

Hydar Dewachi

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General Profile

An artist, photographer, filmmaker and IT engineer. **Hydar Dewachi** has worked for over ten years in the fields of technology and creativity. As an artist, his practice fuses art and technology, often in a documentary, semi-autobiographical context.

Since April 2010, his work has ranged from documentary photography and film commissions, technical consultations, online digital curation, web and print design. He works with individuals and across a diverse spectrum of sectors including creative industries, charities, education, arts and performance. His clientele includes, **Camden Arts Centre, Jerwood Visual Arts, Tate, UCL Art Museum** and **UP Projects**.

Prior to that, Hydar worked for two years providing technical support for Microsoft's Online Advertising and four years as IT Support Manager, configuring, deploying and integrating web-based editorial systems for daily newspapers. Before moving to the UK, he worked for two years as Systems Developer at Dubai Ports, Customs and Free Zone Authority.

Freelance Projects Highlights

▶ **Jerwood Visual Arts: *Artist in Residence*, 2016**

To mark the 10th anniversary of Jerwood Visual Arts, I was invited to take on an artist residency throughout 2016 to explore and expand upon the role of documentation and archive in live and visual arts practice and process.

▶ **Kamel Lazaar Foundation: *Digital Curator/ Project Manager*, 2013–2016**

Responsibilities include: curate and manage online content of the main website and the Foundation online projects; project manage the design and development of the Foundation main website and the Maghreb Directory project; project manage two volumes of book series on visual arts in the Middle East and North Africa co-published by I. B. Tauris.

▶ **Flaxman Gallery: *Technology Consultant*, 2013–2014**

Commissioned by UCL Art Museum to project manage, consult and supervise two groups of Computer Science students on the development of media components for the Flaxman Gallery legacy project at UCL. The project outcome is in situ installations of media stations and an online responsive web App.

▶ **Coniston Cricket Pavilion: *Filmmaker/ Digital Curator*, 2012–2013**

Collaborating with Grizedale Arts and artist Kathrin Böhm on developing the online brief for building a new Cricket Pavilion in Coniston. Responsibilities includes documenting the series of workshops at the Coniston Institute through photography and filming and building the brief website (conistoncricketpavilion.hydardeewachi.com).

▶ **Monsters of the Id – David Cotterrell: *C# Programmer*, January – March 2012**

Curated by SCAN, 'Monsters of the Id' is David's solo exhibition at John Hansard Gallery. Invited by David to work closely with him on the Unity 3D (a game development tool) programming of the virtual characters (Avatars) behaviour using C# programming language.

▶ **WAKE/ARCHIPELAGO: *Photographer/ App Developer*, June – November 2011**

Commissioned by Artsadmin to creatively document two interconnected projects taking place at Dilston Grove and Cafe Gallery (11 June–17 July 2011). Both projects were artist-led, both had an interactive element and had process and change at the heart.

The outcome of the original brief was for a series of printed photographs for display in the project space and digital images for Artsadmin website and blog. The success of the project led to me being commissioned to design two online publications, which in turn led me to examining how this publication could be adapted to a developing medium: the iPad Apps.

Self-produced Projects Highlights

▶ **Briti-ish**, 2002–2014 ➡

An autobiographical art project exploring the process of becoming a British Citizen and making a home through bureaucracy using documents, photographs and immigration statistics.

▶ **Home**, 2014 ➡

Self-produced, filmed and edited, Home is a snail journey with a soundtrack created from nature sound slowed down to the same ratio of the difference between human average speed (4mph) and snail average speed (0.03mph).

▶ **Strangers in My Hat and Glasses**, 2014 ➡

An Instagram project exploring self portraiture through photographing strangers wearing my hat and glasses.

▶ **War is Over**, 2011 ➡

A self-published photo book commemorating the protests in London against the war in Iraq in the occasion of US declaration of the “end of war” in Iraq in December 2011.

▶ **Don't Leave Me This Way**, 2010 ➡

Photographs of litter, printed as postcards, then stamped and self-addressed, littered back in the street for people to pick up and post back.

Films Commissions Highlights

- **Warm UP**, 2016, commissioned by Tate ➡
- **Mapping Me**, 2015-2016, commissioned by Tate ➡
- **CGP London 30th Anniversary**, 2014, commissioned by CGP London ➡
- **Get the Message**, 2013-2014, commissioned by Camden Arts Centre ➡
- **Robert Wilson 'Walking'**, 2012, commissioned by Norfolk & Norwich Festival ➡
- **Noemi Lakmaier 'One Morning in May'**, 2012, commissioned by Artsadmin ➡

Photography Commissions Highlights

- **Floating Cinema 2013-2106**, commissioned by UP Projects ➡
- **Postscripts**, 2016, commissioned by Camden Arts Centre ➡
- **Paulina Olowska: The Mother**, 2015, commissioned by Simon Lee Gallery ➡
- **Laure Prouvost's 'Wantee'**, 2013, commissioned by Grizedale Arts ➡

Talks and Workshops Highlights

- **Film Mentoring: British Art Show 8**, October-November 2016 ➡
Commissioned by Hayward Touring to mentor 3rd year BA film production students from Solent University to produce two short videos profiling exhibiting artists and related engagement activities in Southampton as part of British Art Show 8.
- **Documenting Art and Digital Dissemination**, September 2016 ➡
Invited by the Faculty of Fine Arts at the University of Agder (Norway) to lead a workshop with MA Fine Arts students on documenting art practices and digital dissemination.
- **A.S.S.E.M.B.L.Y.**, June 2016 ➡
As part of the Special Schools Preview of the new Tate Modern, I was invited by artist Emma McGarry, as one of eight artists, to collaborate on an exchange to create new learning resources for the opening day and onward. The exchange took place via Snapchat journeying through our reveries, dreams and memories.
- **Invitation to a Voyage**, February 2015 ➡
Invited by Parasol unit to run a 5-day workshop for young people to create sketchbooks inspired by Katy Moran's exhibition. The workshop outcome was an exhibition, *Flight of Imagination*, at Parasol Unit.

- **“How To” Technical Workshops**, February 2014
Invited by Townhouse Gallery (Cairo) to run a four-day workshop at Townhouse Gallery on video post-production and installation for artists, curators and technicians. The program, supported by the British Council, focuses on the technical aspects of producing exhibitions and cultural events to develop skilled arts professionals in Cairo.
- **March Meeting 2012**, 16–19 March 2012 ➔
Invited by Sharjah Art Foundation to participate in March Meeting 2012 by leading a session on ‘Documenting and Archiving Art Commissions and Residencies’. The session was dialogue-based and was attended by international artists and key cultural figures.

Past Employment Highlights

Microsoft Ltd., Mar 2008–Mar 2010

A worldwide leader in software, services and solutions.

▶ **Technical Operations Engineer – Microsoft Advertising**

- Troubleshoot client-affecting back-end system issues
- Lead weekly meetings with Client Services to update and educate on back-end system issues.
- Research reporting data discrepancies between internal and external systems.
- Document different parts of the back-end systems to help with training of new staff and team members.

KnowledgeView Ltd., Mar 2004–Feb 2008

International software company providing solutions and consultancy for media organisations

▶ **Senior Support Engineer**

- Provided daily support for an online editorial and Archive system for various daily newspapers, including the Independent News and Media in London
- Conduct basic and advanced hands-on training sessions for newspapers’ editorial and production staff
- Work with teams throughout the implementation process; advise on best practices, create implementation documents, provide training and regular follow-up.

Education

- **M.Sc Electronics and Communication Engineering**, 1996 – 1999
University of Baghdad, Iraq
- **B.Sc Electronics and Communication Engineering**, 1992 – 1996
University of Baghdad, Iraq