

Nayra Zaghoul

نايره زغول

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Career Profile

I am a dual British-Egyptian citizen with a rigorous academic background and a strong interest in Middle Eastern history, culture, art and literature. I trained at the Library of Alexandria and have since worked on heritage projects in Oxford and Cairo.

Employment

2018

- Freelance cataloguer and researcher for Christie's, Sokol Books Ltd., Daniel Crouch
- Placement at Christie's Islamic Art department assisting with auction preparation and research.
- Arabic and Persian manuscript consultant for Peter Harrington's London at the 2018 Abu Dhabi Book Fair.
- Co-author of the Winter 2018 Bernard Quaritch Oriental Manuscripts catalogue (<https://www.quaritch.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Oriental-Manuscripts-2018.pdf>)
- Supervisor and Assistant at the Pembroke College Art Gallery, University of Oxford

2017

- VIP Exhibition Guide for Cartier at the 'Cartier in Motion' exhibit at the Design Museum.
- Summer Intern for Bernard Quaritch Rare Books and Manuscripts Limited.
- Co-ordinator and administrative assistant for the University of Oxford Centre for Early Modern Studies 'Cultures of Collecting' conference at Corpus Christi College, Oxford.
- Social Media Co-ordinator at the 2017 PASIG Conference, Oxford.
- Private cataloguer and archivist for H. & G. Simonds Ltd. (<http://simondsfamily.me.uk/>)
- Client, Artist and Gallery Co-ordinator for Catherine Loewe Contemporary (<https://www.loewecontemporary.com/>) also assisting with curation and advisory services.

2016

- Research assistant for Dr. Daniel Starza Smith, Lincoln College's Derby Fellow, on the Variorum Edition of Donne (<http://donnevariorum.tamu.edu/>) from which I learnt the value of detail and gained experience proofreading, citing, formatting and utilising online databases.
- Worked at Lincoln College Antiquarian Library under Dr Sarah Cusk researching and writing about the FitzHerbert Adams bequest.
- Worked at the Lincoln College Archive cataloguing, maintaining and researching the Richard Lawson Gales collection. Became proficient in Axiell Calm software.

2015

- Profile and Interview Commissioning Editor for *The Oxford Student* - interviewing high profile personnel such as the Prince of Liechtenstein, Marya Hornbacher, Amy Ziering and Anna Fendi.
- Worked for CNN in Cairo under video-journalist Ian Lee.
- Became an editor for Daily News Egypt - Egypt's only English daily independent newspaper.
- Arabic-English translator and interpreter for *EXPAND* (<http://www.expand.org/>) - an initiative that helps Syrian refugees study from Oxford tutors in their native tongue.
- Completed finance internship at *Orascom Construction Limited* in Cairo where I proofread legal documents, opened bank facilities and gathered quantitative and qualitative data.

Museums, Galleries, Libraries and Archives Training

- Completed prestigious internship at the Library of Alexandria, Egypt, in Arabic calligraphy, book-binding (specialising in Islamic, Byzantine and Coptic bindings) and conservation.
- Gained experience in exhibition research and display under the Director of Graduate Studies, Dr. Freya Johnston, for a forthcoming St. Anne's College exhibition.
- Completed an internship with the Oxford Preservation Trust independently creating an accessible and effective archive.
- Attended 'Digital Manuscripts Toolkit' seminar offered by Bodleian Digital Library Services and the Centre for Digital Scholarship. Proficient using IIF and Mirador to gather images from different

institutions into a single viewer; rearranging, remixing and enhancing image sequences; adding transcriptions and annotations to digitized images; and embedding zoomable images or whole manuscripts into a website or blog.

- Attended the 'From Medina to Oxford, from Codex to the Cloud: scenes from the life of the Qur'an' seminar by Nicolai Sinai, Alasdair Watson and Keith Small on the history of Qu'ranic manuscripts.

Languages - Bilingual in Arabic and English

لغات - العربية والإنجليزية

European: Latin, French and German

Middle Eastern: Persian فارسی

Publications

- <https://www.oxfordwritershouse.com/essays/2016/12/the-arabian-nights-and-children-a-history>
- More upon request

Visual Skills

- Advanced Microsoft Office skills
- Adept at DSLR and 35mm film photography to professional capacity including processing, exposing and developing by hand. Portfolio available upon request
- Proficient in Adobe InDesign, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Lightroom and Aperture

Societies

- The Society for the History of Collecting

Education

2007-2014 - King Henry VIII School, Coventry:

Qualifications:

2009 A* in Arabic IGCSE

2011 GCSES: 9 A*s and 3 As

2013 A-Levels:

English Literature	A*	Psychology (AS Level)	A
Religious Studies	A*	Critical Thinking (AS Level)	A
History	A*		
Extended Project Qualification	A*		

- Won sixth form prizes in Psychology, Religious Studies, History, English Literature as well as the school's Poetry prize.

2014-2017 - University of Oxford (Lincoln College) - English Language and Literature BA Hons. with notable firsts in Victorian literature, Medieval literature, Shakespeare and dissertation on the symbiosis between museology and 19th century English mock-Oriental literature

- Appointed Women's Welfare Officer and consequently trained extensively in peer support, student pastoral care, sexual assault first response, first aid and supporting ethnic minority students.

2017-2019 - University of Oxford (Pembroke College) - Islamic Art and Archaeology M.Phil with Persian

- Appointed Junior Dean and Warden at Worcester College
- Attended the 'Literary Cosmopolitanism' English Literature M.St C-Course led by Professor Stefano Evangelista
- Swan Fire fire marshall trained (3 years), DBS checked and St. John's Ambulance emergency first aid at work trained (3 years)
- Recipient of Barakat Trust award 2018-19 for full tuition fees and KRC award for full expenses
- Co-ordinator of the Oxford Visiting Student Programme 2018-19 alongside Dr. Michael Mayo

Volunteering

- Volunteered at the Hinckley branch of the British Red Cross developing high level retail and interpersonal skills
- Volunteered at Dar el Orman orphanage in Cairo, Egypt teaching English and providing pastoral care to children between 9 and 21 (this continues)

Referees

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