

Curriculum Vitae et Studiorum

1 Personal Information

Sarah R. Ahmed

Date of Birth: 04-02-1995

Nationality: Egyptian

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Online Portfolio: [Sarah Radi Ahmed](#)

2 Work Experience

September 2020 - October 2020
Palatine Hill Rome - Parco del Colosseo | Internship
Mapping and classifying remains and physical traces of ancient structures, either visible and still standing attested by “historical” information by systematic application of modern and updated methods procedures and techniques typical of Urban Archaeology. Within the required framework of the Master degree of Architecture, Landscape & Archaeology.

March 2018 - June 2019
Darb El Labanna Revitalization Project | Research Architect
Bureau Lada (Netherlands) - Lala Studio (Egypt) collaboration to rethink alternative development concepts through experimental urban design interventions in Darb El Labana, historical Cairo.

October 2018 - July 2019
STUDIO PARADIGM | Junior Architect
Responsible for designing, drafting, detailing and rendering interior and architectural design projects proposals for different types of commercial and residential projects in Cairo and the Middle East
My work with the studio can be found [here](#).

July 2017 - August 2019
LALA STUDIO | Co-founder/Research Architect
An interdisciplinary studio based in Historical Cairo focused in architectural education, and community development through experimental approaches, urban research.

3 Education

November 2021 - Now
PhD in Landscape & Environment
University of Rome “ La Sapienza” - Doctoral School of Architectural Studies.

September 2019 - July 2021
Master in Architecture, Landscape & Archaeology
Grade: 110 cum laude
ALA is a postgraduate international and interdisciplinary 2-yrs (120ECT) Erasmus Joint Master Programme in Architecture, Landscape and Archaeology, developed by a consortium of 4 institutions (University of Rome Sapienza, University of Coimbra, National Technical University of Athens, University of Naples Federico II)

October 2013 - July 2018
BSc of Architectural Engineering
Faculty of Engineering, Fayoum University, Fayoum, Egypt
GPA: 3.2 (81.53%) | Duration: 5 years
Graduation Thesis Grade: Excellent (95%)
Thesis: Educational Utopia: Alternative Learning Environments

July 2013
American High School Diploma
Al-Noor International school, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
GPA: 3.8

4 Participation in Research Projects & Workshops

- March 2018 -
June 2019
- Open Call Egypt: Darb El Labana Lab 1 & 2**
In collaboration with Bureau LADA (NL), Lala Studio (EG) and CILAS, the team undertook urban, social and anthropological research in the historical hill in the heart of Cairo: Darb El Labana, in goals to find ways to recontextualise heritage sites, and initiate change of social engagement through which this historical neighborhood could become part of an resilient Cairo megapolopolis in the 21st century, Involving stakeholders in imagination of a common future. We see resilience in the combination of social, spatial and ecological issues, allowing heritage to be inhabited in the 21st century. More on [Website](#).
- July - August
2017
- Urban Revitalization of Historical Public Spaces**
Lala Studio organized research workshop followed by call for design interventions in the main square of Darb El Labana, in an attempt to find contemporary ways to re-appropriate public space after an era of violent political control over spaces that once were dedicated for demonstration. The research workshops and competitions encouraged participants to establish designs that turn spaces from spaces of conflict and fear to spaces of daily usage, live and attempted to also address issue like gender inequality in the public space.
- April 2018
- Grounded Urban Practices - Cairo Forum**
This forum aimed to engage representatives of alternative urban practices from Cairo and Amsterdam/Rotterdam in a critical dialogue through an exchange of knowledge, inspirations, and experience. Organized by Non-fiction (NL) and Cluster (EG), I was invited to participate as an alternative urban practitioner. More details [here](#).

5 Grants and Awards

- November
2021
- PhD International Fellowship Scholarship**
Sapienza University - Doctoral School of Architectural Studies - Landscape and Environment
- September
2019
- EMJMD student scholarship:** for attending Master ALA Joint Degree Program (Duration of the Master is September 2019-July 2021)
- August
2019
- Hivos Collaboration Exchange Grant:** for practitioners in African Countries related in fields of Heritage and Arts to establish cross collaborations between (Egypt) Lala Studio and (Tunisia) Dar ben Gacem in Tunisia.
- December
2018
- African Crossroads In 2018,** the inaugural edition of African Crossroads was held in Marrakech, Morocco. Dubbed “The Fourth Industrial Revolution,” its multi-disciplinary participants explored their own roles in shaping Africa’s ongoing technological and intellectual revolution. I participated representing Lala Studio, in collaboration with Lada Hrsak, with a pavilion on the Stargazing platform of Cairo.
- March
2018
- Stimulering Fonds NL, Call for Egypt Phase 1 & 2:**
Lala Studio, Bureau LADA, Grant for conducting urban research answering the question what can design do, funded small interventions based on careful analysis of precarious current intersections between heritage and social issues.

6 Languages & Tests

- English (Fluent)
- Arabic (mother tongue)
- Italian (C1)
- German (A2)
- IELTS 2018 | score: 8.0/9.0
- Toefl IBT 2013 | score: 112/120
- Amideast English Placement test 2017 | score: 111/120

7 Architectural Competitions

- Archasm Iconic Amsterdam Bridge (2018, SHORTLISTED TOP 50)
- 120 hrs Competition (2018)
- YAC - Green Academy (2016)
- YAC - University Island (2016)
- Shelters competition (2015)

8 Soft Skills

Modeling, Analysis and Drafting:

Revit 2020
AutoCAD 2021
Rhino 6.6
Grasshopper
3ds Max 2016
QGIS 3.10

Rendering:

Lumion 8
Photoshop PP
VRAY 3ds Max 3.2
VRAY for Rhino 3.2

Presentation:

Hand Sketching - Digital Sketching
Adobe Illustrator 2020
Adobe Photoshop CC 2015
Adobe InDesign CC 2018
Adobe Line, Shape and Draw
Microsoft Word & Powerpoint

9 Extracurricular Volunteer Activities

- TEDxWadiElRayan - Chairperson - Licensee - Co-founder (2015 - 2017)
I was responsible for TED license application, program, execution and organization of the volunteers to organise an open event for interdisciplinary new ideas in different fields. I was awarded the TED fellowship in the year 2017
- Presentation Team Head - Enactus (2016)
Responsible for presenting different entrepreneurial projects, and training volunteers.
- Resala Charity Organization: educational program (2014)
Where I was responsible for the writing and programming of basic educational rights for illiterate workers on campus to improve their working conditions

10 Research Interests and Motivations

My activity as an architect is derived from interest in deeply analysing existing urban and landscape environment in order to achieve contextualised design solutions based on the different parameters each site has to offer. With particular interest in the historical aspects in landscape and urban contexts, I was able to investigate the relationships between archaeological remains and current realities, in Cairo, Coimbra and Rome.

In the context of the ALA Master: Architecture, Landscape and Archaeology, I was able to study in depth how to intervene in archaeological sites and design solutions for multiple issues. The issues tackled by the master, in the context of Rome, included the reading of complex archaeological information, understand the archaeological methodology in site, which I was able to acquire during an intensive internship in the archaeological site of the Palatine Hill, developing an understanding in topics like Urban Archaeology, Preventive Archaeology, conventions and legislation related to architectural/urban intervention. I was able to acquire multiple skills including the of surveying like 3D point cloud laser scanning, photogrammetry, and total station.

The second semester of the Master focused on Landscape in the Portuguese context, in the University of Coimbra, concentrating on topics that include Archaeogeography based on the work of Gerard Chouquer, Landscape Archaeology, and contemporary theoretical approaches to the field of Landscapes. The study was elaborated through design interventions in marginalised archaeological remains, tackling the different palimpsests, agricultural and cultural nature of the landscape, in the context of Idanha-A-Velha, a small historical village close to the borders of Spain. The work was accomplished using Q-GIS for the study of geological, hydrological, agricultural structures, and elaborated through different mappings.

My ALA Master's Thesis focuses on Urban Design solution for enhancing the current built environment in the site between Foro Boario and the South Western side of the Palatine hill, enhancing different connections based on deep research on the urban morphology of the site, the *genius loci* of Rome and the intangible heritage of the site. The different information was elaborated through mappings of the different historical flows, street structures, built and demolished structures, with the goal of constructing a design proposal that enhances the reading of the site as an integrated unit focusing on the archaeological remains of Monuments and solving current issues.

Before joining the Master, between the years of 2017 and 2019, I was a founding member of LALA Studio, a studio situated on a hill in the heart of historical Cairo. We collaborated within two years with an interdisciplinary team of anthropologists, designers, social activists and scholars who also found substantial interest in the space, where history meets present, and heritage meaning and value are being tested in neglected monuments and occasional intangible cultural practices present in many of Cairo's old neighborhoods. We were able to test multiple methodologies like performative mapping, experimental designs and visual archiving of intangible heritage and practices.

My interests can be summarised as 1. Landscape processes analysis through historical layers between man-made and natural phenomena, 2. The intersection between architecture and archaeology, the enhancement of archaeological sites and their impact on their surroundings, 3. Mapping as a design tool, on different scales, from performative on site mapping, to the overlapping of different elements of the site to reveal imperceptible relationships for site specific localised design solutions.