



CURRICULUM VITAE ET STUDIORUM

KAWKAB TAWFIK

Researcher: Music, Identity, Religion and Politics of MENA
PhD Cultural Heritage, Tor Vergata University of Rome

Addresses: 83, Valle della Storta st. 00123, Rome
12A Mahmoud Azmy st.- Zamalek, Cairo
Rue Pasteur; Jimmeizeh, Beirut

mobile: (+39) 3202676701, (+2) 01000709443, (+961) 76778743

E-mail: kawkab.tawfik@gmail.com

Nationality: Italian/ Egyptian

Date and Place of Birth: 13/05/1987 – Rome

Education and Qualification

- 2020 PhD in *Cultural Heritage and Territory – Ethnomusicology* (Research project: *Music, identity and politics in Egypt post 2011 era: electoral propaganda, mass media and local dynamics*), Tor Vergata University of Rome (Italy), grade: excellent.
- 2015 M.A. in *Oriental Languages and Cultures*, Faculty of Oriental Studies, Sapienza University of Rome (Italy), grade: 110/110.
- 2013 B.A. in *Arabic and Islamic Studies*, Pontifical Dar Comboni Institute in Cairo (Egypt).
- 2012 Student at Arabic Oud House in Cairo (Egypt).
- 2010 B.A. in *Oriental Languages and Cultures*, Faculty of Oriental Studies, Sapienza University of Rome (Italy), grade: 110 *cum laude*/110.

Technical Skills

Video: Video making.

Video editing: Final Cut Pro, Adobe Premiere, iMovie.

Audio: Logic Pro.

Graphics: Photoshop, Canva Pro, InDesign

Computing: Office Packages.

Languages:

Italian: native speaker

English: fluent spoken and written

Arabic: fluent spoken/intermediate written

Certificates and Grants

- 2023 Research and Music Production of the project: *Salila, the Master of the Waters*, AFAC Arab Fund for Arts and Cultures, Beirut (Lebanon).
- 2021 Workshop: Eyes on music: Projects on visual ethnomusicology, Intercultural Institute for Comparative Music Studies, Cini Foundation, Venice (Italy).
- 2019 Training: Heritage Management, Egypt Exploration Society, British Council, Cairo (Egypt).
- 2011 -2012 European Union Scholarship (Erasmus Mundus) for Master Course of Arabic and Islamic Studies for non-native speakers, Ain Shams University in Cairo (Egypt).

Work Experience

2023 **Institut du Monde Arabe (IMA)**, Paris (France), **Podcast Producer** of Arabic music episodes.

2023 **Taradod Music**, Cairo-Beirut, **Director**
Development and Coordination of cultural projects, artistic production and events.

May 2021 - ongoing **Dayra**, Nuweiba (Egypt)

- **Project coordinator** of the project: *Nuweiba Gen Z*. Implementation of the project activities, among them the production of audio-visual documentation of Bedouin heritage; organization of music workshops, music residency, music production, events of Bedouin music, a festival of Bedouin heritage. Reporting and evaluation (Sept 2021 – Sept 2022).
- **Project Designer and Developer:** designing and writing the cultural project *Nuweiba Gen Z*, funded by Norwegian Embassy in Egypt (May – Sept 2021).

- Nov 2019 – Feb 2021 **Egyptian Center for Culture and Arts MAKAN, Cairo (Egypt)**
Project Manager, Projects writing, Researcher, Archivist, Events Coordinator and Communication Manager.
- **Project Designer and Developer, project writing and implementation:** “Tabadul: sonic inter-exchanges”, a series of webinars on traditional music and workshops of digital collaboration and production between Egyptian and Italian musicians (Jan 2021-May 2021). Funded by the Italian Cultural Institute in Cairo (Egypt).
 - **Project Developer and Management:** “Preservation of the Egyptian cultural heritage: musics and identities in danger! Documenting and archiving music heritage” (Apr. 2020-ongoing). Project donor: Norwegian Embassy in Cairo (Egypt).
 - **Project Developer and Management:** “Culture and Music. A bridge between Italy and the Arab World”, in collaboration with Tor Vergata University of Rome (Nov. 2019- Dec. 2020). Project Donor: DISCO (Regione Lazio - Italy)
 - **Event Producer:** “Music, trance and female roles. A cultural cooperation territory between Italy and Egypt” funded by Italian Cultural Institute in Cairo.
- Jan 2019 – May 2020 **Khonsu Journeys, Cairo (Egypt). Tour Operator and Projects developer:** design and organization of cultural tours based on music, arts, agri-food, environment, handcraft.
- Aug – Sept 2019 **Memphis Tours Egypt, Cairo (Egypt) – Quality Specialist** for the Italian Department (Consultancy). Guaranteeing the quality of the services and communication with clients from Italy. Training the Egyptian staff. Establishing partnerships and commercial agreements with Italian tour operators.
- Jan 2017 – Jun 2018 **RAI Radiotelevisione Italiana, MENA Bureau Cairo (Egypt) – News Producer:** production of news and short reports related to Middle East and North Africa. Organized the entire process of developing and executing news/stories including: conducting VIP interviews and *vox pops*, daily press reviews, video editing, images selections, maintaining the video library archive, live broadcasting coordination, and translations and interpretation (Arabic-English-Italian).
- Dec 2016 – Dec 2017 **Internationalia Group (Italy) – News Editor** and press correspondent from Egypt focusing on Economic news for the Italian news website "InfoAfrica" and the magazine "Africa e Affari".

Research and Academic Experiences

- 2023 Researcher in the project: *SPACEPOL, Space and Politics: Capital Cities As Instruments Of Political Struggle And Power*, CNRS, UMR CITERES, UMR LAVUE, USR IFEA, USR IFEAC, USR, Russian Academy of Science/Institute of Geography.
- Sept 2022 – August 2023 Scientific director and coordinator of the project *ASWAT – Music Heritage Insights*, Centre d'études et de documentation économiques, juridiques et sociales (CEDEJ) and Institut français d'archéologie orientale du Caire (IFAO). in partnership with the ISMEO – The International Association for Mediterranean and Oriental Studies and Institut Français d'Égypte.
- 2022-2023 Organizer of the Symposium: *Musica, trance e stati non ordinari di coscienza*, April 13-14 2023, ISMEO, Rome.
- Sept 2021 – August 2022 Postdoctoral research fellowship at Centre d'études et de documentation économiques, juridiques et sociales (CEDEJ) and Institut français d'archéologie orientale du Caire (IFAO), with the research project “Zar Abu al-Gheit, music and religious syncretism in the Delta of Egypt”.:
 - Organization of cultural activities. Writing scientific contents for the CEDEJ website (papers, portfolios, translations).
 - Music curator and scientific director of the project *ASWAT – Music Heritage Insights*, in partnership with the *Institut Français d'Égypte*. For the full program: <http://cedej-eg.org/index.php/aswat/>
- Sept-Dec 2020 Tor Vergata University of Rome (Italy) – Archivist, Arabic Music: consultancy in the project “Culture and Music. A bridge between Italy and the Arab World”, creation of a section of Arabic Music in the LADeM (LABoratorio Di EtnoMusicologia) collection, classification and translation (Arabic >Italian) of the Archive's Arabic Music audiovisual items, research, selection and acquisition of more items related to music from the Arab world.
- 2019-2021 Research Assistant (archival research in Egypt and translation Arabic>Italian) in the project *Genealogies of African Freedoms - Progetti di ricerca di Rilevante Interesse Nazionale (PRIN)*, University of Pavia (Italy).

Teaching Experience

- Sept 2012 – Aug 2020 **Cairo University (Egypt), Department of Italian Language and Literature** - Adjunct Professor, Organization of seminars, workshops and academic events for the Department. Teaching, staff training and mentoring. Creation of the *Syllaba* and *Curricula* as well as teaching the following subjects: Italian Grammar, Italian Syntax, Compared Latin- Italian Literature, Writing, History of translation movement, Classic Civilization, Italian Literature, Linguistics.
- Sept 2016 - Jan 2017 **Minya University (Egypt), Italian Department** – Adjunct Professor of Linguistic, Semiotic, Italian Literature. Creation of the *Syllaba* and *Curricula*.
- Jan 2013 – Dec 2016 **Al-Azhar University of Cairo, Greek and Italian Department (Egypt)** - Adjunct Professor of Literary Criticism, Historical Linguistics, Italian Language, Compared Latin-Italian Literature. Organization of seminars and academic events for the Department. Monitoring and evaluation, teaching staff training and mentoring. Creation of the *Syllaba* and *Curricula*.
- Sept 2013 – Apr 2014 **MUST University, Italian Department (Egypt)** - Adjunct Professor of Italian Language and Literature. Creation of the *Syllaba*.

Published Papers


- 2021 Kawkab Tawfik, *The simsimiyya lyre from Suez Canal, ideological and organological development*, in “East & West” (Dec 2021), ISMEO – The International Association for Mediterranean and Oriental Studies.
- 2021 Kawkab Tawfik, *Lo Zār in Egitto: una ḥaḍra nel Delta del Nilo*, in “Sounding Frames. Itinerari di musicologia visuale. Scritti in onore di Giorgio Adamo”, Edizioni Museo Pasqualino, Palermo, with audio-visual essay: <https://youtu.be/yCfRWy6I4Fg>.

Furthcoming Publications

- Musica, possessione e nuovi media nei rituali zār del Cairo*, in Chiarofonte L. (edited by), “Musica e incontri con gli spiriti nell’era dei media”, Nota Editore, Udine, June.
- Simsimiyya and anticolonial resistance*, “Égypte/Monde Arabe”, CEDEJ, Cairo.
- The Zār Talismans Collection of the Ethnographic Museum of Cairo*, in *Annales Islamologique*, IFAO, Cairo.
- Documenting Al-Sīra al-Hilāliyya in Egypt. Innovation and Evolution in Story Telling* (Audiovisual Essay), in “Sound Ethnographies”, Museo Pasqualino, Palermo.
- Technologies and circulation of the Zār recordings in Cairo and Delta and new form of sacred places*, “Égypte/Monde Arabe”, CEDEJ, Cairo.
- Music Memories of Religious and Cultural Encounters in Nubian Zār. The Case of the spirits: al-Sitt al-Kabīra, al-Ġammāl, Salīla and Yāwra Bek*, in “Gateway to Africa. Cultural Exchanges Across the Cataracts”, IFAO, Cairo.
- The Military Turned Sha’abī into Pop. Music, Presidential Elections and Sha’abī identity*, in Elbaz V.P., Sechehaye H. (Edited by), “Music, Power, and Space: A Mediterranean Perspective”, Cambridge.

Papers at Conferences

- 2023 *Shaping urban imaginary and identity in music video clips*, SPACEPOL, Space and Politics: Capital Cities as Instruments of Political Struggle and Power, January 10, CEDEJ, Cairo
- 2022 *Technologies and circulation of the Zār recordings in Cairo and Delta and new form of sacred places*, Création musicale et électrification sonore en Méditerranée - XXe-XXIe siècle, MedMus - Méditerranée(s) musicale(s) : Techniques, circulations et représentations, November, 6-8 - IFAO (Le Caire).
- Al-Sīra al-Hilāliyya. Cronache dei Banū Hilāl*, XLVII Festival di Morgana, 4 Novembre, Museo delle Marionette Antonio Pasqualino, Palermo.
- Music Memories of Religious and Cultural Encounters in Nubian Zār. The Case of the spirits: al-Sitt al-Kabīra, al-Ġammāl, Salīla and Yāwra Beh*, Gateway to Africa: Cultural Exchanges Across the Cataracts (From Prehistory to the Mamluk Era), November 1-3, IFAO, Cairo.

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- The *maqām ‘irāqi and new forms of music making in diaspora*, ASWAT Music Heritage Insights, May 26, IFAO, Cairo.
- Zar, musica e possessione nel Delta del Nilo*, May 17, Università di Tor Vergata, Rome.
- The Zār of Abū al-Ġaiṭ: A case of Religious and Music Syncretism in the Delta of Egypt*, Atelier de recherche CEDEJ-IFAO, March 16, IFAO Cairo.
- 2021 *The Simsimiyya of the Suez Canal, ideological and organological development*, 30th Arabic Music Congress, November 3-10, Cairo Opera House.
- 2021 *The Army Turned shaabi into pop: Presidential Elections and Propagandistic songs in Egypt post-2011*, 13th Symposium of the ICTM Mediterranean Music Studies Group: “Music, Power, and Space: A Mediterranean Perspective”, September 23-28, 2021, Tangier, Morocco.
- 2020 *The Army Turned shaabi into pop!*, EUME Workshop “Recollecting a Shared Polyphony: Popular Culture, Media Technologies and Heritagization of Music across the Mediterranean”, January 23-24, Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin (Germany).
- 2019 *The simsimiyyah lyre in contemporary musical practices in Suez Canal centers. Organological and musical developments, cross-border connections and social functions*, “[ICTM-L] Music in the Arab World Study Group Meeting”, January 7-10, IFAO, Cairo (Egypt).
- 2018 *Il ruolo della musica e di You Tube nella propaganda politica in Egitto post-rivoluzione (2011-2018)*, “Annual Conference of the International Council for Traditional Music – Italian Committee”, April 20-21, Tor Vergata University, Rome (Italy).
- 2017 *The political music videos in Egypt from 2011 to 2014*, “Evolutions or revolutions? Contemporary Middle Eastern and North African Music – traditions and new tendencies”. June 13-14, National Institute for Oriental Languages and Civilizations, INALCO, Paris (France).

Affiliations

Centre d'études et de documentation économiques, juridiques et sociales (CEDEJ)

Institut français d'archéologie orientale du Caire (IFAO)

International Committee for Traditional Music (ICTM): Music in the Arab World Study Group, Mediterranean Music Study Group.

References

Abbes Zouache, Director of the Studies at the *Institut français d'archéologie orientale du Caire* – IFAO, e-mail: direction-etudes@ifao.egnet.net.

Agnés Deboulet, Former Director of the *Centre d'études et de documentation économiques, juridiques et sociales* (CEDEJ), Professor of Sociology at the University of Paris 8 and researcher at LAVUE (CNRS), e-mail: agnes.deboulet@cedej-eg.org.

Søren Møller Sørensen, Associate professor of Musicology, University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Humanities, Department of Arts and Cultural Studies, Section for Musicology, mob. +45 20657169, e-mail: sms@hum.ku.dk

Giorgio Adamo, Former Director of the Department of History, Cultural Heritage and Society, and Full Professor of Ethnomusicology, Tor Vergata University of Rome, mob. +39 3471500459, e-mail: adamo@lettere.uniroma2.it.

Adriano Valerio Rossi, President of ISMEO – The International Association for Mediterranean and Oriental Studies, Rome, e-mail: avaleriorossi@gmail.com.