shoreditch Town Hall.

In the first Term, the students create a collaborative site-specific performance in the atmospheric space of Shoreditch Town Hall. In the second Term's Directing Exercises, each student creates and directs their own site-specific performance with their fellow students as the performers. At the end of the week's residency- either in Italy or the UK, the students collaborate on a performance responding to the residency site. In the third Term students are given a budget to support creating their final site-specific project – the practical dissertation.



**ONE YEAR  
THREE TERMS  
JANUARY ENTRY**

**Max. six places available**

**Created and led by leading practitioner Geraldine Pilgrim, Artistic Director of Geraldine Pilgrim Performance Company**

**Practical-taught MA**

**Teaching takes place both at Shoreditch Town Hall and Mountview in Peckham**

**Work-based learning placement over the summer**

**Students matched with professional practitioners for mentorship**

**Produce a final piece of site-specific theatre**

### **2024 FEES**

UK/Republic of Ireland Students: £XX,XXX

International Students: £XX,XXX

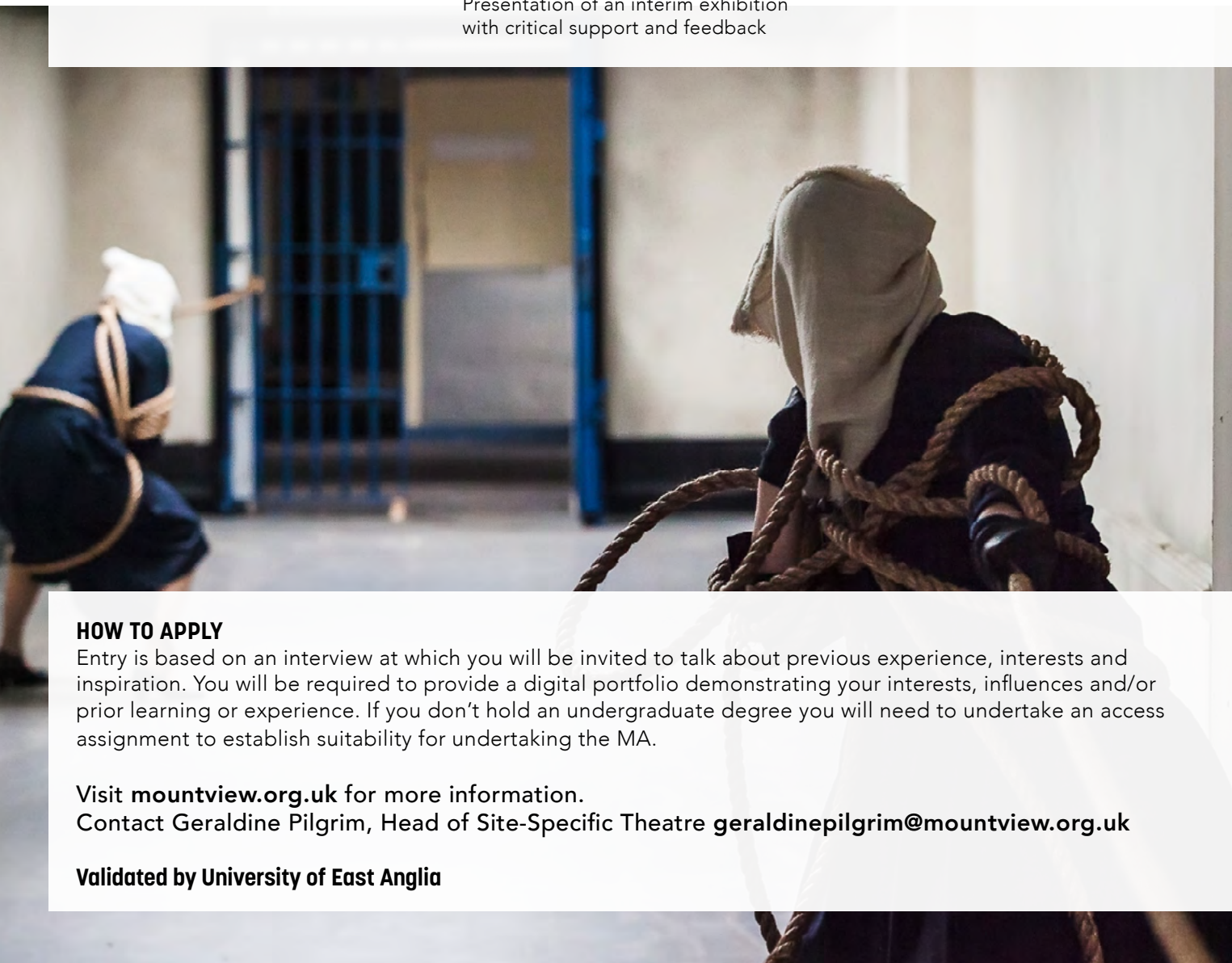
### **OTHER COSTS**

There will be additional costs for cultural trips and site residency – allow around £180.

All modules are compulsory and there is continuous assessment as well as submitted essays, journals, presentations, realised exercises and performances. Each student will undertake a work-based learning placement with an artist or company over the summer break, and will be matched with a professional practitioner to provide mentorship and support on their final performance.

Geraldine Pilgrim is the Artistic Director of Geraldine Pilgrim Performance Company and has been creating site-specific performances and installations for over 20 years. The guest artists and lecturers on the course are professional practitioners who come from a purposefully eclectic range of theatre and performance practice, including Commedia, ASMR, animating objects, immersive game theatre, writing for performance, design, and creative producing. Their links with site-specific companies and the wider industry provide students with access to a rich network of contacts.

TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3
<p><b>SITE REQUIREMENTS AND PRACTICE</b></p> <p>Site practicalities</p> <p>Production planning</p> <p>Licencing</p> <p>Design, including environments, installations, lighting, sound and visual effects</p> <p>Inspirational site visits</p> <p><b>SKILLS</b></p> <p>Practical masterclasses from visiting theatre practitioners, the course leader and Mountview staff</p> <p>A short, London-based collaborative site-specific performance</p>	<p><b>CONTEXT</b></p> <p>Seminars, lectures and salons with leading practitioners, focusing on methodologies, practice and innovation</p> <p>Shadowing: work-based learning and personal engagement with artists and companies</p> <p><b>DIRECTING AND SITE RESIDENCY</b></p> <p>Individual short self-devised site-specific project directing other students</p> <p>A UK or overseas residency working collaboratively to create and realise a site-specific performance</p> <p><b>SITE-SPECIFIC PRACTICAL DISSERTATION</b></p> <p>Presentation of an interim exhibition with critical support and feedback</p>	<p><b>SITE-SPECIFIC PRACTICAL DISSERTATION</b></p> <p>Research, development and production of a substantive piece of site-specific theatre</p> <p>Production of written materials towards the practical dissertation</p>



**HOW TO APPLY**

Entry is based on an interview at which you will be invited to talk about previous experience, interests and inspiration. You will be required to provide a digital portfolio demonstrating your interests, influences and/or prior learning or experience. If you don't hold an undergraduate degree you will need to undertake an access assignment to establish suitability for undertaking the MA.

Visit [mountview.org.uk](http://mountview.org.uk) for more information.

Contact Geraldine Pilgrim, Head of Site-Specific Theatre [geraldinepilgrim@mountview.org.uk](mailto:geraldinepilgrim@mountview.org.uk)

**Validated by University of East Anglia**