

# PEERS

## Programme for Emerging Artistic Researchers

PEERS is a pre-PhD programme of the Department for the Performing Arts and Film at Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK). Its aim is to support emerging artistic researchers who are interested in pursuing a doctorate in the arts, foremost yet not exclusively in the performing arts and film.

For a period of one year, starting in March 2024, participants will be offered the opportunity to benefit from an intensive mentoring and training programme. They will benefit from peer-to-peer learning in the Junior Research Group and will receive tailored support aimed at advancing their research. PEERS fellows will be assisted in developing their research plan, as well as in searching and applying for artistic PhD programmes at ZHdK and beyond. They will become part of the vibrant research environment at ZHdK (benefiting from lab-practices, colloquia, symposia, research academies), and will gain access to the University's outstanding infrastructure and relevant professional networks.

### Programme activities:

- **Mentoring:** PEERS participants will be mentored by two to three experts from a pool of mentors, either at ZHdK or at international partner universities. Every participant will receive 44 mentoring hours during the year. Since we are constantly expanding our network, it is also possible to propose a mentor beyond our pool.
- **Workshops & training:** The programme starts with a kick-off retreat, followed by four intensive workshops and classes dedicated to ways of knowing in artistic research, writing a research proposal, application strategies for PhD programmes, and presentation skills, as well as a summer residency (25 days in total).
- **Junior Research Group (JRG):** The JRG for PhD and PEERS candidates at the department offers innovative collaboration formats and ongoing peer-to-peer-learning, creating an inspiring transdisciplinary research environment.
- **International exchange:** The PEERS programme collaborates with 3rd Cycle programmes at Amsterdam University of the Arts and UdK Berlin, as well as with partner institutions of the PhD Programme.
- **Individual development:** Every participant will be awarded an individual budget up to CHF 3'000 (to cover travel expenses for conferences/festivals, career development, material costs etc). In addition, the travel costs to Switzerland and accommodation for the relevant workshops and events within the PEERS programme will be subsidized.

The programme also provides access to ZHdK's infrastructure (desks, studios, labs, IT and technical equipment, libraries, internal further education, support by the ZHdK Grants Office and the Institute for the Performing Arts and Film, IPF).

For more information and a schedule of activities:

[www.3rd.zhdk.ch](http://www.3rd.zhdk.ch)

### How to apply:

We are looking for up to five mid-career artists with profound artistic practice in theatre, dance, performance or film. Candidates must hold an MA or an equivalent degree. They will be expected to develop research and have a viable research plan.

In order to apply, please submit:

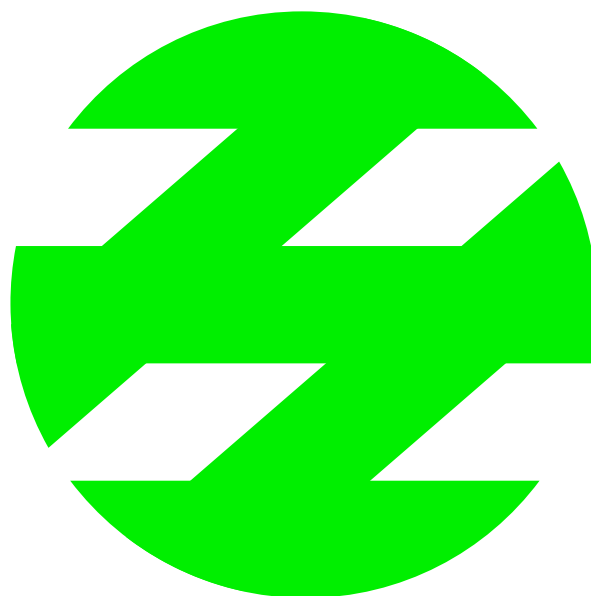
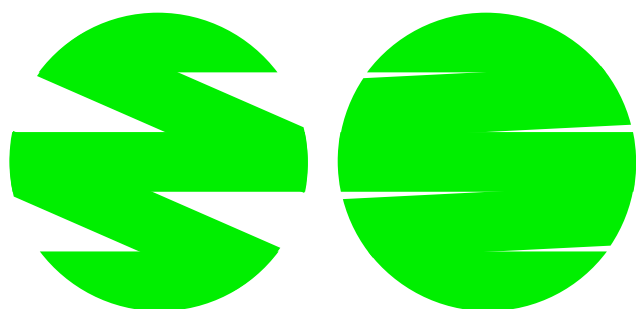
- CV (max. 4 A4 pages, min. font size 10).
- an artistic portfolio containing up to 3 samples of artistic practice (link to a website or vimeo, etc.) providing evidence of at least 5 years of professional artistic practice.
- Motivation letter (max. 2 A4 pages, min. font size 10).
- A short video statement (VIMEO, 1 minute) or sound fragment (1 minute) that responds to the following question: Why do you want to pursue a PhD?  
If it is not possible for you to create a video for reasons of accessibility, please integrate the question into your motivation letter.
- A short project description or research interest which could be further developed into a PhD project (max. 2 A4 pages, min. font size 10).
- Copy of MA degree certificate (or equivalent).

Applications may be submitted in English or German. Zurich University of the Arts is committed to equal opportunities and to advancing inclusion and diversity.

Application deadline: **1 October 2023** (23:59 Swiss local time). Please [apply online now](#); you can do that [here](#).

Candidates will be informed by the **end of November 2023** whether they have been shortlisted for the PEERS programme. The shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend a Zoom interview on either **7 or 8 December 2023**. The programme will begin in **March 2024** (detailed schedule: [www.3rd.zhdk.ch](http://www.3rd.zhdk.ch)).

**Zoom Q&A: Monday, 17 July 2023, 2–4 pm and Monday, 11 September 2023, 2–4 pm (Swiss local time).** Candidates will have the opportunity to discuss their questions directly with Ilse van Rijn, Head of the PEERS programme, and Anna Wohlgemuth, PEERS research assistant. To register and receive the Zoom link, please email [peers.ipf@zhdk.ch](mailto:peers.ipf@zhdk.ch).



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Zürcher Hochschule der Künste  
Zurich University of the Arts