



Faculty Name	Dr. Sami Luigi De Giosa
Academic Rank	Assistant Professor of Fine Arts
Terminal Degree & Date	Ph.D. in Art History I 2015
Awarding Institution	University of London, London - UK



SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Sami L. De Giosa is an Islamic art and architectural historian. He was the head of the Islamic Museum at the Sheikh Abdullah Al-Salem center in Kuwait, a Research Fellow at SOAS University of London in the Department of Cultures and Languages and a Senior Barakat fellow at the University of Oxford. His various interests include the art and architectural history of Mecca and Madinah, the arts of the Mamluks and museum studies in the Arab world and the wider Middle East. Dr. De Giosa is an Assistant Professor of Fine Arts.

PUBLICATIONS

- Emam, M., & **De Giosa, S.** (2024). Terracotta tiles in Bengal. Decorations and techniques in Mosques of the Sultanate Period. *Historia I Świat*, 13, 269–290, August 2024.
- Ahmad W. Sukkar, Moohammed Wasim Yahia, Emad Mushtaha, and **Sami Luigi De Giosa**, Artificial Intelligence Islamic Architecture (AIIA): What Is Islamic Architecture in the Age of Artificial Intelligence? *Buildings* 2024, 14(3), 781; <https://doi.org/10.3390/buildings14030781>
- The Medieval Mediterranean between Islam and Christianity: Religious Crosspollinations in Art, Architecture and Material Culture, co-edited with Nikolaos Vryzidis (Cairo: American University in Cairo Press, Forthcoming in 2025).
- “Text and Stone: Christian Architectural Spolia in Egypt during the Mamluk Period (1250-1517), in *The Medieval Mediterranean between Islam and Christianity: Religious Crosspollinations in Art, Architecture and Material Culture*, ed. Sami Luigi De Giosa and Nikolaos Vryzidis (Cairo: American University in Cairo Press, Forthcoming in 2025).
- “The Life and works of Abdullah Zuhdi” in *Hajj and the Art of the Pilgrimage* 8, ed. Nasser D. Khalil, Qaisra Khan, Nahla Nassar and Venetia Porter, (London: Nour House Publications, Forthcoming in 2023).
- “The Crosses of the Sultan. Sultan Qaytbay and the Mystery of the Two Crosses in his Funerary Complex at Cairo’s Northern Cemetery (1472–1474)” in *Tomb – Memory – Space. Concepts of Representation in Premodern Christian and Islamic Art*, ed. Francine Giese, Anna Pawlak and Markus Thom (Berlin/Boston: Walter de Gruyter, 2018), pp. 134-142.
- “Production of ceramic tiles in Egypt and Greater Syria during the late 15th century”, in *Art, Trade, and Culture in the Near East and India: From the Fatimids to the Mughals. Studies Presented to Doris Behrens-Abouseif*, ed. Alison Ohta, M. J. Rogers and Rosalind Wade-Haddon



(London: The Gingko Library, 2016), pp. 159-167.

- “Cairene Style in Jerusalem”, Bulletin of the British council for research in the Levant 8 (2013), pp. 52-53.

Entries in Catalogues

- Entries (Madinah section) in Hajj: Memories of a Journey. Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, Abu Dhabi, UAE, 20 September 2017 to 19 March 2018, (Edinburgh: Akkadia Press, 2017), pp.198-215.

Book Reviews

- Review of Doris Behrens-Abouseif, The Minarets of Cairo. Islamic Architecture from the Arab Conquest to the End of the Ottoman Period. In Bibliotheca Orientalis 69, no. 5-6 (September-December 2012), pp. 672-674.

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

- “Look into my past to Look into My Future: Private Islamic art Collections in the UAE” Museums in Arabia conference King’s College, University of London, UK, June 27, 2019
- “The Manial Palace and Prince Mohammed Ali: the revival of Islamic art and architecture in Cairo during the early 20th century”, Europe and the Orient: Past Encounters, Heritage, and Present-Day Interactions,
- Bulgarian Academy of Arts, Sofia, September 28, 2018
- “The neo-Islamic pastiche of the Manial Palace in Cairo”, A l’Orientale! Collecting, Displaying and Appropriating Islamic Art and Architecture in the 19th and early 20th centuries, University of Zurich, Zurich,
- May 5, 2017
- “A Sultana Made of Brass: Fatima Khawand and Her Metalworking Style”, 4th Conference of the School of Mamluk Studies, American University of Beirut, Beirut, May 14, 2017
- “A Return to Arabian Art and Architecture in Cairo at the Beginning of the 20th Century: the patronage of Prince Mohammed Ali Tewfik”, MBI Al Jaber Lecture Series, MBI Al Jaber Foundation and the British Foundation for the Study of Arabia, London, October 19, 2017
- “Mamluk Ecumenism: Jerusalem as the “Christian” Capital of Sultan Qaytbay (r.1468-1496)”, Memory and Identity in the Middle Ages, The Construction of a Cultural Memory of the Holy Land (4th-16th Centuries): An Interdisciplinary Conference, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, May 26, 2016
- “The Crosses of the Sultan: Sultan Qaytbay’s complex (1472-1474) and the mystery of two decorative elements carved in stone”, Medieval Tombs and their Spatial Contexts. Strategies of Commemoration in Christianity and Islam, University of Tubingen, Tubingen, February 19, 2016
- “Being a Sultan in Style: Calligraphy and Decoration in the Arts of the Late Mamluk Period”, RAS Student Talk Series, Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, London, May 15, 2013
- “Abd al-Qadir al-Naqqash: The mystery of a late Mamluk craftsman in a Mediterranean context”, Association for Art History 2011 Annual



Conference, University of Warwick, Coventry, March 31-April 2, 2011

- EXHIBITIONS**
- Ya Zaman Al Wasl, Sharjah I 2024
 - Sharjah Islamic Art Festival I 2022
-

- TEACHING
AREAS**
- Art History
 - Curatorial Studies
 - Islamic Art
 - Research Methodologies
-

- GRANTS &
SPONSORSHIPS**
- Barakat Trust Publication Grant, 2024 (Solo Award)
The Medieval Mediterranean between Islam and Christianity:
Crosspollinations in Art, Architecture and Material Culture I Grant Value
(USD 6,000)
 - University of Sharjah Research Grant, 2023 (Group Award)
Islamic Architecture and Midjourney I Grant Value (AED 30,000)
 - Sharjah Department of Culture, 2021 (Group Award)
Rays Installation I Grant Value (AED 24,200)
-

- RESEARCH
AREAS**
- Islamic art
 - Museums in the Arab world
-

- EMPLOYMENT
HISTORY**
- Assistant Professor of Fine Arts I 2021 – Present
College of Fine Arts and Design, University of Sharjah, UAE
 - Head, Sheikh Abdullah Al Salem Cultural Centre I 2019 - 2021
Arab Islamic Science Museum, Kuwait City, Kuwait
 - Research Associate I 2018 – 2021
SOAS University of London, London, UK
 - Senior Cultural and Heritage Consultant I 2017 – 2019
Barker Langham, London, UK
 - Barakat Trust Senior Postdoctoral Research Fellow I 2016 – 2018
University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
 - Curator, ZNM Project I 2013 – 2016
The British Museum, Middle East Department, London, UK
 - Lecturer and Tutor (seasonal) I 2010 – 2013
SOAS University of London, London, UK
-



MEMBERSHIPS • Royal Asiatic Society Fellow since 2008

Email lgiosa@sharjah.ac.ae

ORCID 0000-0002-6867-2001

ResearchGate <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Sami-L-De-Giosa>