



Maria Ristani

Personal Info

Maria Ristani is Assistant Professor at the Department of English Literature and Culture (School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), where she teaches contemporary Anglophone drama and performance art. Since her PhD research on the intrinsic musicality of Samuel Beckett's 'text-scores' (completed in 2013), she has shared an active interest in the ways modern Anglophone theatre draws on and interacts with sound art and acoustics, researching, in particular, the fields of audio-based theatre, podcast drama and sound walk performances. Part of her work has been presented at conferences in Greece and abroad, and published in international journals and volumes

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Research Interests

- ☐ Anglophone theatre and performance studies (20th and 21st centuries)
- ☐ Audio theatre & new technologies (podcast drama, headphone theatre, audio theater walks)
- ☐ Site-specific theatre and walking performances
- ☐ Sound studies and acoustic culture

Professional Development

- **July 2024 – Present:** Assistant Professor (Department of English Literature and Culture, School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)
- **2022 – present:** EIT Culture and Creativity Expert Evaluator (European Institute of Innovation and Technology for Culture & Creativity)
- **2017 – 2024:** Research and Teaching Fellow (Department of English Language and Literature, School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)
- **2007-2017:** Junior Lecturer (Dept. of English Language and Literature, School of English, AUTH)

Academic Qualifications

2013	<p>Ph.D. in Contemporary British Drama (Department of English Language and Literature, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Thesis Title: <i>The Rhythmic Turn in Samuel Beckett's Later Drama</i>○ Supervisor: Dr. Ruth Parkin-Gounelas○ Awarded with distinction
2004	<p>Master's Degree in English Literature and Culture (Department of English Language and Literature, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Thesis Title: <i>Mourning and Melancholia in Samuel Beckett's Rockaby</i>○ Supervisor: Dr. Ruth Parkin-Gounelas○ Grade: 9.39/10 (Excellent)
2002	<p>Bachelor's Degree in English Language and Literature (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Thesis Title: <i>Interculturalist Theater Practice in the Postmodern Era: An Ideological Project or a Revival of Cultural Imperialism?</i>○ Supervisor: Dr. Elizabeth Sakellaridou○ Grade: 9.03/10 (Excellent)

Language Skills

- **Greek** (native)
- **English** (C2 level, Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English & BA degree)
- **German** (C1 level, Zentrale Mittelstufensprüfung)

Chapters in Books and Collective Volumes

1. Ristani, Maria. "Ex-centric Spatial Images in Robert Wilson's Theater." *Reinventing/Re-presenting Identities in a Global World*, edited by Smatie Yemendzi-Malathouni, Tatiani Rapatzikou and Eleftheria Arapoglou. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2012, pp. 77-88.
2. Ristani, Maria. "Articulated Arrhythmia: Samuel Beckett's Shorter Plays." *Beckett and Musicality*, edited by Sara Jane Bailes and Nicholas Till, Routledge, 2014, pp. 119-136.
3. Ristani, Maria. "Prisonniers du son; La prison de Saydnaya en Syrie." *Lieux de Memoire Sonore: des Sons pour Survivre, des Sons pour Tuer*, edited by Luis Velasco-Pufleau and Laëtitia Atlani-Duault, Éditions de la Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, 2021, pp. 21-35.
4. Ristani, Maria. "Teatrul și Epidemia: Legături peste Veacuri." *Un Virus pe Scena Lumii. Teatru și Pandemie 2.0*, edited by Oltița Cîntec, Timpul, 2020, pp. 11-27.
5. Ristani, Maria. "Navigating Gender in/as Theatre and Performance." *Navigating Gender*, edited by Aikaterini Kitsi, Kallipos Open Academic Editions, 2023.
6. Ristani, Maria. "New Theatre Mobilities: Not Going or Going Differently." *Routledge Focus on Dramaturgy: Ecodramaturgies*, edited by Heather Jeanne Denyer, Routledge, 2025 (forthcoming)

Articles in Peer-reviewed Journals

7. Ristani, Maria. "Theatre and Epidemics: An Age-Old Link." *Critical Stages/Scènes critiques: The IATC journal/Revue de l'AICT*, Issue NO.21, edited by Savas Patsalidis, June/Juin 2020, <http://www.critical-stages.org/21/theatre-and-epidemics-an-age-old-link/>
8. Ristani, Maria. "Sound Prisoners: The Case of the Saydnaya Prison in Syria." *Violence: An International Journal*, 1(2), edited by Luis Velasco-Pufleau and Laëtitia Atlani-Duault, Sage Publishing, pp. 273-284. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2633002420945711>
9. Ristani, Maria. "Showing without Going: an Interview with Ant Hampton." *Critical Stages/Scènes critiques: The IATC journal/Revue de l'AICT*, Special Issue NO.26, edited by Elizabeth Sakellaridou and Vicky Angelaki, December 2022, <https://www.critical-stages.org/26/showing-without-going-interview-with-ant-hampton/>
10. Ristani, Maria. "Next Page on Stage: 21st Century Dramaturgies." *Critical Stages/Scènes critiques: The IATC journal/Revue de l'AICT*, Special Issue

NO.28, "Post-millennial Australasian Dramaturgy", December 2023
<https://www.critical-stages.org/28/next-page-on-stage-21st-century-dramaturgies/>

11. Theodosiadou, Sofia and **Maria Ristani**. "Tapping on Collective National Trauma: The Case of the TRAUMA Audio Documentary." *M/C Journal*, vol. 27, no. 2, Apr. 2024, [doi:10.5204/mcj.3035](https://doi.org/10.5204/mcj.3035).
12. **Ristani, Maria**, and Marissia Fragkou. "Embracing the Un/Scene of Hope at the NTNG's 6th International Forest Festival." *Critical Stages/Scènes critiques*, no. 31 (June 2025) <https://www.critical-stages.org/31/embracing-the-un-scene-of-hope-at-the-stngs-6th-international-forest-festival/>

Publications in Proceedings of International Conferences

13. Ristani, Maria. "Carving Time in Rhythm: Samuel Beckett and Minimalist Music." *Time and Space in Words and Music: Proceedings of the 1st Conference of the Word and Music Association Forum*, edited by Mario Dunkel, Emily Petermann, and Burkhard Sauerwald, Peter Lang, 2012, pp. 183-194.
14. Ristani, Maria and Theodora Patrona. "Between Two Worlds or The Drama of Migration: Vassilis Katsikonouris' *Milk*." *Migrants and Refugees in Contemporary Drama and Stage Practice*, Proceedings of the 2nd Theater Studies Conference, Eurasia Editions, 2021. Available at: <https://pesythcom.files.wordpress.com/2021/04/e-book-praktika-b-theatrologikoy-synedriou.pdf>
15. Ristani, Maria. "Audience-Listeners: The Case of Headphone Theatre and the *Remote* Example of Rimini Protokoll." *Theatre and Performing Arts in the 21st Century: The Anxiety and Struggle for Redefinition*, Eurasia Editions, 2023.

Book Review

16. Ristani, Maria. "Terzopoulos Tribute Delphi: A Book Review." *Critical Stages/Scènes critiques: The IATC journal/Revue de l'AICT*, Issue NO.25 (Book Reviews, edited by Don Rubin), June/Juin 2022. <https://www.critical-stages.org/25/terzopoulos-tribute-delphi/>

Edited Volumes and Books

Ristani, Maria. *Samuel Beckett's Rhythm Dramaturgy*. Routledge Advances in Theatre and Performance Studies, 2026 (forthcoming).

Ristani, Maria and Sotirios Babajimopoulos, eds. "Podcasting Culture: Re-inventing Audio Storytelling." *GRAMMA/ΓΡΑΜΜΑ Journal of Theory and Criticism*, issue 29, 2024. e-ISSN: 2529-1793, <https://ejournals.lib.auth.gr/gramma/issue/view/1238/showToc>

Ristani, Maria and Sotirios Babajimopoulos, eds. "In-yer In-yer-Ear: Performing in the Headphone Era." *Contemporary Theatre Review Special Issue*, April 2026 (forthcoming)