

## Imad Gebrael

M / 28.4.1990 - Lebanese / German  
Erfurter Str. 17, 10825 Berlin / Germany  
www.imadgebrayel.com / imadgebrayel@gmail.com  
gebraeli@hu-berlin.de / +49 176 43678506

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### Education

- 04.2020  
→ Present      PhD at the Institute for European Ethnology (submitted 09/2025 / disputation date 02/2026)  
Humboldt University of Berlin / Germany  
— Dissertation Title: The Arab Street Negotiates: An Ethnography of Opacity on Sonnenallee, Berlin
- 09.2015  
→ 06.2017      MA Graphic Design AKV|St.Joost / The Netherlands  
— Thesis Title: Identity Representation: Self-Orientalism and Hyper-Nationalism in Arab Design
- 02.2009  
→ 06.2013      BA Graphic Design  
The American University of Science and Technology - AUST - Lebanon  
— Thesis Title: Entangling Capitalism and Graphic Design Education in Lebanon
- 07.2008      Lebanese Baccalaureate - Sociology / Economy

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### Professional Experience (a limited selection)

- 07.2017  
→ Present      Creative Director (Freelance)  
— Working on design and communication projects for international clients  
— Hosting design workshops with cultural institutions
- 10.2013  
→ Present      Creative Director (Consultancy) - Mojo Ink - Beirut/Abu Dhabi  
— Working on private and public accounts and directing a team of 5-8 designers  
— Managing communication and design tasks from conception to delivery
- 04.2012  
→ 04.2013      Facilitator - Creative Space Beirut  
— Representing the space on media platforms  
— Assisting with planning and management tasks

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### Teaching Experience

- WiSe/SoSe  
2025/26      Anhalt University of Applied Sciences | COOP Design Research | Bauhaus Dessau:  
— [MA] Research Colloquium I & II  
Burg Giebichenstein Kunsthochschule Halle:  
— [MA+BA] Ruptures and Reckonings: Limitations of Design, Politics, and Design Politics
- WiSe  
2024/25      Anhalt University of Applied Sciences | COOP Design Research | Bauhaus Dessau:  
— [MA] Field. Work. Fieldwork: Encounters of Design and Anthropology
- WiSe  
2022/23      Humboldt University of Berlin (HU Berlin) | Department of European Ethnology:  
— [MA] Multimodal Ethnography with Prof. Dr. Silvy Chakkalakal
- SoSe  
2022      Humboldt University of Berlin (HU Berlin) | Department of European Ethnology:  
— [BA] Mapping Othering: Intersections of Ethnography and Design with Lena Møller Christensen
- SoSe  
2021      Humboldt University of Berlin (HU Berlin) | Department of European Ethnology:  
— [MA] Multimodal Ethnography with Prof. Dr. Silvy Chakkalakal  
University of the Arts Bremen (HfK):  
— [MA+BA] The Design Turn: Decolonial Perspectives on Representation & Field Research (Theory)
- WiSe  
2020/21      University of Arts and Industrial Design Linz (UfG):  
— [MA+BA] The Design Turn: Mapping, Othering and Affective Spaces  
University of the Arts Bremen (HfK):  
— [MA+BA] Disobeying Practices, Practicing Disobedience with Lisa Baumgarten  
Berlin University of the Arts (UdK):  
— [BA] Redesigning The Field: Research Methodologies for Critical Practices  
Design Akademie Berlin (SRH):  
— [MA] Qualitative Design Research | Social Design

## Publications

Gebrael, I. Gutierrez, M. & Hassandra. [Forthcoming 2026]. ADIRAT Berlin: Curating Queer Opacities. In Abdelkarim, M., Maneval, S. & Reimer, J.A. (Eds.), *Forms of Migration Vol. 2*. Falschrum Books.

Gebrael, I. [Forthcoming 2026]. Show Me Your Teeth, Berlin: Arab Drag, Dissent, and Despair. In F. Faust, K. Nagel, A. Mazukatow & T. Sekular (Eds.), *Queer-ethnografische Potenziale*. Verlag Barbara Budrich.

Gebrael, I. (2025). Die Unordnung durcheinander bringen: Über visuelle Taxonomien und Gegenarchive. *Transformative Archives Anthologie*. Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung.

Christensen, L & Gebrael, I. [Forthcoming]. When Shadowplays Shadow Place: Migrant Agencies in Sonnenallee, Berlin. In J. Albrecht & K. Kremmel (Eds.), *Hierarchies of Citizenship*. Berghahn books.

Gebrael, I. (2023). (Im)possible Exits, Silenced Affects: Design Futures and Disciplinary Mobilities. In J. Mehl & C. Höfler (Eds.), *Attending [to] Futures Matters of Politics in Design Education, Research, and Practice*. Adocs. <https://doi.org/10.53198/9783943253726>.

Gebrael, I. (2023). Who Gets to Design Arabic Typography? Futuress. <https://futuress.org/stories/arabic-typography>.

Gebrael, I. (2022). The Design Exit: Don't Look Behind. In J. Van Der Veer (Ed.), *Ununanimimimededesign*. Onomatopée.

## Lectures & Keynotes (a limited selection)

Gebrael, I. (2025). *Negotiating Bodies: Gendered Frictions and Fictions on Sonnenallee, Berlin*. EKW Institutskolloquium Queering Public – Public Anthropology zwischen Forschung, Aktivismus und Erinnerung. University of Hamburg, Germany.

Gebrael, I. (2025). *Show Me Your Teeth, Berlin. Drag, Dissent, and Despair*. "Queeren - Engagieren - Schreiben" Symposium. Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany.

Gebrael, I. (2025). *Weaving Opacities: Podcasting Sonnenallee*. On the Seam: Anthropology, Design, and Situated Practices Symposium. Futuress & University of Applied Arts Vienna, Austria.

Gebrael, I. (2024). *Sonnenallee Speaks. Centering the Margins Panel*. BRISMES 2024 Conference. Proliferating Entanglements: Matter and Meaning in the Middle East. Lancaster University, United Kingdom.

Gebrael, I. (2024). *Boys with Toys: Precarious Improvisations of Design (in) Anthropology*. Design Anthropology: Improvisations With and Against the Materialities of the World. SANT 2024 Conference. Uppsala, Sweden. Online.

Gebrael, I. (2023). *Sonnenallee Speaks: Podcasting Fieldwork, Negotiating Refusal*. Experiment Ethnographie Conference. Tagung Gesellschaft für Ethnographie (GfE) 2023. Berlin, Germany.

Gebrael, I. (2023). *Multimodal Exits, Ambivalent Encounters: Design(ers) and Anthropology*. Designwissenschaftliches Kolloquium. Burg Giebichenstein Kunsthochschule Halle, Germany.

Gebrael, I. & Kim, Y. (2022). *On Design(ers), Anthropology and Multimodal Ambivalences*. Cluster of Excellence Matters of Activity. Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany.

Gebrael, I. (2022). *Delinking and New Futurities in the Context of Transformative Archives*. Transformative Archives Symposium. The Federal Agency for Civic Education (BPB). The GRASSI Museum for Ethnology. Leipzig, Germany.

Gebrael, I. (2022). *When Shadowplays Shadow Place: Embodied Negotiations of Memories in Sonnenallee*. Unsettling Archives International Conference. Humboldt University of Berlin and Princeton University. Berlin, Germany.

Gebrael, I. (2021). Conference Keynote. *(Im)Possible Exits and Silenced Affects: Design Futures and Disciplinary Mobilities*. Attending [to] Futures Design Conference. Köln International School of Design of TH Köln, Germany.

Baumgarten, L. & Gebrael, I. (2021). *The Very Last (Design) Conference: Gendering Intersections, Towards an Actionable Criticality*. Creative Bodies Creative Minds Conference. University of Graz. Online.

## Language skills

Fluent in Arabic (Native), English (C2), French (B2), and German (B2)

Berlin, 10/02/2026