

Amin Azimi

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Selection Committee

Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Dissertation Completion Fellowship

Roshan Institute of Iranian Studies

University of Toronto

Dear Dr. Tavakoli,

Members of the Committee,

I am honoured to submit my application for the **Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Dissertation Completion Fellowship**. As a PhD candidate in Drama, Theatre & Performance Studies, I am now entering the final phase of my dissertation, “**Dissensus Dramaturgy: Rethinking the Politics of Dramaturgy in Contemporary Iranian Theatre.**”

Although my degree is housed in theatre studies, my scholarly trajectory has always been rooted in **Iranian Studies**: I examine post-2009 Iranian theatre as a locus where politics, cultural memory, and transnational aesthetics converge, and I draw comparative insights from Iranian cinema to illuminate shared strategies of resistance and representation. My publications, conference papers, and creative projects consistently bridge theatre and film to advance a fuller understanding of modern Iranian culture.

Two of four dissertation chapters are completed; a full manuscript will be circulated to my committee in **December 2025**, with a defence scheduled for **June 2026**. Fellowship support is critical for:

1. Completing the remaining chapters and revising the full manuscript;
2. Conducting final interviews with Iranian artists and verifying informal archival sources.
3. Preparing the dissertation for defence and subsequent open-access publication.

My commitment to Iranian Studies has been recognised through competitive awards such as the **Ontario Graduate Scholarship** and the **Lise-Lone Marker Fellowship** (both 2024). I have presented my findings at the **IFTR World Congress 2025** (Cologne) and the **Tenth European Conference of Iranian Studies 2023** (Leiden), ensuring that my research reaches both theatre scholars and the wider Iranian-studies community. The Mir-Djalali Fellowship will enable me to complete the first English-language monograph that theorises post-2009 Iranian dramaturgy within a broader framework of Iranian cultural production.

Thank you for considering my application. I enclose my CV and a dissertation synopsis with completion timeline, and I would welcome the opportunity to provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

Amin Azimi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A.A.' with a stylized flourish above it.

June, 30, 2025