The Professional Doctorate in Fine Art at UEL has been in existence for over 20 years, making it the longest running Fine Art Doctorate in the UK. Researchers come from the UK and worldwide, completing the degree in three years full time or five years part time.

The programme is designed for artists with an autonomous practice and a postgraduate degree who wish to develop the creative, professional and theoretical elements of their work.

Work in progress seminars are at the heart of the programme. These are lively, supportive occasions where researchers present and reflect on their work to their supervisors and fellow students, leading up to a yearly showcase exhibition. Creative practice is central to the doctorate, supported by a written proposal, annual reviews and a final report for the viva exhibition.

The title of my Doctorate proposal ‘Scenographies of the Inner World’, is inspired by research in psychoanalytical and philosophical enquiry. I create sculptural installations that reveal the conflict between the infinite realms of the mind and the limits of objective representation. The Fine Art Doctorate programme encourages cycles of research and practice that are supported by a series of work in progress seminars. These are a fantastic and unique element of the course, bringing the Doctorate students, supervisors and staff together to reflect on each other’s work- the exchange of ideas is as challenging as it is inspiring. In welcoming artists from many professional and creative backgrounds, the programme allows a rich and diverse re-appraisal of our work through the lens of Fine Art practice.

Ali Darke - Professional Doctorate Researcher in Fine Art, 2018
Graduating Professional Doctorate Researchers 2018

1. Mary Crenshaw, Mixed media on canvas, 120 x 160 cm, 2018, Doctorate report title: Dislocation and Materiality
2. Hwa Soon Yang, Pink Future, Acrylic on canvas, 80 x 130 cm, 2017, Doctorate report title: Home and the Paradox of Place
Current Professional Doctorate Researchers:
Will Bishop-Stephens
Marc Coker
Mary Crenshaw
Ali Darke
Anna Fairchild
Paul Fang
Mikey Georgeson
Chris Groothuizen
Christoph Hadrys
Natalia Jezova
Ralph Overill
Lucy Renton
Yarek Soltan

Current Supervisors:
Sue Withers
Francesca Woodman
Hwa Seon Yang

Dr Fay Brauer
Dr David Chapman
Pete Cobb
Dr Nicola Diamond
Dr Jill Daniels
Grenville Davey
Dr Garry Doherty
Dr Jeremy Gilbert
Dr Eric Great-Rex
Dr Dominic Hingorani

Dr Lesley Logue
Dr Antigoni Memou
Dr Sian Mooney
Lee Maelzer
Dr Michael Pinsky
Karen Raney
Dr Tony Sampson
Dr Debra Benita Shaw
Susan Stockwell
Dr Harald Trapp
Dr Angie Voela

Further Information:
http://www.uel.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/prof-doc-fine-art
Prof. Doc. Archive http://profdocfineart.uel.ac.uk/

1 Sue Withers, Ochre Ladder, Mixed media, 2018
2 Paul Greenleaf, Untitled, Found 35mm slides, video, 2018
3 Mikey Georgeson, Actual Occasion, Film still, 2018
4 Ralph Overill, Godzilla, Screenprint, 2018
5 Anna Fairchild, Displaced, Cement and metal, coloured lighting, 2018
6 Lucy Renton, Richard and Judy 2, 2018
7 Ali Darke, Tears of things, Mixed media, 2016
The Professional Doctorate has been vital in furthering my artistic practice and developing my academic research skills within a fine art context. I came to the programme from a practice-based PhD, which was restrictive and I struggled to express my creativity within its boundaries. The strength of the Professional Doctorate is its ability to accommodate the organic and fluid nature of artistic practice while recognising and developing each student's creative output in a framework of academic research. The balance of making, studying and writing alongside attending and presenting in regular seminars works very well for me, opening up stimulating dialogue with my peers, while continually pushing my understanding of, and ambitions for, my own practice.

Ralph Overill - Professional Doctorate Researcher in Fine Art, 2018