

LAYAN ADHAM ISMAIL

WRITER / FILMMAKER



CONTACT



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410, Phase 8, Palm Hills Compound, Sheikh Zayed, Cairo, Egypt

EDUCATION

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
ABU DHABI
ABU DHABI/2015-MAY 2019

*BA in Film and New Media, BA in Psychology, Minor in Creative Writing *cum laude *Founder's Day Award*
GPA: 3.92

DEUTSCHE SCHULE DER
BORROMÄERINNEN IN KAIRO
CAIRO/2006-2015

*Middle School/ High School *top of the graduating class*
GPA: 4.0

WORK EXPERIENCE

ASSISTANT PRODUCER,
SCRIPT DOCTOR
FEB 2020-PRESENT

"A 1/4 Gram" film adaptation - Cairo

- Aiding with the creative and technical visualization of the decade-long best-selling novel "A 1/4 Gram" into script format.
- Working under the guidance of award-winning author and TV host Essam Youssef.
- Responsible for the general organization of the film, including schedule, budget and PR management.

ASSISTANT PRODUCER
OCT 2019

Tarek Nour Communications - Cairo

- Oversaw the timely and orderly running of various TV programs on the *Al Kahera Wal Nas* TV channel, including the critically acclaimed show "Alabakera".
- Developed and designed TV show pitches, ranging from short documentary series to book adaptations.

WRITER, PRODUCER, EDITOR
AUG-OCT 2019

LZRD Postproduction Services - Cairo

- Writing, producing and editing advertisements as part of their postgraduate training program.

WRITER, DIRECTOR, EDITOR
FEB 2018-MAY 2019

"Afaa" Short Film - Abu Dhabi

- 10-minute narrative short that tackles religiosity and politics in Egypt in the form of a dark comedy.
- Supervised by Academy-Award nominee Scandar Copti.
- Official Film Festival Selections: Lebanese Independent Film Festival, ARRF Paris, WOW International Film Festival (Tunisia, Morocco, Jordan), Up-and-coming Festival Hamburg, World of Women Festival (UAE), African Women Arts and Film Festival (Tanzania).

1ST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
SEP-DEC 2016

"Arasian" Short Film - Abu Dhabi

- Worked closely with Director Ahmed El-Tunaji, DP, Gaffer and Producer on script breakdown, time tables, shotlist, casting and budgeting.
- Responsible for the smooth running of the shoot, safety on set and time management.
- The film was featured at the Dubai International Film Festival.

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
JULY 2016

Al-Adl Group - Cairo

- Worked with renowned Egyptian Director Kamla Abu Zekry and Casting Director Mohamed Shahin on the Ramadan 2017 series "Sunset Oasis".
- Casting, aiding the costume department, script reviewing in English and Arabic, translation from Arabic to English, general assistance with pre-production.
- The series won 5 awards at the Arab Satellite Festival for best director, cinematography, production, actress and new face.

INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

CONTENT CURATOR

JUNE 2018

Second Screen Application - New York City

- Watched over 40 international films, critiqued them in detail and cut them down to 10-minute bite-sizes.
- Determined which films made it onto the online platform, following extensive analysis.
- Created Social Media ads for chosen content.

INTERN

FEB-MAY 2017

Pallas Film GmbH/Twenty Twenty Vision Filmproduction GmbH - Berlin

- Read and criticized over 15 feature film scripts in German and English for potential adoption of the projects.
- Edited English subtitles in 4 German films, proof-watched rough cuts of 6 major international productions.
- Worked with the budgeting department on 4 feature-length films.

LANGUAGES AND COMPUTER SKILLS

ARABIC

Native

ENGLISH

Native

GERMAN

Fully proficient in reading, writing, listening, speaking

FRENCH

Proficient in reading, writing, listening. Intermediate level in speaking

MICROSOFT OFFICE

Excel, Word, Power Point

PROGRAMMING LANG.

AVID Media Composer, Premier, Davinci Resolve, MovieMagic, SPSS, STATA

SET EXPERIENCE

WRITER, DIRECTOR, EDITOR

"Clinical Encounter" / "Gazing at the Sun" / "A Hot Debate" / "Deserted"

PRODUCER, SCRIPT SUPERVISOR

"Every Day, Except Sunday" / "When Grown Wild and Far"

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

"Beyond the Sea"

SOUND MIXER

"Bad Hombre" / "Degree of Separation" / "Puppet"

WRITING EXPERIENCE

CONTRIBUTOR

SEPTEMBER 2018

Postscript, online magazine

- Published relatable stories in memoir form.

CONTRIBUTOR

FEB - OCT 2016

The Gazelle, NYU Abu Dhabi's online magazine

- Dissected controversial topics in short autobiographical pieces.

WRITER, JOURNALIST

FEB 2015-2018

SpiralMag, an online magazine

- Wrote op-ed pieces that revolved around the intricacies of life in Cairo.

FREELANCER

MARCH 2013-2015

HASH, an online international magazine

- Crafted stories that tackled important political issues through hyperbolic fiction.

STAFF-MEMBER

JUNE 2013-2015

TeenStuff Magazine

- Responsible for the monthly short fiction category.
- Wrote film reviews, articles, poems and more.

FILM LINKS

"AFAF"

2019

Screenplay Writer, Casting Director, Co-Producer, Director, Extra, Editor, Colorist

- Link: <https://vimeo.com/335055403>
- Password: AfafFilmCapstone2019
- Trailer: <https://youtu.be/yPTGXQVvcjs>

"EVERY DAY,
EXCEPT SUNDAY"

2019

Producer, Casting Director, Script Supervisor

- Link: <https://vimeo.com/332975435>
- Password: domenica

"WHEN GROWN
WILD AND FAR"

2019

Producer, Script Supervisor

- Link: <https://vimeo.com/333536845>
- Password: saudade

"ARASIAN"

2016

1st Assistant Director

- Link to online article: <https://www.khaleejtimes.com/news/general/emirati-filmmaker-tackles-racism-with-diff-film>

WRITING LINKS

"WHAT DO
YOU WANT?"

2018

Postscript Magazine

- Link to online article: <https://postscriptpublication.com/2018/09/02/what-do-you-want/>

"DESIRABILITY BY DESIGN:
MAKEUP AS A CRUTCH"

2016

The Gazelle

- Link to online article: <https://www.thegazelle.org/issue/94/in-focus/cosmetics-in-the-arab-world>

"HOW I REALIZED THAT I
WASN'T EGYPTIAN"

2016

The Gazelle

- Link to online article: <https://www.thegazelle.org/issue/79/features/how-i-realized-i-wasnt-egyptian>

"THE ROPE"

2013

HASH Magazine

- Link to online article: https://issuu.com/hashthemag/docs/hash_issue_03