Laila Shereen Sakr

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EDUCATION

2015	**PhD, Media Arts and Practice,** USC School of Cinematic Arts
2009	**MFA, Digital Arts and New Media,** UC Santa Cruz
1998	**MA, Arab Studies,** Georgetown University
1993	**BA, English Literature,** University of Cincinnati (*cum laude*)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

July 2015-present	Assistant Professor, Department of Film and Media Studies, UCSB
2019-present	Faculty Affiliate, Center for Responsible Machine Learning, UCSB
2017-present	Faculty Affiliate, Feminist Studies Department, UCSB
2010-2015	Teaching and Research Assistant, School of Cinematic Arts, USC
2009-2010	Research Associate, Digital Arts New Media MFA Program, UCSC
2007-2009	Teaching and Research Assistant, Arts Division, UCSC
2001-2007	Multimedia and Publications Editor, Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University
1993-1995	U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer, Instructor, Fes Sais University, MOROCCO

GRANTS and AWARDS

2021	ACLS Digital Extension Grant ($150,000)
2021	Office of Research Grant, UCSB
2019	Interdisciplinary Humanities Center Faculty Fellowship, UCSB
2019	Academic Senate Faculty Research Grant, UCSB
2018	Academic Senate Faculty Research Grant, UCSB
2018	Carsey-Wolf Center Faculty Research Support Award
2018	UC Regents' Junior Faculty Fellowship
2017	IHC Faculty Collaboration Grant, UCSB
2017	College of Letters & Science Conference Grant, UCSB
2016	Academic Senate Faculty Research Grant, UCSB
2016	Open Society Foundation, Human Rights Initiative Grant
2015	IHC Faculty Collaboration Grant, UCSB
2013-2015	Arab Council on Social Sciences Research Grant
2012	Future Leadership Award by Egyptian American Association
2012-2013	Arab Digital Expression Foundation Award
2010-2011	MacArthur Foundation HASTAC Scholar award
2010-2015	Annenberg PhD Fellowship, USC
2009	Jack Shaheen Media Scholarship
2007-2008	UC Regents Graduate Student Fellowship, UCSC
2006	Puffin' Grant for the Guerrilla Poetry Insurgency
2005	Washington Peace Center, Peace and Justice Award

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE and SERVICE

2016-present   Co-Founder, Wireframe Digital Media Studio, UCSB
                      Research Collaborator, Global Media Technologies & Cultures Lab, MIT
                      Advisory Committee, Digital Arts & Humanities Commons, UCSB
                      Steering Committee, Center for Information Tech & Society, UCSB
                      Executive Committee, Middle East Studies Program, UCSB
2017-2019   Website Committee Chair, Film and Media Studies Department, UCSB
2015-present   Undergraduate Committee, Film and Media Studies Department, UCSB
2015-2018   Modern Middle East Lecture Committee, Middle East Studies, UCSB
                      Graduate Student Funding Committee, Middle East Studies, UCSB

Editorial Committee Service

2016-present   *Media Theory,* open-access journal
2015-present   *After Video*, published by Open Humanities Press

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

Digital Activism and Arabic Software Localization. In Mark LeVine, editor, *The Five-Year Old Who Toppled the Pharaoh*. Volume is under contract with UC Press.

Reframing the 'Arab Spring'. In Angela Krewan and Alena Strohmaier, editors, *Media and Spatial Knowledge in/of the MENA-region*. Amsterdam University Press, 2021.

Techies on the Ground. In Josepha Wessels, editor, Special Issue *Cyber Orient*: *Authoritarianism, digital dissidence and grassroots media in the Middle East and North African Region*. Vol. 13, Iss. 1 (2020).

Ev-ent-anglement: A Script to Reflexively Extend Engagement by Way of Technologies. In Elizabeth Losh and Jacqueline Wernimont, editors, *Bodies of Information: Intersectional Feminism and the Digital Humanities*. University of Minnesota Press, 2019.

On Developing a Teaching Module on Arab Social Media. *Cinema Journal Teaching Dossier: The Integration of Production and Theory/History in Cinema and Media Studies Courses* 4.1 (June 2016).

The Virtual Body Politic: A Networked Political Mobilization of Information Patterns and Materiality. *Networking Knowledge: Journal of the Media, Communication, and Cultural Studies Association* 8.2 (May 2016).

From Archive to Analytics: Building Counter-Collections of Arabic Social Media. In Anthony Downey, editor, *Archival Dissonance: Contemporary Visual Culture and Knowledge Production*. I.B. Tauris/Ibraaz, 2015.

A Digital Humanities Approach: Text, the Internet, and the Egyptian Uprising. *Middle East Critique* 22.3 (2013).

The Materiality of Virtuality: Internet Reporting On Arab Revolutions. In Adel Iskander and Bassam Haddad, editors, *Mediating the Arab Uprisings*. Tadween Publishing, 2013.

Security or Uncertainty: Stabilizing R-Shief Twitter Analysis during the Jasmine & Egyptian Revolutions. *ThoughtMesh: Critical Code Journal* (February 2011).

The R-Shief Initiative: Proof of Concept. *Parson's Journal for Information Mapping* 2 (2009).

"On Becoming Arab," *Mizna* 6.1, 2004.

Book Reviews

Hanan al-Cinema, Laura Marks (MIT Press, 2016). *Journal of the Society for Contemporary Thought and the Islamic World*, 2017.

CREATIVE WORKS

Installations

2021	*Capital Glitch: Arab Cyborg Turns to D.C*. 04 November- 03 December 2021, Qualcomm Institute Gallery, UC San Diego, La Jolla.
2020	*Beit Um Amel* /بيت ام امل. February-March 2020, Future Gallery, American University of Cairo's Tahrir Cultural Center, Cairo.
2020	*Birds 1.0 /*طيور*. Glitch/*غليتش, February-March, 2020, Margo Veillon Gallery, American University of Cairo's Tahrir Cultural Center, Cairo.
2020	*Touch Data Body X. Beyond Embodiment,* January-March, 2020, The Brand Art Gallery, Glendale.
2018	*Touch Data Body X. ArtoBots*. 2018, Codame's Art & Technology, The Midway, San Francisco.
2018	*Glitch Resistance in Metal. ArtoBots*. 2018, Codame's Art & Technology, The Midway, San Francisco.
2018	*Ten-year Retrospective.* V*ISIBILITY*, 2018, Central Cultural Kirchner, Buenos Aires.
2016	Egyptian Insurgency Data Visualization. *After Tahrir film festival*, Michael Douglas Lobby at Pollock Theater (Santa Barbara, CA)
2015	Ruptured Destruction: An Anarchists Vision. *Scents of Places,* Flaherty Film Seminar (New York, NY)
2013	Performing and Archiving the Middle East Internet. Levantine Cultural Center (Los Angeles, CA)
2012	Egyptian Body Politic Remix. *iMappening*, USC (Los Angeles, CA)
2011	Egyptian Body Politic Remix. *Digital Festival* (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)
2011	Mother of Hope Words, Museum of Art & History (Vienna, Austria)

2009	Archiving Gaza in R-Shief. *interACTIVATE*, Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History (Santa Cruz, CA)
2008-2009	Conversation Map by Warren Sack. *Art of Participation: 1950- Now*, curated by Rudolf Frieling. Produced video and website for the software that ran in the installation, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (San Francisco, CA)
2008	The Public Intellectual REMixed. Cornell University (Ithaca, NY)
2008	Post-Colonial Ninja Front. Porter Faculty Gallery (Santa Cruz, CA)
2006	The Why Project, Green Festival (Washington, DC)

Digital Media

2020	R-Shief Legacy Sites and Tweets – Dashboard v5
2019	Glitch Resistance series, dye sublimation on metal and canvas
2017	Arab Future Tripping Virtual Reality Prototype
2017	R-Shief 5.0 software apps and cloud computing architecture
2016	"For the Global-Popular" 2016, *Asian Video Cultures*, Eds. Joshua Neves and Bhaskar Sarkar, Duke University Press, 2017, front cover.
2015	Collaborated with Alex Juhasz in building the online portals and interfaces for Ev-ent-angle-ment. The ev-ent-anglement digitally entangles fragments from this event with those of four previous events experienced over the past year in Utrecht, Delhi, Dublin, and Montreal where I also collected participants' fragments and stitched and re-stitched them together as I moved forward and back—from Utrecht to Dehli, Dublin, Montreal, LA—and also always online
2014	#Gaza Audio-Visual Narrative by a Cyborg: Images by Hashtag, an online interactive mosaic of images tweeted on the bombing of Gaza
2013- 2015	R-Shief 3.0 and 4.0, an archival and visualizing media system up to 26 billion social media posts (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and sites) in more than seventy languages. Software applications: ● Kal3a is an open source application stack that collects, stores, and indexes the social media content that supports R-Shief's research. ● Hashtag Visualizer displays trending words over time with frequency counts.The graphs can by exported, and are fully interactive. ● The Hashtag Trends Widget measures trending words in real-time.This widget can be embedded anywhere as an iframe. ● The Arabic Smart Engine is an open source tool that feeds two APIs. The Arabic Text Analysis API is a text analyzer of Arabic content that uses Wikipedia as its knowledge base to show various occurrences. ● The Arabic Sentiment API will accept short Arabic Text, basically a tweet. It then will identify the related sentiment by analyzing the text taking into consideration several Arabic language rules.

2010   Twitterminer software application that data mines Twitter by hashtag

2010-2012   Under the name VJ Um Amel, produced over one hundred works of cultural
                analytics published across platforms including Jadaliyya.com, The Levantine
                Center, Mrzine, SMEX, 7iber, Henry Jenkins Blog.

2009   Commissioned for art direction and lead design for The Prince Alwaleed Bin
                Talal Islamic Studies' Islamopedia project at Harvard University

2007   Designed user interface using Drupal theming for Merip.org

2006   Designed website for Arabs and Terrorism film and research project using Cold
                Fusion, Access db. Built using ActionScript 2.0 and Flash 8.

2004   Designed and developed website for Center for Contemporary Arab Studies at
                Georgetown University using Cold Fusion and Access db. Built custom video
                players and web intro using ActionScript 2.0 and Flash 8.

Live Cinema Performances

2020   Internet of Things. Darat al-Fanun, Amman, Jordan

2017   Wireframe Beta Launch: A Guerrilla Open Mic. Wireframe Studio, UCSB

2016   Resurgency. Nomadico Festival, curated by non-profit arts collective, Meso
        Creso, (Lignum, Virginia)

2015   Ev-ent-anglement, the final iteration of a performance spanning Utrecht, Delhi,
        Dublin, and Montreal, PAM performance gallery (Los Angeles, CA)

2015   From Gaza to Cairo, International Symposium on Electronic Arts (ISEA), curated by
        Laura Marks (Vancouver, CANADA)

2015   Body of Work of VJ Um Amel. *Scents of Places*, Flaherty Film Seminar, (New York,
        NY)

2013   From Gaza to Cairo: Mobilizing Body Politic. *Collective Alchemy performance*, the
        Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics Convergence (Los Angeles, CA)

2013   ImMobility: A Performed Score with Micha Cardenes and Leyya Tawil, *iMAPPENING*
        (Los Angeles)

2013   VJ Um Amel @100Copies Music Space with Music Squad (Cairo, EGYPT)

2013   #OpenEgypt Ali Shaath, Arab Digital Expression Foundation (Cairo, EGYPT)

2012   Wizard Science Presents: GRIMBLEE, The 418 Project (Santa Cruz, CA)

2012   The Spirit of Tahrir: Honoring the 25th Egyptian Revolution. The Egyptian American
        Organization (Los Angeles, CA)

2011	Music, Freedom, and a Bit of Egyptian Cinema, Hosted by Makkan Art Gallery sponsored by National Gallery of Art (Amman, JORDAN)

2011	Live Visuals with Spoken Word Poet Remi Kanazi and Hip-Hop Artist The Philistines (Los Angeles, CA)

2011	Bass Synthesis (Los Angeles, CA)

2011	Brethren GRIMED: Full Moon Festival (Santa Cruz, CA)

2010	Middle East Studies Association Dance Party with DJ Bassam (San Diego, CA)

2010	When Worlds Collide (Los Angeles, CA)

2010	Call 2 Presence, The Fridge DC Art Gallery (Washington, DC)

2007	Hip Hop Theater Festival (Washington, DC)

2006	Weekly Hip-Hop Performance with Thievery Corporation at Eighteenth Street Lounge (Washington, DC)

2006	DC Coalition for Housing and Justice: Community Forum (Washington, DC)

2006	Greenspace Festival (Washington, DC)

2005	Operation Ceasefire Concert, opening act for Joan Baez, Sweet Honey & the Rock (Washington, DC)

2005	Counter-Inaugural Event (Washington, DC)

2002	Capital Heartbreak & Sweetness: DC POETS, by S. Ekanayak (Washington, DC)

TEACHING

Courses Designed and Taught

2021-2022, University of California, Santa Barbara, Film and Media Studies Department
	Critical Analysis (graduate), Fall 2021
	Algorithms and Culture (undergraduate), Fall 2021
	Feminist Technology (undergraduate), Spring 2022
	Glitch Art (undergraduate), Fall 2022

2020-2021, University of California, Santa Barbara, Film and Media Studies Department
	Middle East Media (undergraduate), Winter 2021
	Glitch Art (undergraduate), Winter 2021
	Algorithms and Culture (undergraduate), Spring 2021
	Interaction Design (undergraduate), Spring 2021

2019-2020, University of California, Santa Barbara, Film and Media Studies Department
	Digital Media Theory + Practice (graduate), Winter 2020
	Feminist Technology (undergraduate), Spring 2020
	Interaction Design (undergraduate), Spring 2020

2018-2019, University of California, Santa Barbara, Film and Media Studies Department
        Feminist Technology (undergraduate), Spring 2019
        Glitch Art (undergraduate), Spring 2019
        Middle East Film and Media (undergraduate), Winter 2019
        Interaction Design (undergraduate), Fall 2018

2017-2018, University of California, Santa Barbara, Film and Media Studies Department
        Middle East Media (undergraduate), Spring 2018
        Glitch Art (undergraduate), Spring 2018
        Introduction to the Technology, Equipment and Materials of Film and Media,
        (undergraduate) Fall 2017
        Feminist Technology (graduate), Fall 2017

2016-2017, University of California, Santa Barbara, Film and Media Studies Department
        Glitch Art (undergraduate), Spring 2017
        Feminist Technology Lab (undergraduate), Spring 2017
        Algorithms and Culture (graduate), Winter 2017
        Digital Activism in the Middle East (undergraduate), Winter 2017
        Motion Graphics (undergraduate), Winter 2017

2015-2016, University of California, Santa Barbara, Film and Media Studies Department
        Glitch Art (undergraduate), Spring 2016
        Digital Activism in the Middle East (undergraduate), Winter 2016
        Data Visualization as Media Praxis (graduate), Winter 2016

Undergraduate Student Supervision

2017-2018   Advisor for Rachael Grainger, Senior Honor Thesis, "A Feminist Reading of
            Immersive Journalism: *The Displaced.*"
2019-2020   Advisor for Josh Bevan, Undergraduate research and Creative Activities Grant
            project, "Echo."

Graduate Student Supervision

Soha Saghazadeh, Film and Media Studies, 2021-present (M.A. advisor)
Nathan Cox, Film and Media Studies, 2018-present (PhD Dissertation Committee)
Sara Morris, Art History, 2018-present (PhD Minor Advisor)
Sihwa Park, Media Arts & Technology, 2018-present (PhD Dissertation Committee)
Daniel Grinberg, Film & Media Studies, 2017-2018 (PI, UCHRI Grad Student Research)
Han-Wei Kung, Media Arts & Technology, 2017-2018 (PhD Dissertation Committee)
Ali Rahman, Comparative Literature Department, 2015-2017 (PhD Exam Committee)

LECTURES

Keynote

Feb 2019   "A Theory of the Glitch," HIGH/LOW Taste, Quality, and Resolution in Film
            and Media, a UC Berkeley Film & Media Graduate Conference (Berkeley)

Feb 2019   "Abstraction, Glitch, and Resistance," bang bang !!Con at UCSC (Santa
            Cruz)

Oct 2018   "Reframing the 'Arab Spring'" at Emergency and Emergence: First
                Forum, a USC Cinema and Media Studies Graduate Conference in
                Cooperation with USC Interdivisional Media Arts and Practice PhD
                Program at the School of Cinematic Arts (Los Angeles)

July 2016   "Rethinking Social Movements in the Digital Age: Activism, Dissent and
                Rebellion in the Post-Arab Spring" a Orient-Institut in Beirut (OIB) international
                conference (Beirut, LEBANON)

Invited

Oct 2020   "Archives & Activation // Platforms and Publics: Engagement in Digital
                Spaces." Discussant in Digital Forays in Middle Eastern Studies:
                Changing Practices & Pedagogy Series at New York University

Aug 2020   "Social Media and Global Rhetoric" guest speaker in Professor Elizabeth
                Losh's class at William & Mary College

May 2020   "Glitch Aesthetics" in Ethnomusicology Forum, UCSB

May 2020   "Glitch" in Media Arts & Technology Graduate Colloquium, UCSB

Apr 2020   "Glitch Resistance" in UCLA Information Studies Colloquium, UCLA

Oct 2019   "Demystifying Algorithms: Questions of Value and Logics of Power" for
                graduate seminar on Interacting with AI at the Center for Information
                Technology and Society (Santa Barbara)

Apr 2019   "A Transdisciplinary Approach to Data Visualization" at UCSB Spring
                Insight

Feb 2019   "Uncanny Histories Conference" at Carsey-Wolf Center (Santa Barbara)

Jan 2019   "Data Visualization: Intersecting Math, Arts, and Science" (Monterrey)

May 2018   "Data Moshing" at UCHRI graduate research workshop on "War,
                Security, and Digital Media" (Santa Barbara)

April 2018   "Algorithmic Borders and the Arab World" at "(B)orders of Empire: Colonial
                Pasts, Imperial Presents and Implicate Futures of the Global Middle East" (UC
                Irvine)

Feb 2018   "Algorithmic Resistance" at "Understanding the New Middle East" Conference,
                UCLA Center for Near Eastern Studies (Los Angeles)

Oct 2017   "Friction Points: Moving among the Disciplines" in Inaugural Panel on
                Interdisciplinary Crossings + Boundaries, Interdisciplinary Humanities Center,
                UCSB (Santa Barbara)

Oct 2017   "Billion Tweets Turned into Virtual Reality" at Big Data Research Symposium
                hosted by UCSB Office of Research (Santa Barbara)

Oct 2017	"Algorithmic Vision: An Arab Fem-Tech Logic" Dean Colloquium series at School of Arts, Technology and Emerging Communication (UT Dallas)
May 2017	"Arab Future Tripping and Algorithmic Vision" guest lecture series at Institute for Advanced Studies at University of Minnesota (Minneapolis)
Apr 2017	"The Myth of the Muslim Nation" on "Imaginaries about Muslims: Before and After Trump" panel at the UCSB Multicultural Center (Santa Barbara)
Mar 2017	"Always Already Computational: Library Collections as Data" National Forum on Digital Collections at UCSB Library (Santa Barbara)
Mar 2017	"Algorithmic Culture and Its Impact on a Post-Uprisings Middle East" in New Scholar series, UCLA Center for Near Eastern Studies (Los Angeles)
Feb 2017	"Muslim American/ American Muslim Community Engagements: Opportunities and Challenges in the Aftermath of the 2016 Elections" UCSB Interdisciplinary Humanities Center (Santa Barbara)
Jan 2017	"Launching new Cloud Computing Infrastructure" at UCSB's Interdisciplinary Research Collaboratory's panel on "Reproducible Data Research: It's Complicated" (Santa Barbara)
Dec 2016	Transregional Summit on "Freedom of Assembly in Civic Spaces," (Rio de Janeiro, BRAZIL)
Nov 2016	"Digital Activism in the Arab World" invited guest lecture in UCSB Professor Dwight Reynolds' Modern Arab Culture Class (Santa Barbara)
Sep 2016	Arab Social Media at Nordic Society for Middle Eastern Studies bi-annual conference at Lund University (Copenhagen, DENMARK)
Jun 2016	"On Designing Tweet World" at Games for Change Europe on "Immigration, Integration, and Self-Esteem: The Power of Videogames" (Paris, FRANCE)
Jun 2016	"Rethinking from Concept to Gallery: A Performance of #Gaza Visual Narrative by a Cyborg" at "Unflattening and Enacting Visualization: a Critical Visualization Event" at The Graduate School, CUNY College (New York, NY)
Jan 2016	"Unveiling R-Shief 4.0: A Social Media Archive and Analytics System" (co-presented) in lecture series by UCSB Center for Information Technology and Society (Santa Barbara)
Nov 2015	"The R-Shief Media System" in guest lecture series at UC Berkeley Center for Middle Eastern Studies (Berkeley, CA)
Oct 2015	Guest lecture in UCSB Professor Harold Marcuse's "Digital History" graduate seminar in the History Department (Santa Barbara)
Oct 2015	Guest lecture in UCSB Professor Lisa Parks' "Social Media" seminar in the Film and Media Department (Santa Barbara)

Oct 2015	Guest lecture in Professors Omar Dahi and Viveca Greene's "Media and the Middle East" class at Hampshire College (Amherst, MA)
Jun 2015	Led seminar on "Social Media and Digital Activism" at Digital Humanities Summer Institute at Claremont Colleges (Claremont, CA)
Nov 2014	Guest lecture in Professor Sarah Gualtieri's class on "Popular Culture in the Middle East" in the American Studies Department at the University of Southern California (Los Angeles)
Oct 2014	Guest lecture in Professor Soraya Murray's graduate seminar, "Toward an Ethics of New Media" in UCSC Film and Digital Media Department (Santa Cruz)
Oct 2014	"#OpenEgypt: Egypt's Twenty-first Century Open Source Tech Movement" in "Spotlight on Egypt: Troubled Transition" panel hosted by USC's Middle East Studies Program (Los Angeles)
Jun 2014	Guest Lecture on "Data Mining & Analytics" guest lecture in USC Annenberg Graduate Summer Course (Los Angeles)
Apr 2014	"</sentiment analysis_fail>" at the Information Sciences Institute Artificial Intelligence Series at USC (Los Angeles)
Feb 2014	"Critical Intersections: A Digital Media Arts Framework" at Pratt Institute's Graduate Program in Media Studies (Brooklyn, NY)
Feb 2013	"The Digital Humanities: Between Technology and Revolution" at the Middle East Studies Center at The American University (Cairo, EGYPT)
May 2012	Guest lecturer in UCSD Professor Liz Losh's class on digital journalism (San Diego)
Mar 2012	"The Arab Uprisings" at "The Emergence of Islamic Groups, Security, and Regional/International Dynamics" at Munk School of Global Affairs at University of Toronto (Toronto, CANADA)
Feb 2012	"By the Demand of the People: Archiving digitally born information in Arabic" at UCSC Department of Film and Digital Media (Santa Cruz)
Nov 2011	"Applications of Social Media Proliferation: New Approaches towards 'Objective' Study" at U.S. Department of State Bureau of Arms Control, Verification and Compliance "Arms Control in the Information Age" conference (Washington, DC)
Nov 2011	"#NoMilTrials Remixed "#NoMilTrials Remixed" at Munk School of Global Affairs at University of Toronto "Arab Uprising: Causes of Change" (Toronto, CANADA)
Sep 2011	"Turning Information into Insight Panel" at Tech@State: Data Visualization conference (Washington, DC)
Sep 2011	"Social Media Proliferation: Mapping and Analyzing Online Content" in lecture series on "Transformations of Human Identity in the 21st Century" (Ferrum, VA)

Sep 2011   "New Perspectives on Islam and the Middle East" in Fellows Forum
                series at University of Southern California (Los Angeles)

Jul 2011   Arab Techies 2011 Workshop (Cairo, EGYPT)

Jul 2011   "Documenting and Analyzing Arab Opinion on the Internet: Semantic
                Twitter Feed Analysis" at U.S. Department of State (Washington, DC)

Jun 2011   "Democratizing Knowledge: A2K4D's Second Annual Conference" at American
                University in Cairo (Cairo, EGYPT)

May 2011   "The Role of Art and Humanities in Regime Change" at TEDx organized
                by Stanford's Peace Innovation (Palo Alto, CA)

May 2011   "Visual Nesting: Facebook's Design for Building Community" at Facebook
                Headquarter's (Palo Alto, CA)

Apr 2011   "The Social Web Meets the Semantic Web" at Annenberg Innovation Lab's
                Inaugural Conference at USC (Los Angeles)

Feb 2011   "Blogs and Bullets: Social Media and the Struggle for Political Change" by US
                Institute for Peace, The George Washington University, and Stanford University
                (Palo Alto, CA)

May 2010   Arab Techies Women's Workshop (Beirut, LEBANON)

Mar 2010   "Cultural Expression" at Bay Area's Arab Women's Conference
                (San Francisco)

May 2008   Guest lecture in UCSC Professor Warren Sack's class on Social Information
                Spaces (Santa Cruz)

Aug 2006   Poetry Workshop: Young Women's Drumming Empowerment (Washington, DC)

Conferences

Oct 2020   "Big Data and Mega Corpora" at Middle East Studies Association Annual
                Conference (Zoom)

Nov 2019   "Authoritarianism, Digital Dissidence and Grassroots Media in the Middle
                East and North Africa region" at Middle East Studies Association Annual
                Conference (New Orleans, LO)

Nov 2018   "Authoritarianism, Digital Dissidence and Grassroots Media in the Middle East
                and North Africa region" at Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference
                (San Antonio, TX)

Nov 2018   "Digital Humanities Caucus: Emerging Digital Humanities"
                 at American Studies Association Annual Conference (Atlanta, GA)

Nov 2018	"Presidential Session: Dictatorship or Democracy? Thinking though the Global Authoritarian Turn" at American Studies Association Conference (Atlanta, GA)
Jan 2018	"Activism in the Humanities: Digital Projects for Public Engagement" at Modern Language Association Conference (New York, NY)
Nov 2017	Organized roundtable on "Social Media, Feminist Praxis, and State Power;" and presenting "Media Sousveillance on its Back" in panel on "Art and Mediation: Affective and Socio-political Practices of Revolutionary Challenges" at Middle East Studies Conference (Washington, DC)
Apr 2016	"A Job (Un)like Any Other: Graduate School as Academic Labor" at Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS) conference (Atlanta, GA)
Nov 2015	"Media Praxis: A Hybrid Approach to Studying the Arabic Open Source Movement" in panel on Arab New Media Theory: At the Intersection of Art, Technology, and Scholarship at the Middle East Studies Association (MESA) conference (Denver, CO)
Mar 2015	"Data-Driven Literary Practices" at &Now 2015: Blast radius conference at California Institute of the Arts (Valencia, CA)
Nov 2014	"On Developing a Teaching Module on Arab Social Media" and "The Archive: Collections and Counter-Collections" at the Middle East Studies Association conference (Washington, DC)
Oct 2013	"Will the Revolution Be Tweeted? Mapping Complex Data Patterns from Sites of Protest" at the Internet Researchers 14.0: Resistance + Appropriation conference (Denver, CO)
Oct 2013	"The Digital Humanities Meets Modern Egypt: Between Technology and Revolution" in panel on Digital Humanities in Middle East Studies II: Digital Communication at the Middle East Studies Association (MESA) conference (New Orleans, LA)
Apr 2013	"Narrating the Non-Narrative: A reading of experimental Arab art" at DIWAN with Mike Khoury, Leyya Tawil, and Nadim Damluji at DIWAN sponsored by the Arab American National Museum (Detroit, MI)
Sep 2012	"The Place of Difference in the Digital Humanities" at the International Symposium of Electronic Art (Albuquerque, NM)
Jun 2012	"Science of the Oppressed as Artivism," Allied Media Conference (Detroit, MI)
Jun 2012	"The Cultural Logic of YouTube Videos from the Egyptian Revolution" at London School of Economics Symposium, "Cosmopolitanism, New Media and Protests" (London, UK)
Apr 2012	"The Insight of Insider/Outsider Approaches to Scholarship roundtable" at USC Annenberg Research and Creative Project Symposium (Los Angeles)

Mar 2012	"Arab Spring: Convening the ICTD research community" organized by Harvard University Berkman Center for Internet & Society" (Atlanta, GA)
Dec 2011	Social Media Practice: Revolution, Youth, and the Digital World roundtable discussion, Middle East Studies Association (Washington, DC)
Jun 2011	"Al-Sha'ab Yureed (The People Demand): Transmitting the Revolution" at Allied Media Conference (Detroit, MI)
Apr 2011	"Media Methods: Youth, Revolution, and the Arab States" at Annenberg Fellowship Creative Symposium at USC (Los Angeles, CA)
Jan 2010	"The Digital Revolution: Arab Media in Digital Form" at Middle East Studies Association conference (San Diego, CA)
Jul 2010	"The Digital Form: Rethinking R-Shief" at World Council on Middle East Studies (Barcelona, SPAIN)
Feb 2010	"On Implementing the Digital Form: an Arabic-English Web-based Archive," Yale University's Digital Humanities Conference (New Haven)
Oct 2006	Defining & Negotiating Public Space at Urban Culture Conference (DC)
Dec 2005	"Disrupting Spaces at American Studies Association (Washington, DC)
Jun 2004	"Is Everything Political?" at Radius of Arab-American Writers (NYC)
Feb 2004	"Arab Voices of Protest" at National Conference of Organized Resistance (Washington DC)

INTERVIEWS and REVIEWS

2015-2020

Gaafer, Rania "Glitch: Art & Technology: Processing Media Matter," *Necsus* (Autumn 2020, #Method), November 30, 2020.

Michelsen, Leslee "In Cairo, Artists Use Pixels, Cyborgs, and More to Examine Technology and Belief," *Hyperallergic,* March 9, 2020.

Khallaf, Rania. "The sound of a glitch," *Al-Ahram Online*, February 25, 2020.

Editors. "AUC's TCC Hosts Three Exhibitions on Art and Technology" *Albawaba: Your Gateway to the Middle East*, February 13, 2020

Losh, Elizabeth. "#Intersection" in *Hashtag*, Bloomsbury Academic, 2019, pp. 89-93.

Malatesta, Irene. "Data Bodies and Tech Activism with VJ Um Amel," *Medium*, May 2018.

Editor. "Understanding Social Movements through Social Media's Big Data," *CCAS Newsmagazine* (Winter/Spring 2018).

Logan, Jim. "A billion tweets turned into virtual reality," University of California News, July 27, 2017.

Iskander, Adel. "What's Trending in Social Media in the Middle East?" *Status Audio-Journal Vols. 2-4*, May 1, 2017

Willis, Holly. *Fast Forward: The Future(s) of the Cinematic Art.* Columbia Univ. Press, 2016.

Lindsey, Ursula. "Scholars Re-Examine Arab World's 'Facebook Revolutions'," *Chronicle of Higher Education*, March 2015.

2009-2014

Attalah, Lina. "VJ Um Amel hits 'the social' in media" *Al-Masry Al-Youm*, June 24, 2011.

Chlala, Youmna. "Interview with VJ Um Amel" *Art Territories*, June 22, 2011.

Editors. "New Texts Out Now: VJ Um Amel, A Digital Humanities Approach: Text, the Internet, and the Egyptian Uprising" *Jadaliyya*, February 12, 2014.

Friedman, Jon. "Twitter's Window on Middle East Uprisings" *The Wall Street Journal*, May 18, 2011.

Good, Andrew. "The Middle East finds its voice on social media" *USC News*, August 29, 2014.

Gottemoeller, U.S. State Department Assistant Secretary Rosemary. "From the Manhattan Project to the Cloud: Arms Control in the Information Age" *Stanford University*, October 27, 2011

Losh, Elizabeth. "Digital Learning and the Arab Spring" *DML Central*, June 23, 2011.

Losh, Liz. "Not Your Mother's VJ" *Virtualpolitik*, February 25, 2011.

Miller, Greg. "Social Scientists Wade Into the Tweet Stream" *Science*, September 30, 2011.

Schenkar, Dylan. "VJ Um Amel Remixes a Revolution" *The Creators Project*, March 1, 2011.

Ungerleider, Neal. "The People's Skype' and Occupy Wall Street Hackathons" *Fast Company*, December 12, 2011.

ONLINE JOURNALS

Regular social media analysis and interview, "What's Trending in Social Media on the Middle East?" in *Status Hour: Audio Journal* vol. 1-3, 2015 and 2016.

"Studying Social Streams: Cultural Analytics in Arabic," *Jadaliyya* 10/31/2012.

"Egypt's Presidential Election and Twitter Talk," *Jadaliyya* 05/26/2012.

"The Materiality of Virtuality: Internet Reporting Arab Revolutions," *Jadaliyya* 12/19/2011.

"Collateral Damage: #Oslo Attacks and Proliferating Islamophobia," *Jadaliyya* 08/09/2011.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Interviewed Director Tamer El Said in the screening of *In the Last Days of the City* at the CWC Pollock Theater, October 2018

Co-organized two-day conference in April 2018. "The Future Tripping" conference addressed the intertwined nature of economic, political, and environmental uncertainty. Hosted a keynote talk by Elizabeth Losh (William & Mary), curated original art installation by Christina McPhee, with additional workshops and presentations by Elaine Gan (USC), Susana Ruiz (UC Santa Cruz), Danielle Svehla (Lawrence Berkeley National Lab), and UCSB faculty and students.

Co-organized four-day symposium and film fest at UCSB, "After Tahrir: Egyptian Revolutionary Experiences and Future Visions" with over twenty-five international guests, eighteen film shorts, and over twenty sponsors: http://aftertahrir.net

Interviewed Director Iva Radivojevic and organized screening of *Evaporating Borders* at the CWC Pollock Theater, December 2015.

Consulted for The World Bank on Lebanon's garbage crisis through a series of social media analyses and data visualizations in Arabic and English, October 2015

Spearheaded first international Occupy Data Hackathons I & II in December 2011, and March 2012, along with MIT Media Lab, R-Shief, The New School, Utrecht University, and activists in Washington, DC, Oakland, Rio de Janeiro, Cairo, Zaragoza, Spain.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Arab Techies
Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR)
College Art Association (CAA)
FemTechNet
Middle East Studies Association (MESA)
Modern Language Association (MLA)
Radius of Arab-American Writers (RAWI)
Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)

LANGUAGES

Fluent in English and Arabic
Proficient in French