

SCHOLAR ON VISUAL COMMUNICATION AND DIGITAL MEDIA | 23 YEARS
OF EXPERIENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST | REGIONAL EXPERTISE AS A
MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST AND PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT | ROOTED
BACKGROUND IN BRIDGING ACADEMIA WITH THE CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

NOTABLE ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITIES and RESEARCH CENTRES, International	2011 – Present
Senior Lecturer – The Digital Interactive Storytelling Lab University of Westminster, London, UK	
Current Teaching: <i>Creativity; Project Management; HTML5 Coding; Visual Semiotics</i>	2016 - Present
<i>Visiting Lecturer – Writing, teaching and convening of the following modules:</i>	
▪ Digital Communication – Ethics And Aesthetics (Distance Learning Module) University of Ferrara, Ferrara, Italy	2017 - Present
▪ Visual Communication For International Politics / Digital Skills For Multicultural Communication University of Padua, Padua, Italy	2016
▪ Digital Communication And Visual Diplomacy 2.0 Diplomatic Institute, Italian Ministry Of Foreign Affairs, Rome, Italy	2012 - Present
▪ Contemporary Visual Cultures Of The Middle East SOAS, University of London, London, UK	2014 – 2016
▪ Digital Communication And Multimedia Politics LUISS Business School, Rome, Italy	2014 - 2015
▪ Visual Studies, Digital Communication And Multimedia Journalism – Honorary Fellow Birkbeck, University of London, London, UK	2014 – 2015
▪ Multimedia Communication Of The Muslim World - AHRC Post-Doctoral Research Fellow Durham University, Durham, UK	2013 – 2014
▪ Visual Communication Of Islam University of Exeter, Exeter, UK	2011 - 2013

EDUCATION

PHD – UNIVERSITY OF EXETER, Exeter, UK	2014
Funded PhD – <i>Practice-led Methodologies For The Digital Storytelling of Cultural And Political Communication</i>	
MASTER OF ARTS – SOAS, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, London, UK	2001
Funded MA – Distinction. <i>Anthropology Of Media: Cyber-Space Vs. Cyber-Realities</i>	
LAUREA – COLLEGE OF ORIENTAL STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF VENICE, Venice, Italy	1999
BA with MA – Distinction. <i>Mediating Politics: The Iranian Foreign Policy during the Taliban Conquest of Kabul</i>	

ACADEMIC GRANTS

UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER – £ 6,400: <i>Strategic Fund for Impact Activities</i>	2017
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL – Part of the grant ES/K000322/1 on <i>Muslim Trust and Cultural Dialogue</i> , P.I.: Professor Peter Morey with my work on <i>Interactive Transcultural Communication</i>	2015 – 2016
ARTS AND HUMANITIES RESEARCH COUNCIL – Part of the grant AH/K000098/1 - <i>The Arab World in Transition</i> , P.I.: Professor James Piscatori with my work on <i>Interactive Communication of Islam</i>	2013 – 2014
LINK FUND – £ 2,000: <i>Outreach Activities for Public Communication of The Muslim World</i>	2012
UNIVERSITY OF EXETER – £ 23,000 for a PhD bursary: <i>Visual Communication of Islam</i>	2011 – 2013
PRINCE AL-WALEED FUND – £ 2,000: <i>The Shi'a Seminaries of Bahrain – A Visual Ethnography</i>	2012
PRINCE AL-WALEED FUND – £ 2,000: <i>The Shi'a Seminaries of Syria – A Visual Ethnography</i>	2011
BRITISH ACADEMY – £ 5,000: <i>Visual Communication of the Muslim World</i>	2010 – 2011
EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND – c. £ 47,000: <i>Visual Anthropology</i>	2009 – 2011
UNIVERSITY OF VENICE – c. £ 12,000: <i>Career Development Fostering Bursary</i>	2000 – 2001

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Aesthetics As Storytelling – From The Photograph To The Meta-Image <i>Monograph, 70,000 words</i>	Under contract with Intellect
Audiencing YouTube: What Politics Of Representation For Tourism In Qatar? <i>Spieß, Al-Mubarak, Weber (eds.) Tourism Development in the GCC States NY: Springer, 6,000 words</i>	In Press – September 2017
Which Visual Transmission Of Knowledge For A Hawza Knowledge? <i>Gleave R. (ed.) Knowledge and Authority in Shii Islam London: I.B.Taurus, 10,000 words</i>	In Press – September 2017
Representing the Bektashis - Exploring Epistemologies in Visual Anthropology <i>Guidetti, M. (ed.) A mari usque ad mare Venice: Venice UP, pp. 339-410. DOI 10.14277/978-88-6969-085-3</i>	2016
Aesthetics In The Visual: In Search Of A Practice-Based Epistemology <i>Visual Communication, Volume 11, Issue 1, SAGE: pp. 78-89. DOI: 10.1177/1470357210382365</i>	2012
Epistemological Fragments - The Structuralistic/Post-Structuralistic Issue <i>Filippi G. (ed.) L'uomo in Oriente Venice: Venice UP, pp. 239-248. ISBN 978-88-7543-283-6</i>	2011
Forms Of Closure And Of Cultural Hegemony In Not Without My Daughter <i>Phoenix in Domo Foscari, Venice: Venice UP, Vo. 1: pp. 115-140. ISBN 978-8-889-54367-2</i>	2009

BOOKS

Essays In Contextualizing Theories – A Work In Progress <i>Monograph. Saarbrücken: LAP - Lampert Academic Publishing. ISBN 978-3-659-43601-7</i>	2013 [2012]
Cyber-Space VS. Cyber-Realities – A Study On The Online Iranian Leaderships <i>Monograph. Saarbrücken: LAP - Lampert Academic Publishing. ISBN 978-3-659-45103-4</i>	2013 [2001]

NOTABLE MEDIA EXPERIENCE

MASSIMEDIA – Owned Company, International

1994 – Present

Investigative Journalism, Multimedia R&D, Digital Production For Interactive Multi-Audiences Projects

- Analysis, production and communication in multimedia journalism and inter-cultural digital diplomacy
Latest online project > massimedia.com/storytelling/tentmakers
- International project management from Morocco to China, focusing on the Middle East, including logistics, procurements and media consulting for political campaigns and multicultural dissemination activities
- Facilitator for skill development in photography, video, web and multimedia interactive production
- Affiliations include: UNESCO, IOM/UN, research bodies ESF, AHRC and British Academy, The Aga Khan, The Generator, The State Agency AdN-Kronos, The Guardian, The Iranian State Radio, The Italian State TV

SKILLS

LANGUAGES

- **English** - *Proficient*
- **Italian** - *Native*
- **Persian** - *Fluent*
- **Arabic** - *Intermediate*

PHOTOGRAPHY

- Research and development for comprehensive projects in photographic multicultural communication
- Professional management of the whole production cycle, from pre-production to post-production
- Rooted background in development and printing for both analogue and digital photography

VIDEO

- Pre-production, production, and post-production of public, multicultural and political video communication
- Management for the whole production cycle, from shooting on DLSR to post-production

AUDIO

- Experienced in digital audio media production and post-production

WEB

- Digital and multimedia production for interactive multi-audiences platforms
- Website production, maintenance, management and audience analysis through Google Analytics
- Content and Web editor, Blogging

LATEST SOLO EXHIBITIONS

VISUAL STORYTELLING AND CULTURES – A 20 YEAR LONG JOURNEY FROM CAIRO TO CHINA

- United Nations Church Centre, New York, USA May 2017

THE TENTMAKERS OF ISLAMIC CAIRO

- The Oriental Museum, Durham, UK Permanent Collection
- The Brunei Gallery, London, UK April – June 2015
- The Italian Cultural Institute, Brussels, Belgium April 2014
- The Cathedral, Durham, UK March 2014

BEHIND A CAMERA – IN FRONT A HAWZA

- The Royal Asiatic Society – RAS, London, UK September – December 2013
- The Brunei Gallery in partnership with SOAS, London, UK April – June 2013
- The British Museum, London, UK July 2012
- University of Oxford, Oxford, UK June 2012
- University of Durham, Durham, UK April – May 2012
- University of Exeter, Exeter, UK February – March 2012

THE BEKTASHIS

- Photo-festival, Fabbrica del Vapore, Milan, Italy March – April 2011

REAPPEARANCES – THE UNESCO MISSION IN ALBANIA

- Politecnico, Milan, Italy November 2010
- Bergamo Scienza, Bergamo, Italy October 2010
- Municipality, Lake Como, Italy March – April 2010
- Castello Svevo, Bari, Italy April – May 2009

THE SHANGHAI DRAGON

- Turin International Festival of Photography, Turin, Italy September – October 2009

CHINA HERE AND THERE

- Circuitazione Istituto Italiano per la Cultura, Bolzano, Italy September – October 2008

MODERNITY OF CHINA: BEIJING VS. SHANGHAI

- Teca, Multimedia Centre, Verona, Italy July 2008

PAPERS, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

<i>To What Extent Do Images Picture? Or, Do Pictures Imagine?</i> Seminar Lecture, LSE, London, UK	21/05/2015
<i>Representing Africa Today – The Visual As A Language</i> Seminar Lecture, CRASSH – Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK	27/04/2015
<i>Editing Semiotics For Multimedia Storytelling</i> Seminar Lecture, Birkbeck – University of London, London, UK	22/04/2015
<i>Visual Communication, Multimedia Storytelling And Digital Humanities - A Speculative Framework</i> Seminar Lecture, SOAS – University of London, London, UK	12/11/2014
<i>Post-Produced Cultures – Representing The Visual In Anthropology</i> Seminar Lecture, Royal Asiatic Society, London, UK	15/01/2014
<i>On Media And The Image: The GCC States As A Case Study</i> Seminar Lecture, GCC Annual Conference, University Of Exeter, Exeter, UK	18/07/2012
<i>Visual Text And Cultural (Con)Texts In Photography</i> Seminar Lecture, Visual Cultures Cluster, University Of Exeter, Exeter, UK	04/05/2012
<i>Post Production In Visual Ethnography: The Hawza Issue</i> Seminar Lecture, University Of Oxford, Oxford, UK	29/03/2012
<i>Post Production In Visual Ethnography: Theoretical Contexts</i> Seminar Lecture, Loughborough University, Loughborough, UK	22/03/2012
<i>Can Visual Ethnography Inform A Theory Of Coexistence?</i> Seminar Lecture, University Of Exeter, Exeter, UK	22/02/2012
<i>Visual Anthropology And Imaging The Hawza</i> Seminar Lecture, University Of Exeter, Exeter, UK	14/12/2011
<i>Tra Degas E Jung: Cosa, Come E Perché Comunicare Nell'Antropologia Visiva?</i> Seminar Lecture, La Statale, University Of Milan, Milan, Italy	18/10/2011
<i>Challenges To Visual Ethnographies: A Photographers Perspective</i> Private Presentation, Photo Committee, Royal Anthropological Institute, London, UK	10/06/2011
<i>Issues For A Visual Anthropology Of Islam: A Media Approach?</i> Seminar Lecture, The Institute Of Ismaili Studies, London, UK	11/05/2011
<i>Do Pictures Talk? If So, Are We Deaf? A Case For And In Visual Culture</i> Seminar Lecture, University Of East London, London, UK	03/03/2011
<i>Digital Cultures And Visual Culture: A Crash Course</i> Seminar Lecture, University Of East London, London, UK	02/03/2011
<i>Photography And Meaning[s]: A Challenging Relationship For Academics?</i> Seminar Lecture, Institute Of Arab And Islamic Studies, University Of Exeter, Exeter, UK	08/12/2010
<i>Alternative Forms Of Visual Narratives: The Bektashi As A Case-Study</i> Seminar Lecture, CISBI, University Of Venice, Venice, Italy	03/12/2010

PAPERS, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES – [Continued]

<i>Fixing The Unfixed: Meaning And Mis-Understandings In Photography</i> Seminar Lecture, Unfixed Project (Centre For Contemporary Art), Rotterdam, Holland	15/11/2010
<i>A Quest For Narrative Visual Forms: How To Make The Hawza Meaningful?</i> Seminar Lecture, BRISMES Research Workshop, Birkbeck University, London, UK	24/09/2010
<i>From Account To Narrative: Visual Interactions In Public Anthropology</i> Seminar Lecture, European Anthropologists Association, Dublin, Ireland	26/08/2010
<i>Time Management: Technicalities Over A Search For A Visual Epistemology</i> Seminar Lecture, The British Academy, London, UK	13/05/2010
<i>What Do You Mean? Drafting Multi-Media Hands-On Research On Knowledge Transmission At The Hawzas</i> Seminar Lecture, Royal Holloway College, University Of London, London, UK	30/03/2010
<i>Issues In Visual Cultures</i> Seminar Lecture, University Of Exeter, Exeter, UK	04/12/2009
<i>Forms Of Representation Of The Bektashi: A Visual Anthropological Exploration</i> Seminar Lecture, European University Of Tirana, Tirana, Albania	24/10/2009
<i>Photo: Poem = Film: Narrative. Practices In Montage</i> Seminar Lecture, University Of Aarhus, Aarhus, Denmark	27/08/2009
<i>How To Articulate Visual Cultures Representations As Applied To The Hawza</i> Seminar Lecture, The British Academy, London, UK	02/06/2009
<i>Questioni Interpretative E Rappresentative: l'Ashura In Pakistan, Iran E Albania</i> Seminar Lecture, Ca' Foscari University, Venice, Italy	26/03/2009
<i>Antropologia Visuale VS. Fotogiornalismo: Il Caso Sciismo</i> Seminar Lecture, Ca Foscari University, Venice, Italy	17/12/2008
<i>La Questione Islam-Istan: Il Free-Lance Tra Tanti Stereotipi E Qualche Realtà</i> Seminar Lecture, Photographic Circle "Dinamica Gallery," Rome, Italy	07/03/2008
<i>How Relevant Is Anthropology To Journalism? A 2008 Toolkit For The Photoreporter</i> Seminar Lecture, Arcadia International University, Rome, Italy	12/01/2008
<i>Considerazioni Di Non Sinologo Sulle Tradizioni Cinesi</i> Radio Interview At Zeppelin, Italian National Broadcasting Channel Radio 2, Italy	25/10/2007
<i>Il Segno E La Grazia</i> Seminar Lecture, Free University Of Bolzano, Bolzano, Italy	24/10/2007
<i>Poltrone Di Oriente</i> Seminar Lecture, Ca' Foscari University, Venice, Italy	12/01/2006
<i>Quale Futuro Per l'Afghanistan?</i> Seminar Lecture, Centro Trevi, Bolzano, Italy	18/03/2005
<i>Le Comunità Di Profughi In Iran</i> Radio Interview At Zeppelin, Italian National Broadcasting Channel Radio 2, Italy	17/03/2005
<i>The Internet: Who's Reading Whose Writing</i> Seminar Lecture, Hong Kong University, Hong Kong, China	27/06/2002

PUBLISHED PHOTO ESSAYS

<i>The Tentmakers of Islamic Cairo</i> , Photographic Catalogue	2014
<i>The Hawza</i> , 'Visual Communication' Volume 11, Issue 1, February 2012, London: SAGE	2012
<i>The Community Of The Bektashi</i> , 'Terre Di Mezzo' Monthly N. 19, 2010/12	2010
<i>L'arte Sacra Della Cina</i> , '30 Giorni' Monthly N. 1, 2009/01	2009
<i>Albania: The Mesopotam Monastery</i> , http://balkantravellers.com/	2008
<i>Beijing Art District</i> , http://www.bumerang.it/	2008
<i>La Processione Dell'ashura</i> , http://www.bumerang.it/	2008
<i>Cina. La Ragazza Che Ha Trovato 100 Milioni Di Amici</i> , 'Il Venerdì' Weekly Of The Daily La Repubblica	2007
<i>Cina. Che Fatica Studiare De Campioni!</i> , 'Sportweek' La Gazzetta Dello Sport	2007
<i>10-Page Photo Essay</i> , In Bonanzinga P. (ed.) 'Fotografia Reflex' Monthly N. 2, 2006/02	2006
<i>A Noi Persino l'Afghanistan Sembra Una Luna Di Miele</i> , 'Visto' Weekly, 2006/02/03	2006
<i>Iracheni Al Voto A Kermanshah</i> , AKI Crises Today, AdN-Kronos International 2005/01/31	2005
<i>Pakistan</i> , AKI Crises Today 2004/06	2004
<i>First Chance</i> , 'The Herald' Monthly N. 4, 2003/04	2003

OTHER PUBLISHED WORK

<i>Picture</i> - 'Shia Studies' Bimonthly N. 1, April-June 2011	2011
<i>Defining Picture For The Website</i> - The Hawza Project Website	2009
<i>Cover Page And Photo Essay</i> - Nordio M. (ed.) <i>Cina. West Of California?</i> Venice, Marsilio	2008
<i>Portrait Stefano De Luigi</i> - World Press Photo Website	2008
<i>Tempura News Program Main Theme</i> - Italian National Broadcasting Channel Rai News 24	2007
<i>Cover Page</i> - Nordio M. and V. Possenti (eds.) <i>Governance Globale E Diritti Dell'Uomo</i> , RE, Diabasis	2007
<i>Cover Page And Portfolio</i> - <i>Elogio Della Flessibilita</i> , '30 Giorni' Monthly N. 5, 2007/06	2007
<i>Cover Page And Portfolio</i> - Nordio M. (ed.) <i>Sguardo A Oriente</i> Venice, Marsilio	2006
<i>Cover Page</i> - Nordio M. and G. Vercellin (eds.) <i>L'Islam E I Diritti Umani</i> RE, Diabasis	2006
<i>Photographic Catalogue for The Exhibition</i> - <i>Transiti Tra Spazio E Tempo</i> , Bolzano, Italy	2005
<i>Picture For The Website Front Page</i> - <i>Out-Of-Country Voting For The Iraqi Refugees Program</i> , IOM/UN	2005

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Anthropological Association | Anthropology Network | EASA Visual Anthropology Network |
Lightstalkers | Media Anthropology Network | Media Professionals Worldwide | Royal Anthropological
Institute | UK Linguistic Ethnography Forum