

## **PhD Scholarship in Interactive Modelling of a City's Theatre Spaces School of Architecture, University of Sheffield**

### **Rethinking a City's Theatres, Digital Creativity and Innovation (RECITE)**

Digital World is a wide-ranging, interdisciplinary theme covering the development, use and impact of Digital Technologies in a range of different disciplines and user environments, including health, society, the arts, and humanities. As part of this theme, a prestigious, University-funded, PhD scholarship is available to start in October 2010 at the School of Architecture as part of an integrated cross-disciplinary network: Rethinking a City's Theatres, Digital Creativity and Innovation (RECITE).

The key purpose of RECITE is to undertake groundbreaking interdisciplinary research into the challenges of how a city's theatres, including both spaces and performances, could be digitally mapped, modelled and documented to such an extent that they can be reproduced and displayed on Web-based interactive virtual world technologies that are accessible and useful to a wide range of end-user applications. The UK is one of the world's leading countries for contemporary theatre and is endowed with one of the richest histories of theatre in the world. The mission of RECITE is to research appropriate methodologies and technologies such that the vast repositories of the theatre archives hosted around the country can be mined for the benefits of research, education and the creative industries.

### **Award details**

The scholarship covers the cost of Home/EU tuition fees and provides an annual, tax-free maintenance stipend of £13,650. The recipient will also receive a Research Training Support Grant of £1,000.

### **Interactive modelling of a city's theatre spaces**

To investigate what constitutes a city's theatre spaces and how such spaces may be best digitally modelled to enable interdisciplinary collaborative research involving architecture, theatre performance and computer science. The project aims to explore digital means for modelling a city's theatres in their real architectural and urban environments as high-quality open-source based 3D interactive virtual theatres that are linkable to other associated datasets and thus support experimentation with digital creativity and innovation in all aspects of a city's theatre related activities.

The City of Sheffield is an ideal place to carry out the proposed research because of its current city-wide network of theatres of a suitable scale and variety. The Digital Region Project will provide the essential test bed to carry out the digital experiment. The appointed scholar is expected to play an active role in collaborating with two other RECITE scholars to achieve a novel synthesis of [a] 3D Digital Architectural and Urban Modelling (RECITE PhD 1); [b] Theatre Directing, Performing and Experiencing (RECITE PhD 2), and [c] Software Engineering for Documenting Character Performance (RECITE PhD 3).

Supervisors: Dr Chengzhi Peng (School of Architecture) and Dr Daniela Romano (Computer Science). For enquiries, please contact Dr Chengzhi Peng (c.peng@sheffield.ac.uk). To apply for RECITE PhD 1 Scholarship, please download the application form below:

<http://www.shef.ac.uk/postgraduate/research/scholarships/projects/theatres.html>

Closing Date: 13 August 2010, 5:00pm