

# Yifan Gong

Phone: +86 13835119477

Email: [timecpn@gmail.com](mailto:timecpn@gmail.com)

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6823-5987>

## EDUCATION

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2021.10–2026.7 **PhD** in Theatre and Performance Studies (viva passed in April 2025)

School of Art, Edinburgh College of Art, The University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, the UK

2016.9–2020.6 **BFA with Distinction** in Theatre and Visual Arts GPA 3.86/4.33

University of the Fraser Valley, Abbotsford, British Columbia, Canada

2020.9–2021.8 SHVFS Certificate of Film Production

Shanghai Vancouver Film School, Shanghai, China

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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2023.4–2023.12 Visiting scholar/artist at Institute for IDEAS, the volumetric capture studio

American University, Washington DC, the USA

- As the producer, director and performer, Yifan Gong collaborated with the team members of Dr. Krzysztof Pietroszek and produced a **volumetric (mixed-reality) Theatre-of-One** prototype project (**intermedial film/performance practice**).

## PUBLICATION

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Gong, Y. (2025) 'Towards a practical method for a promising form of self-reflective performance: the performance of oneself', *International Journal of Performance Arts and Digital Media*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/14794713.2025.2510697> [A&HCI]

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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Upcoming full research articles:

Gong, Y. (under 2<sup>nd</sup> review) ‘Towards a possible theatre of one emancipated spect-actor: Adopting non-dualism from phenomenology to complement the Boalian and Rancièrian aesthetics’, *Research in Drama Education: The Journal of Applied Theatre and Performance*. [SSCI, A&HCI]

Gong, Y. (submitted) ‘Applying phenomenology, hermeneutics and performative research methodologies to practise and investigate the theatre of oneself’.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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1. Two public workshops in Theatre of One at Tsinghua University on 16th/17<sup>th</sup>, May 2026, as part of the Tsinghua Philosophy-Drama Festival. Instructed in the phenomenological and hermeneutic aesthetic significance of Theatre of One with public audience members.
2. Two master classes/workshops in digital performance and postmodernism acting techniques held at Guangxi Arts University in March & April 2026. Applied XMax AI as an interactive, real-time, real-virtual traversing media.
3. An official guest lecture for the postgraduate course IOM 425 Strategic Business Analysis held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2025 at Xi’an Jiaotong-Liverpool University (XJTLU). Title: *The Global Experience Economy: Taking Theatre Performances as an Example*
4. Two applied theatre (theatre education) workshops were held respectively in March 2022 and February 2023 at Adam House Basement Theatre, Edinburgh, the UK. Students from various departments of the University of Edinburgh utilised intermedial methods and participated in independent digital performance-making processes guided by Yifan Gong.
5. One demo class and two master classes in creative drama training and production held at Nanning Harrow Lide School, on March 12, 2026 and in April 2026. Introduced digital performance and AI as a creative tool.

## HONOURS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

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## **Grants and Awards:**

**Moray Endowment Fund** Awards 2022 for the overseas research leave to visit the Institute for IDEAS, the volumetric capture studio at American University.

— Received the **highest award of £ 2,000** from the University of Edinburgh.

The Norma Kenney Memorial Scholarship in Theatre 2019 (1,200 CAD).

## **Awarded Works:**

1. Short film *Fall* receives Award of Merit Winner of Canada Shorts 2019.
2. Acrylic-on-canvas paintings *COSMOS* and *ONE Series* are respectively awarded Silver Award in 2021 International Contemporary Youth Art Design Competition.
3. Analogue photography project *Forest Mist* is awarded in Monochrome Photography *Awards* 2021 with Honorable Mention in Amateur Photomanipulation category.

## **SKILLS**

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Highly efficient in information gathering, collation and summarisation. Skilled in logical reasoning. Proficient in using Microsoft Office software and various AI-assisted tools in office settings, such as DeepSeek, ChatGPT and Doubao. Also fairly proficient in using Photoshop and video editing software (Avid Media Composer and Jianying/CapCut) for basic photo and video post-production.

## **RESEARCH INTEREST**

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Phenomenology, hermeneutics, theatre and performance aesthetics, digital performance, intermediality and intermedial art, XR media and technologies, volumetric capture and volumetric film, immersive theatre, devised theatre, applied theatre (theatre education), AI-enhanced human performance, digital humanism, post-Marxist aesthetics, post-Marxist theatre, practice-led/based research, philosophy of art, and psychology of personality traits.

## **SHOWS AND EXHIBITIONS**

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**Performances:**

*CARNIVAL Prototype*, 2022, *CARNIVAL Pilots*, 2023, *CARNIVAL:Paint ME in Edinburgh*, 2024, Adam House Basement Theatre, Edinburgh, the UK; *CARNIVAL:Paint ME in DC*, 2023, Institute for IDEAS, Washington, D.C., the USA

**Group Exhibitions:**

*COSMOS*, canvas painting, 2021, Knot Galleria x NOYA, Shanghai, China