

**Curriculum Vitae**  
**Aya Musmar B.S. Arch., M.A. Arch., PhD. Arch.**

**CURRENT POST:** Assistant Professor in Humanities in Architecture, Dept. of Architecture, American University in Cairo (AUC).  
**ADDRESS:** Dept. of Architecture, SSE, AUC Ave, New Cairo 1, Cairo Governorate 11835.  
**Mobile:** 00962-799900963 **e-mail:** [aya.musmar@aucegypt.edu](mailto:aya.musmar@aucegypt.edu) , [asmusmar1@gmail.com](mailto:asmusmar1@gmail.com)

### **EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS**

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| 2006- 2012 | Jordan University of Science and Technology, Jordan, Bachelor of Arch. Eng. |
| 2012- 2013 | University of Sheffield, Masters in Architectural Design, M.A. Arch.        |
| 2015- 2020 | University of Sheffield, Ph.D. in Architecture.                             |

### **CAREER DETAILS**

#### **Academic work**

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| August. 2024- Present        | <b>Assistant Professor in Humanities in Architecture, AUC.</b>   |
| February. 2020- August. 2024 | <b>Assistant Professor in Architecture and Feminism, University of Petra.</b><br><b>Module(s):</b> Principles of Architectural Design, Architectural Design (2, 5, 6), Urban Planning and Design, Histories and Theories of Art and Architecture (Medieval Ages/Islamic & Christian), Research Skills, Special Topics in Architecture, Local and Regional Architecture, Aesthetics and Art Appreciation, Environment and Behavior. |
| March. 2020- April. 2020     | <b>Teaching Fellow on the Refugee Diploma, The Centre of Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan.</b>  |
| March. 2021- April. 2021     | <b>Module(s):</b> Gender Issues in Humanitarian Situations.  |
| May. 2015- May. 2017         | <b>Graduate Teaching Assistant, The University of Sheffield.</b>   |
| Feb. 2014- July. 2014        | <b>Module(s):</b> Reflection on Architectural Design (6989), Design Project 1 (6986), Design Project 2 (6987).   |
|                              | <b>Graduate Teaching Assistant, Yarmouk University</b>   |
|                              | <b>Module(s):</b> Principles of Architectural Design.  |

#### **Humanitarian work**

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| July. 2016- Dec. 2017 | Project Officer, Int. Relief and Development (IRD, now Blumont), Za'atri camp     |
| July. 2014- Dec. 2014 | Community Mobilizer, Int. Relief and Development (IRD, now Blumont), Za'atri camp |

### **RESEARCH GRANTS**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 2020-2022 | British Academy- Council for British Research in the Levant ECR Seed Funding.<br><b>Co-applicant – 3250 GBP</b><br>Project title: “Trajectories of Belonging Among Migrant Domestic Workers” Workshop at the University of Petra, Lebanon.<br><a href="https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/news/british-academy-awards-funding-14-collaborative-projects-uk-and-middle-east-based-researchers/">https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/news/british-academy-awards-funding-14-collaborative-projects-uk-and-middle-east-based-researchers/</a> |
| 2020-2021 | British Academy- Council for British Research in the Levant ECR Seed Funding.<br><b>Co-applicant – 3260 GBP</b><br>Project title: “Refugee agency: From humanitarian objects to political actors” Public Lecture Series at the University of Oxford.<br><a href="https://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events/encountering-the-refugee-camp-beyond-recognition">https://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events/encountering-the-refugee-camp-beyond-recognition</a>   |
| 2020-2022 | UKRI GCRF/Newton Fund Agile Response call to address COVID-19<br><b>Co-I +Lead of one Working Group (WG) - 766,675 GBP</b> Project title: “PPE and Refugees”. <a href="https://gtr.ukri.org/person/4B06BE29-241C-4D01-A044-E5F84CE89386">https://gtr.ukri.org/person/4B06BE29-241C-4D01-A044-E5F84CE89386</a>   |
| 2020-2021 | GCRF- QR at Anglia Ruskin University<br><b>Co-PI- 10,000 GBP</b><br>Project title: “Investigating heritage-led resilience to conflict, scarcity and climate change with Syrian refugees in Jordan”.<br><a href="https://storylabresearch.com/inherit/heritage-led-resilience-jordan/">https://storylabresearch.com/inherit/heritage-led-resilience-jordan/</a>  |
| 2021-2021 | GCRF- QR at Anglia Ruskin University<br><b>Co-PI- 1,500 GBP</b><br>Extension<br>Project title: “Investigating heritage-led resilience to conflict, scarcity and climate change with Syrian refugees in Jordan”.   |
| 2022-2022 | Knowledge Transfer Fund Anglia Ruskin University<br><b>Co-PI- 3,000 GBP</b><br>Extension<br>Project title: “Investigating heritage-led resilience to conflict, scarcity and climate change with Syrian refugees in Jordan”.   |

### **VISITING FELLOWSHIPS**

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2023 | Tamkeen for Legal Aid and Human Rights (local NGO)<br><b>Invitation by:</b> CEO. Linda Kalash   |
| 2022 | University College of London- A visiting fellow at the Urban Lab.<br><b>Invitation by:</b> Dr. Nishat Awan  |
| 2022 | Anglia Ruskin University- A visiting fellow at Storylab in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences.<br><b>Invitation by:</b> Dr. Fabrizio Galeazzi |
| 2022 | University of Sheffield- A visiting fellow at the Institute of Global Sustainability and Development. (IGSD)<br><b>Invitation by:</b> Professor Dorothea Kleine |

### **RESEARCH AWARDS**

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2023 | <b>ACSA/JAE Fellowship</b><br>A 12-month appointment by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) and the Journal of Architectural Education (JAE) for my research project, “Mapping Guises of Futuwwa in the Madafah: The Refugee |
|------|---|

- 2020 **RIBA President's Awards for Research**  
Shortlisted for my PhD thesis: “Witnessing the refugee camp: feminist positions, practices, and pedagogies”-  
<https://www.architecture.com/awards-and-competitions-landing-page/awards/riba-presidents-awards-for-research/2020/witnessing-the-refugee-camp>
- 2015 **PhD studentship by University of Petra**

### RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

#### **Conferences (Organizing Committee)**

- Feb .2022. **Migrant Domestic Workers in the Middle East.** At University of Petra. Funded by the British Academy (BA), CBRL, and University of Petra.  
Co-conveners: Dr. Michelle Lokot. School of Hygiene and Tropical Studies, University of London, and Dr. Zainab Naqvi, De Montfort University Leicester.
- Apr. 2017. **PhD by Design Conference.** At University of Sheffield- Sheffield School of Architecture (SsoA).  
<http://www.phdbydesign.com/2017-sheffield>
- Apr. 2016. **The 13th AHRA Research Student Symposium.** At University of Sheffield- Sheffield School of Architecture (SsoA).

#### **Workshops (Co-organizer and Director)**

- Nov.2021-  
Mar.2022 **Advanced Training on Participatory Action Research (PAR).** At Al Al Bayt University (AABU). A four-month training with Syrian and Jordanian youth. Funded by the GCRF agile response grant.
- Oct. 2021. **Participatory Fieldwork in Pandemic Times.** At University of Sheffield. Funded by the Sheffield Institute for International Development (SIID).  
<http://siid.group.shef.ac.uk/events/a-talk-on-participatory-fieldwork-in-pandemic-times-12-october-at-1-3pm/>
- Sep. 2021 **General Training on Participatory Action Research (PAR).** At Al Al Bayt University (AABU). A one-week training with Syrian and Jordanian youth. Funded by the GCRF agile response grant.
- June. 2019. **Inwards-Outwards: exploring ethics of decolonial research.** At University of Sheffield. Workshop was supported by the University Research Ethics Committee (UREC), the Cities, Environment and Livability (CEL) pathway of the White Rose Doctoral Training Program (WRDTP), and the Sheffield Institute of International Development (SIID).
- Dec. 2017. **Borders’ Decay: Prototypes for Negotiating Space.** At Za’atri refugee camp. A two-day workshop between Architecture students from Petra university and Syrian creatives from Za’atri refugee camp. (Director)
- Sep. 2017. **Border [Im]materialities: Prototypes for Negotiating Space.** At University of Petra. A one-day workshop between Architecture students from Petra University and NGO workers in Za’atri refugee camp. (Director)
- Feb. 2017. **Border Materialities: Prototypes for Negotiating Space. At University of Petra.** A one-day workshop between Architecture postgraduate students from Sheffield University and Architecture students from Petra University. (Director)

#### **Exhibitions (Contributor)**

- Feb. 2019. **The Madafah: Who is Hosting Whom?.** At Infrastructures of Care in UCL. (Participant). See: [https://issuu.com/dpu-ucl/docs/infrastructures\\_of\\_care\\_final\\_d3c46523d4910d](https://issuu.com/dpu-ucl/docs/infrastructures_of_care_final_d3c46523d4910d)
- Oct. 2017. **Borders’ Decay (?): Buy. Empower. Support. (Exhibition-Fundraising).** At University of Petra. (curator).
- July. 2017. **Participant on behalf of MAAD Border Topologies studio 2016/2017.** Architecture Fringe.

### (SELECTED) CONFERENCES and ROUNDTABLES

1. **“Reciting the Architecture of Extraterritoriality”**, presented in person at *Weaving Worlds conference*. TU Delft University. June 2023.
2. **“Digital Stories of Heritage-led Resilience and Sustainability with Syrian Refugees in Jordan”**, presented in person at Digital Sustainability conference. Kingston University. September 2022. With: Fabrizio Galeazzi, Davide Natalini, Nujud Ashur, Waed Jibreel, Anwar Kwaileh.
3. **“Teaching Histories and Theories of Islamic Art and Architecture: Decolonisation as an inevitable ask in the classroom”** presented in person at BRISMES annual conference, *Exploring and Contesting the (re)production of coloniality in the Middle East: Borders, Transnationalism, and Resistance*. University of St Andrews. July 2022.
4. **“(Non)scalable volatile temporalities in the refugee camp: thinking the ethics of GCRF agile response through affective corporeality”** presented online at AHRA Region 2021. Loughborough University. November 2021.
5. **“The Racialised Selectivity of Humanitarian Response in Jordan Valley: Spatial Analysis”** presented at *Belonging, BA-CBRL- Knowledge Frontiers Symposium*. Amman, Jordan. January 2020.
6. **“Rethinking the architectural workshop between the University and the Refugee Camp”** presented at *Fielding Architecture: Feminist Practices for a Decolonized Pedagogy* conference at the University of Brighton. June 2019.
7. **“Situated Ethics: What else? What is next?”** presented at *Joining the Dots: Interdisciplinarity in Middle East Studies* conference at the University of Leeds. June 2019.
8. **“Negotiating ‘Will’ while taming ‘hope’: participation in Za’atri refugee Camp”** presented at *Generosity Conference*. Cardiff University. June 2018.

### EXTERNAL EXAMINER

1. **"New Domesticity: The Shared Life of Low-Income Single Mother Families in Tokyo"**, thesis by Xidian Wang for the Masters' Degree in Urban Design at Cambridge University. February 2023. Invitation by: Dr. Irit Katz.
2. **"Understanding the experiences of refugees in accessing transportation and employment opportunities: a case study of Syrian refugees in Mafraq city, Jordan"**, thesis by Shahd AlKhalidy for the Masters' Degree in Urban Planning at Jordan University of Science and Technology. December 2022. Invitation by: Dr. Yasmeim Okour.
3. **"A place for belonging: Neighborhood experiences and spatialities of encounter of Syrian refugees in Ar-Ramtha"**, thesis by Anwar Khweileh for the Masters' Degree in Urban Planning at Jordan University of Science and Technology. February 2021. Invitation by: Dr. Yasmeim Okour.

#### RESEARCH SUPERVISION

1. **Team 1:** constitutes of one research associate (Nujud Ashur) and two research assistants (Anwar Kwaileh, and Waed Jibreel).  
Project: Investigating heritage-led resilience to scarcity, conflict, and climate change.
2. **Team 2:** constitutes of one research associate (Melissa Gatter) and three research assistants (Anwar Kwaileh, Yazan Bilbeisi, and Lina Shannak).  
Project: PPE and Refugees: Building livelihoods.
3. **Team 3:** constitutes of 27 Jordanian and Syrian men and women from Za'atri refugee camp and Mafraq city who had joined the social working group as participatory action researchers. Coordinated along five months, an advanced training on social research methods; data collection and data analysis, was delivered in a participatory sense.  
Project: PPE and Refugees: Building livelihoods.

#### PEER-REVIEWER

1. **"A Repertoire of Architectural Corporeality. Physics, Logics, and Grammars of Re-Membrance and Reminders within Sahrawi Nomadic Epistemologies"**, paper submitted for Journal of Architectural Education. March 2023.
2. **"Desert Futures: Scenarios for Decolonization"**, paper submitted for Journal of Architectural Education. March 2023.
3. **"Out Law Yard: Reading Traces of Displacement as Testimonial Inscriptions"**, papers submitted for Migration and Society. April 2022.
4. **"Domestic Refugee Architecture in Jordan: A Socio-spatial Analysis of Chaotic Camps"**, paper submitted for The Journal of Architecture. November 2020.

#### (SELECTED) INVITED SPEAKER-PUBLIC LECTURES- KEYNOTE

1. **"Students- Refugees Solidarities: Decolonize the University, Decolonize the Camp"**. Ambivalent solidarities: New perspectives from Kinship and Migration Studies workshop, GIGA- Hamburg. March 2024. Invitation by: Dr. Ann Wagner.
2. **"A World after the Catastrophe: An Inquiry for restoration (or a (non)provisional city)"**. Voices of Women in Architecture. Women in Architecture in Pakistan (WAP)- Lahore. January 2024. Invitation by: Dr. Zahra Hussain.
3. **"Sun, Sea, Sand (?): Motivations to Visit Za'atri Refugee Camp"**. University of Westminster. October 2023. Invitation by: Dr. Maja Jovic.
4. **"On Knowledge and Emancipation"** public lecture, at "Takatoat" NGO. January 2023. Invitation by: Banan Abu ZainEddin.
5. **"The Architecture of the Refugee Camp"** public lecture, at the University of Yarmouk. December 2019. Invitation by: Dr. Marwa Al Khalidi
6. **"Architecture and Feminism"** lecture, at "Humanitarian Architecture" module. University of Mutah. November 2022. Invitation by: Dr. Lara Al Shawawah.
7. **"Ephemeral Heritage"**, at "Heritage Ecologies". The Institute of Advanced Studies, at the UCL. October 2022. Invitation by: Dr. Nishat Awan  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/heritage-ecologies-tickets-431623677037>  
<https://storylabresearch.com/events/inherit-launch/>
8. **"(Un)mutually Useful: Situating the ethics of PAR in the refugee regime complex"**, at "Encountering Refugee Environments Beyond Recognition: Experiences from Jordan". University of Dundee. March 2022. Invitation by: Dr. Hussam Al Waer.  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/encountering-refugee-environment-beyond-recognition-experiences-from-jordan-tickets-269716247557?aff=HusamTicket>
9. **Keynote- "Reciting the Architecture of Extraterritorial Worlds: The refugee camp (city), precarious encounters (public space), and the colonial gaze (body)"**, at City, Public Space & Body Conference. December 2021. Invitation by: Dr. Mahsa Alami Fariman at the Institute for Creative and Cultural Entrepreneurship (ICCE), Goldsmiths, University of London.  
<https://www.citypublicspacebody.com/keynote-speakers/>
10. **"Architectural Models and the Refugee Camp: Alessandro Petti, Wafa Hourani, Stephan Morsch, and Aya Musmar" online produced by the Architectural Foundation and Mosaic Rooms.** Invitation by: Dr. Alessandro Petti at DAAR.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=krsM4f5toq0>
11. **"Encountering the Refugee Camp Beyond Recognition"**, at Refugees' Agency Public Lecture series. The University of Oxford. October 2021. Invitation by: Dr. Ann Irfan at the Refugee Study Centre, Oxford university.  
<https://soundcloud.com/refugeestudiescentre/encountering-the-refugee-camp-beyond-recognition-dr-aya-musmar>
12. **"Feminist Transpositions in the Refugee Camp"**, at Decolonizing Architecture Lecture Series. The University of Cambridge. February 2021. Invitation by: Dr. Irit Katz at the School of Architecture at Cambridge University.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X\\_4u94\\_6ZfK](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X_4u94_6ZfK)
13. **"Critical Reflections on Urgent Transitions: From a PhD Researcher [in the North] to an assistant professor [in the south]"**, at Sheffield School of Architecture PGR Lecture Series. The University of Sheffield. February 2021. Invitation by: Sheffield PhD students and Sheffield University Architecture Society. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yd3tc39NtM>

#### PUBLICATIONS

1. (Forthcoming) Peer-Reviewed: Aya Musmar. Diasporic Specters: Transposing the hyphen in Jordanian-Palestinian. Architecture and Culture. Forthcoming 2025.
2. Photo Essay: Aya Musmar, The Sacred Inside: Shameful Camera Encounters in the Refugee Camp in Angeliki Sioli, Nishat Awan, and Kristopher Palagi (eds.), Architectures of Resistance. KU Leuven University Press. September 2024.

3. Essay. Interview with Yara Sherif. "Infidelities" in Journal of Architectural Education (JAE). March 2024. <https://www.jaeonline.org/pages/infidelities#/page1/>
4. Peer-Reviewed Issue. Aya Musmar, Nishat Awan, Menna Agha, and Ozayr Saloojee (eds.). "Infidelities" in Journal of Architectural Education (JAE). March 2024. <https://www.jaeonline.org/pages/infidelities#/page1/>
5. Public Outlet. Aya Musmar, **On Protest**. November 2023. <https://www.ultrasawt.com/عن-التظاهر/آية-مسمار/قول>
6. Public Outlet. Aya Musmar, **Life Is Not Without Pain**. July 2023. <https://www.ultrasawt.com/حياة-لا-تخلو/آية-مسمار/قول>
7. Public Outlet. Aya Musmar, **The Refugee Camp and the Exception of some Urbanisms**. April 2023. <https://www.ultrasawt.com/المخيم-واستثناء-العمران/آية-مسمار/قول>
8. Public Outlet. Aya Musmar, **The Refugee Camp between Ephemerality and Eternity: On the Transactionality of Refugees' Rights?** April 2023. <https://www.ultrasawt.com/المخيم-بين-الفناء-والبقاء-عن-مقايضة-حق-اللاجئين-في-حياة-كريمة-آية-مسمار/قول>
9. Public Outlet. Aya Musmar, **Myself and The University: The University Campus as a Crime Scene**. April 2023. <https://www.ultrasawt.com/أنا-والجامعة-الحرم-الجامعي-كمسرح-جريمة/آية-مسمار/قول>
10. Book Chapter. Aya Musmar and Ann-Christin Zuntz, "Hospitality and Violence: Writing for Irresolution" in Nerina Weiss, Erella Grassiani, and Linda Green (eds.), *The Entanglements of Ethnographic Fieldwork in a Violent World*. (Routledge 2023)
11. Public Outlet. Aya Musmar, **Myself and The University: The Attendance of "Credit" and the Absence of "Value"**. January 2023. <https://www.ultrasawt.com/أنا-والجامعة-حضور-الزبدي-وغياب-القيمة/آية-مسمار/قول>
12. Book Chapter. Aya Musmar, "Madafah: Who is Hosting Whom?" in Shahd Wari, Somayeh Chitchian and Maja Momic (eds.), *Inhabiting Displacement: Architecture and Authorship*. (Birkhäuser, 2022) <https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/9783035623710-006/html>
13. Public Outlet. Aya Musmar, **Oh, you, solo traveler!** September 2022. <https://www.ultrasawt.com/يا-مسافر-وحدك/آية-مسمار/نصوص/ثقافة>
14. Public Outlet. Aya Musmar, **On Greenwich Line: what has not yet been told of refugees' miseries**. July 2021. <https://www.ultrasawt.com/أنا-والثقافة/أدب/مسمار-آية/اللاجئين-مأسى-من-أرو-لم-ما-جر-نبتش-خط-على>
15. Public Outlet. **Emancipative Knowledge, on Questions University: The and Myself, Decolonization, Emancipative Pedagogies, and Decolonization**. January 2022. <https://www.ultrasawt.com/أنا-والجامعة-أسئلة-في-المعرفة-والتحيز-وانها-الاستعمار/آية-مسمار/مناقشات/ثقافة>
16. Indexed Article. Aya Musmar, "Lessons from Refugees" in Riba Journal (2021). <https://www.ribaj.com/intelligence/witnessing-the-refugee-camps-presidents-awards-for-research-jordan-zaatri>
17. Indexed Article. Nishat Awan and Aya Musmar, "Border Materialities: Prototypes for Negotiating Space". In: *Motherland*. (Hatje Cantz 2021). <https://www.hatjecantz.de/motherland-7974-1.html?add-to-wishlist=00005030>
18. Book Chapter. Nishat Awan and Aya Musmar, "Affective Witnessing: [Trans]Posing the Western/Muslim Divide to Document Refugee Spaces" in H el ene Frichot and Marko Jobst (eds.). (Routledge, 2020) <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/chapters/edit/10.4324/9780429355400-11/affective-witnessing-nishat-awan-aya-musmar>
19. PhD Thesis. Aya Musmar, **Witnessing as a Feminist Spatial Practice: Encountering the Refugee Camp Beyond Recognition** (PhD thesis, University of Sheffield, 2020) <http://etheses.whiterose.ac.uk/25927/>
20. Book Chapter. Aya Musmar, "Environmentalizing Humanitarian governance in Za'atri Refugee Camp Through "Interactive Spaces": A Posthuman Approach" in H el ene Frichot, Catharina Gabrielsson and Helen Runting (eds.), *Architecture and Feminisms: Ecologies, Economies, Technologies* (Routledge 2018) <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/chapters/edit/10.4324/9780203729717-20/environmentalising-humanitarian-governance-za-atri-refugee-camp-interactive-spaces-aya-musmar?context=ubx&refid=f5657d07-ef92-45b0-8ed1-58103f457385>